



NLC *ommunicator*

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www.nlc.state.ne.us 402-471-2045, 800-307-2665

Timely information from the Nebraska Library Commission

[Announcements]

Position Open: Nebraska Library Commission Planning and Data Services Coordinator

Responsible for developing and managing data collection and use of data for program planning and evaluation, managing data collection and reporting for Nebraska library participation in national library statistical programs, verifying public library accreditation requirements for state aid eligibility and payments, and leading in the administration of Nebraska's Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) state grant program. See www.wrk4neb.org for applications. Evaluation of applications will continue until position is filled, priority consideration given to applications received by June 30, 2008. For more information, contact Doreen Kuhlmann, Nebraska Library Commission Business Manager, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023, 402-471-4007, 800-307-2665, e-mail: dkuhlmann@nlc.state.ne.us.

The Nebraska Library Commission has launched the **2008 Nebraska Public Library Directory** data collection system at www.nlc.state.ne.us/PLsurvey. Public libraries are encouraged to review current data and submit updates for the following data elements: staff, salary information, boards, friends, foundations, and hours. This supplements the Bibliostat® Connect survey and uses the library's current Bibliostat® login id and password. These directory elements were removed from last year's Bibliostat® forms.

Trial Access to EBSCO Databases is available for Nebraska libraries through June 30. Since group purchase options will increase the affordability of EBSCO products, libraries are encouraged learn more about this offer. See announcement at www.nlc.state.ne.us.

The Nebraska Book Awards Competition, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission, recognizes and honors books written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or relating to Nebraska. Submit nominations by June 30. For more information and entry forms see the Library Commission Website, www.nlc.state.ne.us, search on Book Awards. Send the entry form, three copies of the book, and the \$40 entry fee to NCB Book Awards, Nebraska Library Commission, The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln NE 68508-2023.

Continuing Education and Training Grant applications are now available through the Nebraska Library Commission. Grants of \$250 to \$5,000 will be awarded to assist Nebraska libraries in providing improved library services to their communities through continuing education and training for their library personnel and supporters. This funding is available for accredited public libraries. Applications may be developed in conjunction with recognized community organizations or agencies, groups of public libraries, regional library systems, consortia of public libraries, and

[Announcements]



state-run institutional libraries. Further information and applications are available now at www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/conedgrants/cegrant08/index.html. Completed applications are **due August 4**. For more information contact Laura Johnson, Nebraska Library Commission Continuing Education Coordinator, 402-471-2694, 800-307-2665, e-mail: ljohnson@nlc.state.ne.us.

The Nebraska Library Commission will offer **summer workshops** for library-initiated, community teams to learn to use **Return on Investment (ROI)** information as a communication and development tool. Information about the summer workshops will be posted on the Library Commission's ROI for Public Libraries Wiki, www.nlc.state.ne.us/wikis/roi4libraries. This site offers basic ROI information, including a definition of ROI, examples of libraries that have completed ROI studies, information about why this type of analysis is important for public libraries, a bibliography, sample marketing materials, and sources for library Return on Investment calculators. For more information contact John Felton, Nebraska Library Commission Research Analyst, 402-471-4002, 800-307-2665 e-mail: jfelton@nlc.state.ne.us.

Readers across the state are celebrating **2008 One Book One Nebraska** by reading *Restoring the Burnt Child*, by Nebraska State Poet Bill Kloefkorn. Libraries across Nebraska are hosting local discussions and inviting the author to present workshops, lead discussions, and provide readings.

Book Club Kits, www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/bookclubkits.html, are available from the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Regional Library Systems. One Book One Nebraska 2008 is sponsored by a coalition of organizations including the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Association, Nebraska Library Commission, and University of Nebraska Press. See www.onebookonenebraska.org for discussion questions, program ideas, a calendar of events, and information on how to obtain funding from the Nebraska Humanities Council for author appearances.

July 1 is the next deadline for application for **Nebraska Library Commission scholarships**, supported by a grant awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to recruit and educate the next generation of Nebraska librarians. Due to funding considerations, master's-level scholarships may be limited in this round. To apply, see Nebraska Library Commission's Now Hiring @ your library® Website, www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org or contact Kit Keller, Nebraska Library Commission Planning and Data Services Coordinator, 402-471-3216, 800-307-2665, e-mail: kkeller@nlc.state.ne.us.

The **2008 Nebraska Book Festival**, scheduled for October 17–18, will be held in downtown Lincoln. Kent Haruf, author of *Plainsong* and other work set in the high plains, will open the festival with a keynote address on Friday evening. The Nebraska Book Festival is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, and Nebraska Library Commission. For more information see www.unl.edu/NCB/current_festival.html or contact Michael Cartwright, 402-471-4006, 800-307-2665, e-mail: mcartwright@nlc.state.ne.us.

[Announcements] **[continued]**

The Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded more than **\$194,000** in twenty-five **Library Improvement Grants** to library service organizations. The Library Commission distributes Library Services and Technology Act funds, allocated through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the federal agency that supports museums and libraries. The funding, awarded through a competitive grant process, augments local support for library programs and services and will be used to improve access to information resources throughout Nebraska. For a complete list of the projects funded, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/news/content/2314.html.

Nebraska Library Commission grants to public libraries for **student internships** will be accepted until **August 1**. Each grant will provide a \$1,000 student stipend, financing approximately one-hundred hours spent working with library staff on a variety of projects and activities. These grants are supported with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services 21st Century Librarian Project, administered by the Nebraska Library Commission. For a list of libraries that have received the Internship grants, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/internship/Internshipgrantrecipients.asp. For more information see the Now Hiring section of the Nebraska Library Commission Website, www.NowHiringAtYourLibrary.org, click on Internships or contact John Felton, see contact information above.

The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, in partnership with the Nebraska Library Commission, reminds Nebraska library staff that **2-1-1 service** is available via the Web at www.ne211.org and by phone, dial: 2-1-1 or 404-444-6666. The Website and the phone service connecting to a certified information and referral specialist at a 2-1-1 resource center make it easy for Nebraska library customers to find 24/7 information about health and human services in their communities and throughout the state. For more information, contact Teri Perkins, Research Specialist, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, 402-472-5620, e-mail: tperkins@nebraska.edu.

Read Aloud Nebraska encourages all Nebraskans to take time every day from now until **June 15** to participate in the **Cheerios Book Donation Challenge**, sponsored by **First Book**. 20,000 children's books written by John Lithgow will be awarded free of charge to each of the five top states. The contest is online at www2.firstbook.org/johnlithgow. See the Read Aloud Nebraska Website, www.readaloudnebraska.org, for library promotional ideas. For more information e-mail: info@readaloudnebraska.org. To learn about First Book, see www.firstbook.org.

Dollar General Back-to-School Literacy Grant applications will be accepted until **June 12**. Funding will be awarded to assist elementary, middle, and high schools in meeting some of the financial challenges they face in implementing new programs or in purchasing new equipment, materials, or software for their school library or literacy program. For more information see www.dollargeneral.com/Community/Pages/GrantPrograms.aspx.

[Blog]



Join the conversation on the **Library Commission Blog**, see www.nlc.state.ne.us/blogs/NLC/ for more details and further discussion about:

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- **Five New Creative Commons Titles.** Yesterday we added five new Creative Commons-licensed titles to our collection.... To find all of our CC-licensed titles, search for “creative commons” in our catalog.
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- **Libraries–What a Value!** The formula for calculating Return on Investment (ROI)... libraries and other non-profit entities have adopted this model for communicating the economic and social value of their institutions to the communities they serve.
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- **Another Twitter Reference Question Revealed.** About once a week, it’s fun to reveal the answers to questions we’ve received, posted on our Twitter page, and answered.
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- **NLC Podcast #22: Introduction to Open Source Software.** The concept of Open Source is both simple and complex. Instead of the standard model of purchasing software and doing only what it allows you to do, open source software (OSS) is typically free and allows you to change it to fit your needs.
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- **ALA Youth Media Awards Webcast Now Available.** The American Library Association (ALA) Public Information Office blog, [Visibility @ your library®](#), shows how ALA uses Google Video to promote libraries and literacy.
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- **Nebraska Humanities Council Seeks New Prime Time Libraries...**to expand Prime Time Family Reading Time to public libraries in Nebraska communities and neighborhoods where student reading scores are not meeting state standards.
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- **What’s All This about Peace, Love, and Understanding?** Grant applications are now available for “Let’s Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness,” a scholar-led reading and discussion program for libraries interested in exploring themes of love and forgiveness in everyday life through classic and contemporary literature.

[Training]

Class	Date: Location
● Introduction to Web Page Creation with XHTML	June 10: Hastings
● Style Your Web Site with CSS	June 11: Hastings
● I Blog, You Blog, Weblog	June 12: Hastings
● RSS: A New Way of Communicating	June 12: Hastings
● Welcome to the Social Web	June 13: Hastings
● I Blog, You Blog, Weblog	July 8: Omaha
● RSS: A New Way of Communicating	July 8: Omaha
● Welcome to the Social Web	July 9: Omaha
● NEBASE Hour	July 9: Online Session
● Database Roadshow 2008- eLibrary, BIP & Fiction Connection	July 9: Sidney
● Introduction to Web Page Creation with XHTML	July 10: Omaha
● Style Your Web Site with CSS	July 11: Omaha
● Database Roadshow 2008- eLibrary, BIP & Fiction Connection	July 16: Wayne
● NEBASE Hour	Aug. 6: Online Session
● Database Roadshow 2008- eLibrary, BIP & Fiction Connection	Aug. 8: Kearney
● 2008 NEBASE Annual Meeting–East	Aug. 12: Lincoln
● Database Roadshow 2008- eLibrary, BIP & Fiction Connection	Aug. 20: Elkhorn

Click on Library Training on the Nebraska Library Commission Website for more Summer training events

Continuing Education (CE) Credits for the above training events are issued by the Nebraska Library Commission as part of the Nebraska Public Librarian and Board Certification Program.

For more Information about any of the above training events or to register, see the Nebraska Library Commission Training Portal, on the Library Commission Website, www.nlc.state.ne.us, click on Library Training.

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Nebraska Library Commission

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*2008 Nebraska Library Futures Conference
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