LexiCon: A Library Comic Con!!

Comic book culture and conventions have been sweeping the nation for the last few years. All things super hero, anime, graphic novel, comic book, and fandom related have become increasingly important in popular culture. On August 22, 2015, the Stillwater Public Library jumped into that arena by hosting its very own comic con event, “LexiCon.”

Comic cons are events designed to bring artists, authors, actors, and creators together with fans and consumers. Though cons have typically been held in convention centers and other large venues by for-profit organizations, libraries are increasingly entering into the fun. The relationship between libraries and comic cons is a natural fit. Libraries house collections of graphic novels, comic books, and all sorts of related material. Many libraries have experience hosting author readings and other events, and finally, libraries have long been champions of individuals using their imaginations.

In hosting LexiCon, SPL wanted to bring a new opportunity to the Stillwater community. Comic cons are fun and increasingly popular but they can also be expensive for people to attend. Even the smallest of cons have admission fees and the larger ones can charge over $50 just for one person to walk in the door. Additionally, from Stillwater, one would have to drive at least an hour each way to get to a comic con in Tulsa or OKC. For the average comic book or superhero fan who is just starting to explore all that pop culture has to offer, the time, distance, and expense could prove to be prohibitive. That was one of our major reasons for hosting LexiCon. We wanted everyone in Stillwater and the surrounding areas to have an opportunity to experience the fun and wonder of a comic con regardless of their financial resources.

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One of the bigger highlights of most comic cons is “cosplay,” dressing up as a favorite character from comics, anime, television, movies, or book. Even if one doesn’t dress up, spotting a favorite character across the venue is always a delight. In order to make the con experience authentic at LexiCon, we invited members of cosplay groups from Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Wichita to attend the event. We had Storm Troopers and Jedi Knights, medieval damsels and knights, steampunk marshals, and even a couple of Ghost Busters. All were happy to come help make our event more exciting.

LexiCon also gave Stillwater residents an opportunity to let their own imaginations shine. We encouraged attendees to come to LexiCon in costume and we were delighted that so many patrons got into the spirit of the event by doing so. In fact, over a third of all LexiCon attendees came dressed as a favorite character. We held a costume contest so that those who were interested could showcase their costume creativity and it was the biggest event of the day. Participants in three age categories walked across a stage and told the crowd about their characters. The teen group was largest but there were plenty of adults and kids strutting their stuff across the stage as well. It was a delight to watch and a huge success by all measures.

Since we are a library and in the business of sharing information, and since no Comic Con would be complete without them, LexiCon offered several panels and presentations as well. Attendees were able to learn more about independent and online publishing from several individuals working in the field. Jessica Doll, a storyboard artist, helped attendees hone their drawing skills in a hands-on workshop. James Daro, English department faculty member at the University of Central Oklahoma, led a panel discussing the history of nerd culture. A group of high-level cosplayers shared tips and techniques for creating cosplay costumes and applying body makeup. We also had a group of artists and comic book producers help attendees make their own comic books that day. Everyone at LexiCon had an opportunity to learn something new that day.

While the older patrons were drawn to workshops and panels, the youngest attendees could spend time making their own creations in the kids’ craft room. Volunteers helped the kids make superhero masks and armbands, Harry Potter wands, and comic book bookmarks. Kids could also color comic book pages and design their own superhero buddies to attach to straws or craft sticks. At the end of the day, the craft room was a tremendous, glittery, gluey success.

A final important aspect of any comic con is the artists’ alley and vendor area. Attendees get an opportunity to see a variety of artists at work, meet authors, and check out lots of fun stuff. Our con brought artists offering original artwork for sale, authors of popular fantasy fiction, creators and publishers of independent comics, and vendors of memorabilia. There was a face painter turning kids into their favorite characters and a gaming store offering goods and running a tabletop gaming room for the day. If a person had an interest in purchasing anything comic book related, they were probably able to find it at LexiCon.
As organizers, one thing we found surprising was how interested vendors were in this event. When we began our planning, we were concerned we might have a hard time talking vendors into driving to Stillwater for an untested event. However, we soon learned that our fears were not going to be realized. Everyone invited said they would come, except a couple who had conflicting events. Within a couple of weeks of our sending out the initial invitations, we had other vendors contacting us, wanting to participate. We eventually had to start disappointing interested vendors due to the high demand and limited space. The day of the event, the auditorium and our largest meeting room were full of vendors. We also had tables for vendors set up in a hallway and the front lobby. We had vendors tucked into every suitable space the library had to offer providing a tremendous selection of goods for attendees.

Since we did not charge vendors for table space at LexiCon, we asked them to donate items to use as door prizes and awards for the costume contest. They graciously complied. We had t-shirts, comic books, coupons for face painting, original artwork, and books to give away to attendees. The grand prize for the costume contest was two tickets to Izumicon, a two-day anime conference held in Oklahoma City each fall. The organizers of Izumicon had donated the tickets in order to help support our fledgling endeavor. In general, we found support for LexiCon in every place we asked.

In all, we count LexiCon as a tremendous success. Over 400 people from Stillwater and the surrounding community came to the Stillwater Public Library for the day. In addition to bringing the fun of a comic con to residents, LexiCon gave us the opportunity to let the public know that the library is much more than just a collection of books. Through this fun and exciting event, we were able to show the public a side of the library many may not have seen before. Additionally, we were able to highlight certain parts of our collection and various programs. Visitors at LexiCon learned about our anime club for teens, our science fiction movie club for adults, and our various children’s programs. We were also able to showcase our new maker kits and let patrons experiment with Raspberry Pi. LexiCon brought new people into the library and showed them some of the many opportunities a progressive library has to offer.

After the event when we asked for input, patrons who attended requested that we make LexiCon an annual event. Vendors who were surveyed said they were interested in coming again. The cosplayers said they’d love to return. And while it was an exhausting day for the librarians, we’re giving in to popular demand and hosting LexiCon again in 2016. Since they asked so nicely.

Paula Owsley Long  
Adult Services Librarian  
Stillwater Public Library  
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All photos were taken at LexiCon by Jim Long.
We have some great opportunities to turn on the light this next few weeks! Here is your to do list: Nominate a library program for the **Ruth Brown Award** to recognize and support programming that addresses issues of social concern as they affect libraries, library collections, and the communities served by these libraries.

**Nominate one of our members for an award given at conference**

- Citizen's Recognition Award
- Distinguished Service Award
- Library Excellence Award
- Oklahoma Library Service Award
- Outstanding New Librarian Award
- Robert Motter Vendor Appreciation Award
- Special Meritorious Award
- Special Project Award
- Support Staff Award
- OKSL Technology in Education Award

Submit a proposal for a **poster session at our annual conference.**
Attend one of our February workshops:

Register now for "Five Star Career Development: Resources and Service", sponsored by the Public Library Division (PLD). Learn how to meet the needs of the people in your community by helping them navigate the many aspects of career development. This workshop will enable librarians to show their customers how to explore different career options and where to find resources to pursue the career of their choice. The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9 at the Southwest Oklahoma City Public Library. **Registration Deadline is February 2.** More information, including the agenda, CEU's, site information and more, is available by clicking here.

Registration is now open for "Turning Copywrongs into Copyrights", a workshop co-sponsored by the University & College Division (UCD) and the Oklahoma School Librarians (OKSL). Scheduled for February 26, 2016 at Virginia College in Tulsa, the workshop will help librarians from academic, public, and school libraries learn more about the copyright issues that they might encounter in the course of their daily jobs, including what libraries and librarians may legally do, and what our patrons may do. **Deadline to register is February 19.** Details, including the agenda, CEU's, site information and more, is available by clicking here.

Students - apply for our [scholarships](#) by Feb 27! If you are not a student- share with the students you know!

Get your 4th-12th graders together for a writing contest sponsored by our [legislative committee](#).

Apply to be part of our [OLA Gold 2016](#) class!

Save the date of April 12th for legislative day at the capitol.

Get your camera and social media accounts ready for #olasnapshotday2015 on March 1st!

Calypso Gilstrap
OLA President
Copyright Workshop – Turning Copywrongs into Copyrights

It has been many years since OLA has sponsored a copyright workshop, and copyright issues arise every day in our libraries. Have you had questions about copyright in the course of your busy schedules and feel the need to attend a refresher course? Well, you don’t have to wait much longer, because a course is coming in the form of a workshop! The University and College Division has teamed up with the Oklahoma School Librarians Division to bring you a copyright workshop that is scheduled for February 26, 2016 at Virginia College in Tulsa. The title of the workshop is “Turning Copywrongs into Copyrights: Copyright Tips for Every Librarian”. The purpose of the workshop is to help librarians from all types of libraries to learn more about copyright issues that come up on a daily basis, including what libraries and librarians may legally do, and what our patrons may do.

To begin the day’s events, Jennifer Prilliman, Associate Director and Law Library Professor from Oklahoma City University School of Law, will give a general overview of the key copyright issues prevalent in our libraries today.

For one of the morning breakout sessions, Beth Fleming, Music Librarian from Oklahoma City University, will discuss copyright issues related to performing arts and will give some pointers on what to do and what not to do. Other speakers for the morning breakout sessions include Tara Carlisle, Digital Scholarship Specialist from the University of Oklahoma, and Stacy Zemke, Director of Learning Initiatives for NextThought and Adjunct Professor at OU SLIS. Tara will discuss copyright issues regarding digitized collections from the user, as well as content provider, perspectives. Stacy will discuss copyright issues in scholarly publishing.

For one of the afternoon breakout sessions, Barbara Ray, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction at Northeastern State University, will discuss how schools and school libraries are affected by copyright issues. In another afternoon breakout session, John Price, Board of Regents’ Legal Counsel for Oklahoma State University, will discuss his experiences with responding to copyright questions on campuses and will give examples of situations that have arisen on the OSU campus.

To conclude the workshop, a panel, including the keynote speaker and the breakout session speakers, will answer questions and further discuss their experiences.

The University and College Division and the Oklahoma School Librarians Division are excited to bring this workshop to our librarians in Oklahoma. Please come to this workshop and help us to turn our copywrongs into copyrights!

Submitted by Linda Pye, 2015-2016 University & College Division Chair
University and College Division 2016
OLA Conference Programs

I hope you are as excited as I am about attending the 2016 OLA Conference on March 30-April 1 in Tulsa at the Hyatt Regency Hotel! Not only is it fun to visit and connect with our fellow librarians from across Oklahoma, but the programs are phenomenal! We learn so much while having a great time. The University and College Division is sponsoring several great programs this year.

With the Tribal Libraries Committee co-sponsoring, UCD is sponsoring a pre-conference on Wednesday, from 9:30 until 3:30. A trolley from Old Urban Trolley will pick attendees up at the hotel and take them to the Tulsa Historical Society Museum for a guided tour and a film. Then the trolley will pick attendees up at the Tulsa Historical Society Museum and take them to the Rusty Crane Restaurant in the Brady District. After a “Mix and Mingle” lunch at the Rusty Crane, we will go to nearby Philbrook Museum Downtown for a guided tour there. It’s a short distance back to the hotel, so we will walk back to the hotel, if weather permits. If anyone does not want to or can’t walk back to the hotel, just let us know and we will arrange for transportation. I hope that you can join us for this fun adventure. What a way to kick off the 2016 conference!

David Oberhelman from Oklahoma State University will lead off the programs on Thursday morning 8:00-9:00 with a presentation of “The Embedded Librarian”. He will cover some of the ways in which the “embedded librarian” can move beyond the walls of the library to assist and collaborate with patrons on research, teaching, and other areas of academic life. Later on Thursday morning at 11:00-12:00, Sharon Morrison and Krista Ramirez from Southeastern State University will present a program on “Versatility in the Classroom, Using Online Tutorials to Engage Students”. Included in this program is how Southeastern librarians have enhanced the versatility of the existing information literacy program by redesigning classes to incorporate online, interactive tutorials with graded and non-graded assignments. They will illustrate how the tutorials are embedded within the curriculum.

During Thursday afternoon, at 1:30-2:30, OU SLIS students and new librarians will give presentations in the Fresh Takes program, describing their research and projects. It is always fun to hear about the cutting edge research that our students in Oklahoma are doing. In “Springing Forward: Creatively Using LibApps for Knowledge Management, Collaboration, and Outreach” at 3:30-4:30 on Thursday, Megan Donald, Andy Taylor, and Jamie Holmes from Tulsa Community College will describe a model for using LibApps, a common library platform, to facilitate collaboration and outreach within and beyond the library. They will include a discussion of LibGuides and LibAnswers.

We’re inviting all of you to join us early on Friday morning at 7:30-8:30 for the UCD Business Meeting that will include conversation, planning for the next year’s events, and an introduction to the officers for 2016-2017. We had a good attendance at last year’s business meeting and we had a wonderful time getting to know everyone. This is a special time to get together, since most of our meetings are done by WebEx. Immediately following the business meeting, at 8:30-9:30, please attend the “Buried Treasures” program to hear Jeff Kos from the Jazz Hall of Fame and Marc Carlson, Jennifer Donner, and Melissa Kunz from the University of Tulsa Archives tell us about their respective special collections.

Cont. on next page
UCD conference programs, cont.

At 11:30-12:30 on Friday, Lynne Simpson and Rebecca Weber from Oklahoma State University will present a program titled “Why Do We Still Have Those? The Role of the Academic Branch Library”. They will illustrate the need for branch libraries and discuss how branch libraries fulfill information needs by supporting distinct populations with specialized needs. At 1:45-2:45 on Friday, Mandi and Jason Smith from Cameron University will present “Assessment of the One-Shot” in which they will share a realistic and successful method of assessing information literacy that is taught via one-shots.

In addition to the above programs, UCD will sponsor a poster session (times to be announced) in which presenters will display posters describing projects or their research and will be available to answer questions. This poster session will help us to become aware of various projects going on in our Oklahoma libraries. Please go to http://www.oklibs.org/?page=UCDPosters for poster session guidelines and an online submission form.

Our UCD Committee has worked hard this year to plan these excellent programs. We appreciate all of the conference program ideas that were submitted and the speakers who so graciously volunteered to present or said “yes” when asked to present. By working together across OLA, we do have a great conference! See you at Conference!

Linda Pye, University and College Division chair.
The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a free-trade agreement that is currently under negotiation. The nations in the TPP are the U.S., Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam, and New Zealand. TPP will eliminate the major trade barriers of 18,000+ trade taxes between these nations, making it easier for U.S. exporters to do business with these nations and also making it easier for importers in these nations to do business in the U.S.

Webpage about the TPP from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative – https://ustr.gov/tpp/
Scroll down here to Read the Deal to get summaries of each chapter of the TPP. This is the full-text of the TPP – https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/trans-pacific-partnership/tpp-full-text
How will the TPP affect trade jobs in Oklahoma? – http://trade.gov/fta/tpp/states/oklahoma.asp
Link to basic intel about Free Trade Agreements – http://export.gov/fta/
2014 data about Oklahoma’s trade –

36,401 U.S. Jobs: Supported by Goods Exported from Oklahoma in 2014

$6.3 Billion:
2014 Total Goods Exports from Oklahoma

3,150:
Companies Exported Goods from Oklahoma in 2013

84%:
SME share of Goods-Exporting Companies from Oklahoma in 2013

25%:
SME share of Oklahoma’s Goods Exports in 2013

Metropolitan Exports in 2014:
- Tulsa: $3.8 Billion
- Oklahoma City: $1.6 Billion
- Lawton: $19 Million

Steve Beleu
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries
Federal Relations Coordinator
Nominations Sought for Ruth Brown Award

How many lives can you change with $500? In reality? Probably not as many lives as you wish you could, but certainly more than you could change without $500.

The Oklahoma Library Association’s Social Responsibilities Roundtable is preparing to give $500 to an outstanding social issues oriented program through the Ruth Brown Memorial Award.

The award commemorates the courageous spirit of Ruth Brown (1891-1975), a former Bartlesville librarian and OLA president who fought for racial integration in public libraries but was fired for her efforts in 1950.

Your program is eligible for award consideration if:
· You are any type of library that provides a program addressing social issues or underserved populations, or
· You are an individual or an organization that works with a library of any type on a program that addresses social issues or underserved populations.

Some examples of the past award recipients include:
· Learn & Serve Organization at the Bokoshe Public School, Mrs. Ava Webster Community Library. This group of 5th and 6th graders started a grassroots effort to open and operate a library in their rural hometown of Bokoshe, OK.
· Pottawatomie County Literacy Program for "New Horizons,” which provides basic literacy instruction to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) clients.
· Norman High School program MADE Men, Men Aspiring to Distinction through Education. Nine week mentoring course, specifically for African-American males, that encourages leadership and bolsters college/career preparation.

Recipients of the award are recognized at the OLA Annual Conference.


Have questions? Please contact Stacy DeLano at srrt@oklibs.org or 405-372-3633 ext. 124.

The Latin American Story Finder is the third in a series of compilations of folklore and mythological tales published by McFarland (the others include the East Asian and the Jewish story finder volumes). This book contains 470 brief anecdotes, “tall tales,” oral traditions, snippets of myths and legends, and other short narratives from twenty-one Latin American countries. It provides a fascinating mixture of Spanish, Portuguese, and indigenous Native American narratives, and will be of great interest to academic libraries with Latin American and anthropological collections as well as public libraries serving Hispanic populations. Anyone interested in the mythology of the Americas would find this anthology an excellent resource for anyone interested in Latin American folklore and culture.

The stories themselves are derived from other published collections which are cited in the extensive bibliography. The editor Sharon Barcan Elswit, a children’s librarian by profession, organizes them into thematic or subject chapters such as “beginnings” (origin myths), tales about love, community, tricksters (a common figure in Latin American indigenous and later traditions), and supernatural happenings such as magic encounters. Most tales are a paragraph or two long, and have cross-references or “connections” to other themes, motifs, and elements. Elswit then has appendices in which she lists indigenous peoples by modern Latin American nation, a glossary of terms in indigenous languages and of unfamiliar mythical beings and events, an extensive bibliography of books on folklore and other sources from which the tales were retrieved, and a thorough subject index.

The volume retails at $45.00, so it might be best for specialized library collections, but it is a valuable reference for those who want to dig into the legends and fables of Latin America for students, scholars, and general readers familiar with folklore.

David Oberhelman
Research and Learning Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University Libraries
Mr. Rattenbury is Curator for History at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. He earned a bachelor’s degree in history and a master’s degree in museum studies from Texas Tech University. Mr. Rattenbury formerly held curatorial positions at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas, and at the Winchester Museum at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. He is also the author of Hunting the American West, The Art of American Arms Makers, and Packing Iron: Gunleather of the Frontier West. Through his career path, Mr. Rattenbury has followed his research interest in technology and history of firearms. He has listed a great number of primary resources in this book to provide readers with further reading materials. This book not only familiarizes readers with collections of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, but also provides a big picture of the 18th-19th century American firearm history.

The book is divided into three parts: Part I: From craftsman to industrial mechanic: evolution in American arms; Part II: From Colt to Winchester: a portfolio of famed American arms makers; Part III: From functional sculpture to steel canvas: aesthetics in American arms.

Part I introduces the evolution history of American firearms. From the 18th century to the first several decades of the 19th century, individual gunsmiths dominated America firearms manufacture. At that time the gun-making process required craftsmen to have high level of inspiration, ingenuity and talent in mastering all skills including barrel making, lock making, stock making and mount making. During the early 1800s, the demand for firearms in America increased with the growth of population in the territories, which lead to the debut of machine-based factories. In response to economic necessity and government needs of uniformity, the practice of mass production became popular among firearm manufacturers. Mass production placed great influence on the firearm technology, manufacturing methods and product designs, which gradually formed the “American System of Manufactures”.

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Part II focuses on famous American firearm makers, including Colt Firearms, Remington Firearms, Smith & Wesson Firearms, Sharps Firearms, Marlin Firearms and Winchester Firearms. Affected by mass production and machine-based firearms production in the 19th century, most arms factories transformed to new business models, and the others changed to arms-assembly shops rather than arms-manufacturing factories. Through the transforming history of the 6 firearm companies mentioned above, Mr. Rattenbury presents the influence mass production had on firearm market, and how the gun makers strived to survive when they face different opportunities and challenges. Some manufacturers, like Sharps, failed in sustainable development; some manufacturers, like Marlin, were eventually absorbed by other big companies, and some manufacturers, like Colt and Winchester, fought through their ways and became landmark companies in the gun market. Both Colt and Winchester brought new technology, patents and designs to the market and operated as a center of excellence in American arms manufacturing. The Colt revolver and the Winchester rifle won the solid title of “the gun that won the West”, and until today, firearms of the 2 companies are ranked “blue-chip” marques among collectors. The Colt and Winchester firearms also provide rich resources for historians and scholars to study American gun making history.

Part III mainly talks about the decoration and aesthetic designs of American firearms. Weapons often present their inherent “beauty”. in the recurved bow and the swept-hilt the Kentucky rifle shows its “grace” in the forms, lines and proportions. Every part of a weapon needed to be created and assembled properly in order to be functional, and this harmony between parts and elements can be appreciated as appealing alignments. Also, fine carving, checkering, chiseling, engraving and inlaying on firearms may represent the owners’ class and privilege.

Xiaoyu Duan
Humanities Cataloger
University of Oklahoma Libraries
Book Reviews

Take a look at the book reviews in this issue! Michele Seikel, from OSU Stillwater Libraries is accepting reviews, send her your name and she will be sending out a list of books to review. Or if you have a book you would like to review, send Michele a note. It should be book under two years old. Please include the name of the Publisher, the year published, no. of pages, and ISBN. Contact her at michele.seikel@okstate.edu.

Thank you!

Calling All OLA Members!

Membership renewals are now determined by the anniversary from your last renewal. To determine your renewal date, log into your OLA account at www.oklibs.org, or contact Kay Boies at the OLA office (405) 525-5100. Since memberships used to run July through June, many memberships still have the July 1 anniversary date and are up for renewal. Be sure you are up to date and renew today!

Joanne Huff
Library Technical Assistant

Reminder!!! Note new deadlines!

Oklahoma Librarian deadlines for submission have changed, and will be the 15th of the ODD months of the year. HOWEVER, The deadline for the next Oklahoma Librarian is March 1, 2016, because of the dates of the spring conference. What have you done over the summer? Send articles! Send articles on what your library is doing, what your DROC is doing (a workshop?), and who’s who in your library. Do you have a topic of interest? Write an article! Do you want to review a book? Contact Barbara Miller at barbara.miller@okstate.edu. Get involved! This is YOUR newsletter and a way to let everyone in the state know what YOU are doing for libraries in Oklahoma!
Time Management!
Smart Workshop Announced

The OLA Supervisors, Managers, and Administrators Roundtable present a workshop entitled: **Manage Your Time Using Project Management Fundamentals.** Speaker Dotti Call, who serves as the enterprise Project Management Office Director at the FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, will share her techniques with workshop attendees on **March 11, 2016,** 9:30-2 at the Southwest Oklahoma City Library located at 2201 SW 134th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73170. Attendees will be granted **CEU Value** of 0.4 for attending.

By the end of the class session, participants will be able to:
1. Define a Project
2. Explain Project Management
3. List the steps in the project management life cycle
4. Define “SMART” project goals and objectives
5. List reasons why projects fail and techniques for preventing those situations
6. Describe the project manager’s responsibilities during project Planning, Monitoring/Controlling, and Closing

Cost: $65 for OLA Members, $130 for non-members. Registration includes lunch from The Stuffed Olive. Vegetarian option available, indicate during registration. For more information, contact Cylinda Richardson-Martin at smart@oklibs.org.
Register & pay online at [www.oklibs.org](http://www.oklibs.org).

Cylinda Richardson-Martin  M.L.I.S
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Leg Committee Essay Contest!!!

The OLA Legislative Committee is hosting an essay writing contest. Flyer is on the next page. Would you please consider printing and posting the flyer at your library?

We are hoping to strengthen relationships among our libraries, legislators and the communities we serve. The young people who win will receive their monetary awards from their legislators and library directors/media specialists at the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. Two prizes of $150.00, along with a $75.00 judges’ choice prize will be awarded. (The OLA Endowment Committee made the award money possible.) Submittal deadline is Monday, February 29th and winners will be notified in March 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Meaghan Hunt Wilson (mhuntwilson@metrolibrary.org).

Thank you for your support,
Desiree

Desiree Webber
Director
Mustang Public Library
1501 N. Mustang Rd.
Mustang, OK 73064
dwebber@cityofmustang.org

405-376-2226
405-376-9925 - fax

Flyer on next page
Entries must be postmarked or e-mailed by 11:59 p.m. on February 29, 2016; email entries to Desiree Webber, dwebber@cityofmustang.org or mail to her attention at the Mustang Library, 1501 North Mustang Road, Mustang OK 73064.

Winners will be notified in March 2016 and receive their prizes at the Oklahoma Library Association’s Legislative Day at the Capitol on April 12, 2016. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: 4th – 8th grade $150, 9th – 12th grade $150, Judge’s Choice $75
Member Spotlight: Calypso Gilstrap

The Member Spotlight Series was created by the OLA Marketing Committee to showcase the impact OLA membership has made in the lives and careers of Oklahoma librarians. If you’d like to share your story or make a subject suggestion, please contact Natalie Vaughn at marketing@oklibs.org.

Talking with OLA President Calypso Gilstrap, I could hear passion for OLA in her voice. Gilstrap decided to become a librarian after teaching high school for seven years. Following her graduation in 2009 with her Instruction Media Masters, she began working as a Norman High School librarian and has been there ever since. In 2012, she became active in OLA by serving on the Local Arrangements Committee when the Annual Conference was in Norman. She served on the Oklahoma School Librarian division, including as chair from 2013-2014. Her favorite thing about OLA is the social aspect. She points out that being a member of OLA is more than just filling your brain with resources and tools. It’s about collaborating with librarians and seeing what works and what doesn’t. It’s about knowing that you are not alone. Gilstrap enjoys serving on OLA more than other librarian organizations.

In the first half of her term, Gilstrap’s initiative of using social media to promote OLA and libraries outside of the organization has already been successful. There are more postings about library events and daily library news under her leadership. People are becoming more comfortable with marketing and using social media and hashtags to bring attention back to libraries. Simultaneously, there has been an increase in meaningful collaboration among the different OLA committees and divisions. Alongside these successes, Gilstrap has faced some challenges as OLA President. Following up proves a particular problem for her, especially in terms of checking to make sure that ideas brought to her are moving forward and succeeding. Additionally, she reports that she has been and will continue to work on her tact. If anyone is offended by something she says, she hopes that they will email, call, or tweet her to open the conversation and work to remove tension.

The second part of her term will consist of the annual conference and continued marketing to both OLA and non-OLA members to raise awareness. There are workshops and author talks scheduled in the spring as well. Gilstrap hopes this year’s work will be relevant again next year. She hopes we will continue working hard to raise awareness for Oklahoma libraries. She hopes her presidential initiatives will be continued during Melody Kellogg’s term.

Gilstrap acknowledges the impact of budget cuts, two words that frighten most people. Small, independent public libraries get hurt the hardest. Politicians do not realize that cuts in funding mean cuts in services available to our communities. Academic libraries face less funding alongside an increase in demands for services. School libraries are critical to both student and school achievement, and cutting library services could mean accreditation issues. But, with significant challenge comes significant opportunities for radical change. Gilstrap wants people to know that libraries are not just about the physical spaces; they are about services as well. Social media is not only about marketing the library; it is a compelling way to show our communities, patrons, and students everyday library life.

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When I asked her about qualities librarians need to be leaders today, Gilstrap said flexibility and being responsive and proactive are a must. There must be balance. Librarians need to learn how to effectively respond to our patrons and the community but also how to move forward and be progressive. Gilstrap also provided advice to new librarians in their new role: Join OLA! Get involved! Come to annual conference!

Getting involved with committees is about connecting and learning from each other. Librarians are resource finders and among the best resources out there. Connect with them!

She recommends that all librarians choose their next book from a list. Whether the list is the best books of 2015, scavenger hunt lists where you need to read a green book, a fantasy book, or a book over 300 pages, pick a list and read straight down. Don’t skip any books. Step outside your comfort zone and read a different genre or author. Gilstrap is usually reading something from a list, something professional, something from her Library Book Club, and something that she wants to read. She enjoys reading professional books about social media and tends to find books that accompany Ted Talks.

Now for the good stuff – the OLA Annual Conference. If you haven’t yet, mark your calendar for March 30 – April 1 in Tulsa. Our upcoming conference will be more interactive and social than in past years. The conference will focus around the theme “Turn on the Light.” Session topics will include marketing, maker spaces, digital playgrounds, and many more. There will be more lunch and learns, too. AASL President, Leslie Preddy is coming and will conduct a half-day teen summit at the preconference. The keynote speaker will be Jamie LaRue, who will demonstrate how to tell your library story. Beau Jennings will be the banquet speaker. At the All Conference event, there will be a lip sync contest, Jimmy Fallon style. You can pay for people to sing and even bid your way out if you don’t want to sing. All money raised will go to support the Endowment Fund. If you want even more, check out the Friday evening events. Tulsa’s First Friday Art Walk is happening and OLA will be participating. It will be a great conference to interact with each other. You can be entertained while being educated! We want downtown Tulsa to know the librarians are in town! Excited for conference? Let us know by using #OLA2016.

I really enjoyed talking with Calypso Gilstrap. She is passionate about libraries and OLA. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas, contact her! She’s easy to talk to and is interested in what you have to say.

Tricia Sweany
Join the Drama with OSU Outreach’s ‘Acting Basics’ Series at Stillwater Public Library

(STILLWATER, OKLA. / Dec. 17, 2015) – OSU Arts and Sciences Outreach is offering a new series of “Acting Basics” at the Stillwater Public Library. The six-session course, taught by theater veteran Shane O’Mealey, will meet at the Stillwater Public Library on Tuesdays from Feb. 2-March 8.

“We are excited to offer Acting Basics again for the community,” said O’Mealey. “Our students enjoyed developing their characters and acting techniques, so we’ve enhanced the course to give them even more time to participate.”

The non-credit classes include a mixture of discussion, activities, games, lectures, script analysis and practice to help both beginning and experienced actors perform more confidently on stage.

“It’s fun working with such a varied group of people, from those who want to enrich their acting to those who have never stepped foot on stage before,” said O’Mealey. “The class is very supportive, and there is no pressure or stage experience necessary. The only requirement is a desire to learn and gain confidence.”

Con’t. on next page
The classes, held from 6:30-8:30 p.m., address an array of fundamental topics such as learning lines, analyzing characters and eliminating stage fright. Specific classes include:

Feb 2, “Nuts and Bolts.” What is acting? Learn basic stage and acting terms, suspending the audience’s belief and using imagination when reading a script.

Feb 9, “Prepare to Act.” Learn warm-up techniques, projecting on stage, listening and relating to fellow performers, memorizing lines, bad habits to avoid and staying in character.

Feb 16, “What’s My Motivation?” Learn to define a character’s traits and emotions.

Feb 23, “Deep Thought.” Learn modern acting techniques and how to analyze what is behind the lines.

March 1, “Stage Fright.” Learn relaxation and breathing techniques and how to deal with mistakes.

March 8, “At Rise.” Students will perform a short scene using the techniques they have learned and begin to develop their own acting technique.

O’Mealey has appeared onstage in 19 theater productions. Some of his portrayals include Chris Keller in “All My Sons,” Scarecrow/Hunk in “The Wizard of Oz” and Sherlock Holmes in “The Hound of the Baskervilles.” He has written three plays and directed three productions.

O’Mealey is a past president of Town & Gown Theatre (2007-2009) and a former member of the Town & Gown board of directors (2006-2009). He has been a member of OSU Concert Chorale and Chamber Singers and is currently a member of the Stillwater Chamber Singers.

“Acting Basics” is a non-credit course open to the community. The course is recommended for adults and teens 14 and up. The fee is $89 for students who enroll prior to Jan 26, and $109 thereafter. To register, go online to the OSU Marketplace at http://bit.ly/1gUmDBO or call (405) 744-8459.

For more information, please email Christine Nichols at christine.nichols@okstate.edu.

Stillwater Public Library is located at 1107 S. Duck St. (the corner of Duck and 12th Ave.). Library hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Visit the library online at http://library.stillwater.org.

Photo: ‘Acting Basics’ instructor, Shane O’Mealey, shares his acting, directing and playwriting experience with community members. (photo by Mr. O’Mealey)

Contact: Stacy DeLano
Phone: 405-372-3633 x124
E-Mail: sdelano@stillwater.org
Web: library.stillwater.org
OLA CATS WORKSHOP: “SPOTLIGHT ON TEEN SERVICES”

If you didn’t join us at the Children’s and Teen Services Roundtable’s September workshop, here’s what you missed:

Dr. Steve Byers from NSU-BA taught us about the power of engaged reading to change teens’ brains by increasing neural connections and the importance of teens acting out alternate selves and identities through reading

Carla Hickey (Mabel C. Fry Library, Yukon), Darla L’Allier (Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa), and Carol Anderson (Catoosa Public Library, Catoosa) discussed how teen programs and services look in libraries of different sizes and communities

Tracy Lane (OSU Extension Office) and Sandy Kittinger (4-H Leader) discussed community partnerships for teen services programming—every county in our state has an OSU Extension Office that has educators willing to work with you to bring programs to your community

Kelly Bayles (TCCL, Tulsa) spoke about TCCL’s personalized readers’ advisory services that creates individual reading guides for tweens and teens 10-17; Elizabeth Murray (Stillwater Public Library, Stillwater) spoke about how to do a Winter Reading Program; Gloria Cumpston (Enid Public Library, Enid) spoke about how she conducts one-on-one readers’ advisory to teens when they are short on time and attention

Dana Beach (Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City) and Anna Todd (Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City) spoke about highly popular teen programs based on teens’ obsession with popular TV shows and book series—fandoms

Collaborative information-sharing about teen services in a poster room

If any of that sounds awesome to you, don’t miss our sessions at conference this spring!

Leah Weyand
Teen Services Coordinator
Tulsa City-County Library
Chair, OLA CATS 2015-16

Photos courtesy of Dana Beach of the Metropolitan Library System
Teen Summit
It is back! Attention all librarians who work with teens!!!

Make sure you register for the ½ day Teen Summit at this year’s OLA Conference. The Teen Summit will be held on Wednesday March 30 in the afternoon. One of the speakers will be Leslie Preddy, AASL President, who is known for her innovation with makerspaces!

But what are you going to do on Wednesday morning?? Go listen to Sequoyah Author Jennifer Nielsen of course!

Copyright Workshop
February 26, 2016
9:00-3:30 at Virginia College in Tulsa

This workshop will help librarians from academic, public, and school libraries learn more about the copyright issues that they might encounter in the course of their daily jobs, including what libraries and librarians may legally do, and what our patrons may do.

Lunch is included! Registration is due Feb. 19.

$65 OLA Members/ $130 Non-Members
http://www.oklibs.org/event/UGDCopyright

OLA Gold Applications
OLA Gold works to inspire and develop future leaders for the Oklahoma library community.

Applications will open up soon, so if you or anyone you know has leadership potential and would be interested, direct them to the OLA website for more information!

Upcoming Events

**February 15**
Nominations for the OKSL Technology in Education Award are due! Check out the OLA website: www.oklibs.org

**OLA Annual Conference!**
March 30-April 1
Key speakers include Leslie Preddy (AASL President), Jennifer Nielsen (Sequoyah author), Beau Jennings, and Jamie LaRue!

**March 1**
Send all Pete the Cat donated items to Emily Baker at PO Box 141422, Broken Arrow, OK 74104 by March 1 to be included in our basket for the Endowment Committee at OLA!
Curiosity and Collaboration: A Winning Combination for Oral History Collections

Have you driven on the Will Rogers Turnpike and under the arch-shaped building that spans it near Vinita, Oklahoma? In our travels across the state to conduct oral history interviews, we have had the opportunity to do just that. A healthy curiosity is a good characteristic to have in our work and led to a little background research on Vinita. We learned that Attucks School, a school for the African American community in Vinita, would soon be turning 100. According to the National Register of Historic Places, the school’s construction began in 1916. (The school closed in 1956 after Brown vs. Board of Education.) Contact was made with the public library there which led to making a connection with the Eastern Trails Museum. Long story short, a collaboration took form resulting in oral history interviews with eight Attucks School alumni. And some of those interviewed mentioned the Glass House Restaurant… which was once in the building that spans the Will Rogers Turnpike! Attucks School alum Charles Kirkendoll provided a little insight into the Glass House during his oral history interview:

“There’s a lot of people that travel through there and they stop. They, at one time, had a snack shop, had a cafeteria, and a gift shop, and a regular café. You’d go in there and order dinners, but they had the real cafeteria style. You go in there and just go through the line. Buffet style was what it was. I worked out there, and I also worked in the bakery and cooked out there, too…. We made all the pies and rolls, dinner rolls, too, down there. Then they come in and shut it down. They said it was cheaper for them to buy the pies. They come from Dearborn, Michigan. It was cheaper for them to buy them, so we quit making.”

There are multiple benefits to projects such as this. We gained deeper insight into the lives of these eight alumni as they shared memories of Vinita, Attucks School, and the surrounding community. We learned more about the Eastern Trails Museum, the Glass House, and Eastern State Mental Institution. Participants not only have a record of their stories, the museum has the personal dimension of Attucks School, and the OSU Library has preserved and created access to information that can aid in transforming worldviews.

When you pass by hidden gems in your community, think about the bigger picture and let your curiosity expand your world.

—Tanya Finchum & Juliana Nykolaiszyn
OSU Library Oklahoma Oral History Research Program
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