



## Letter to Libraries Online

A Monthly Newsletter from the Oregon State Library

Volume 24, Issue 9, September 2014

### Contents:

[Library Board News](#)

[State Library News](#)

[Contacts at the State Library](#)

### Library Board News

#### State Library Board Met in Lincoln City for Strategic Planning

The Oregon State Library Board of Trustees met on Friday, August 15th at the Driftwood Public Library in Lincoln City, for a very productive strategic planning session. The focus of the day was to refine the vision and mission statement and to determine our “role of value” and the reputation for which we aspire to be known. The work was led by Holly Valkama and Slater Swan from the Coraggio Group. The important work that was done by the Board on August 15th will be followed by all staff work on identifying agency core values as well as work by the planning group to complete the draft. The Board will meet to complete the plan on September 26th at the Oregon State Library.

[Return to top of page](#)

### State Library News

#### Reading in the Dark: De-mystifying Oregon’s Free Library for the Print-Disabled

Are you curious about how the State of Oregon’s only library for people who are print-disabled actually works? What’s a BARD? Who is this TABS your colleagues mentioned in passing? Find the answers to these questions and so many more when we present Oregon Talking Book and Braille Library’s “Reading in the Dark” for your library staff. “Reading in the Dark” is a 1-1.5 hour interactive presentation that will explain how the Oregon Talking Book Library relates to public libraries, how it lends hundreds of thousands of custom-selected materials to over 5,000 Oregonians per year, who qualifies, and how it all works. This presentation may be customized to present to staff or people in your community. Contact Elke Bruton at the Oregon Talking Book Library to schedule a date for training in your library or to request a presentation proposal to share with your training coordinator. Call 503-378-5389 or [email](#) Elke directly.

#### Training Opportunities for New SDLP Resources

The State Library and Gale are pleased to offer the following webinars designed specifically to introduce the new content available in the [Gale Statewide Database Licensing Program](#) (SDLP)

contract for Oregon. Please register by following the links listed below. If you are unable to attend, archived versions of the webinars will also be available on the [Gale Support Portal](#) for Oregon after they are completed.

National Geographic Kids/Kids InfoBits

[September 5, 8:30 am - 9:30 pm](#)

[September 29, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm](#)



Learn about this easy to use database of National Geographic content. It includes the National Geographic Kids magazine as well as National Geographic kids books. These resources can help support the new Common Core Standards. As time permits, the trainer will also explain how to use the new Kids

InfoBits interface.

Business Insights: Global

[September 11, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm](#)



Learn about the new content available now that Business Insights: Essentials has been upgraded to Business Insights: Global. Global combines an international perspective and sophisticated research tools with convenient access to a range of comprehensive learning materials. It uses case studies, statistical data sources, news articles, academic journals and topical reference materials organized by country, company and industry to quickly engage users in the global business environment.

[Webinars for other Gale products and LearningExpress Library](#) in September are available. For further information, please [contact](#) Arlene Weible, Electronic Services Consultant, 503-378-5020.

### Call Early and Often for Help with Public Library Statistical Report

The FY13-14 Public Library Statistical Report is open at [Bibliostat Collect](#). If you have not worked with Oregon's Public Library Statistical Report, the most recent version is available to view via the [Reporting Public Library Statistics page](#). Ann Reed is happy to walk you through the survey and offer strategies and advice. Please call (503-378-5027) or [email](#) Ann for help early and often, or check out the [FAQ](#). The statistical survey is due on October 1, 2014.

### LSTA Advisory Council Meets September 12

The LSTA Advisory Council meets on September 12th. Open forum time is at 1:00 pm for anyone wishing to address the Council. They will be reviewing full grant proposals and discussing statewide grants.

### Letters About Literature Reading and Writing Contest Has Begun & Has Two Deadlines



Letters About Literature is a national reading and writing contest sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and by Oregon's equivalent at the State Library.

Students write letters to an author explaining how that author's book changed their way of thinking about the world or themselves. There are three competition levels: Level I for 4th-6th graders, Level II for 7th-8th graders, and Level III for 9th-12th graders. Oregon's three winners – one from each competition level – will go on to compete nationally. [Entry forms and guidelines](#) are available online. All Level III entries must be postmarked by December 15, 2014 and Level I and Level II entries by January 15, 2015. In 2014, about 1,040 students in Oregon entered the contest, and 1 in 8 received cash prizes or bookstore gift certificates. These prizes are made possible through support from the Oregon Reading Association and three divisions of the Oregon Library Association: Oregon

Association of School Libraries, Children's Services Division, and Oregon Young Adult Network. For more information, please visit the [website](#) or contact [Jennifer Maurer](#), coordinator of Letters About Literature activities in Oregon.

Thanks for passing along the information and encouraging participation, including for homeschooling families. Please note that this is likely the last year the State Library will coordinate the program because of changes within the agency. State Library staff are working to find a new home for Letters About Literature. However, if no organization takes it on, this could be the program's last year in Oregon.

### Did you know....?

Nearly 60 libraries across the state borrow materials from the Oregon State Library on an annual basis – approximately 40-50 requests are filled per month.

The Library and Information Science Collection is constantly growing to enrich Oregon library staff and is made available through interlibrary loan services. Our Library Support and Development Services staff will gladly consult with you to help identify titles of interest. Plus, they welcome suggestions from the library community to build a more robust collection.

We supply on average 500-600 articles/books to state agency personnel each month for work-related research.

- OSL supplies roughly 34% through our collections and online resources
- Additional materials are supplied from: Oregon libraries 38%, out-of-state libraries 20%, with the remainder coming from vendors and on occasion international libraries.
- In recent months, libraries as far away as Germany and Sweden have fulfilled requests for us and we supplied an Oregon document to a library in Austria.

[Return to top of page](#)

## Contacts

### Oregon State Library

Library Support and Development Services: 503-378-2525, [Ferol Weyand](#), [Darci Hanning](#), [Ann Reed](#), [Jennifer Maurer](#), [Katie Anderson](#), [Arlene Weible](#), [Susan Westin](#).

Oregon Talking Book and Braille Library Manager: 503-378-5435, [Susan Westin](#).

Government Information and Library Services Manager: 503-378-5030, [Margie Harrison](#).



State Librarian: 503-378-4367, [MaryKay Dahlgreen](#).

Letter to Libraries Online Editor: 503-378-2464, [Jessica Rondema](#).

*Letter to Libraries Online* is published monthly by the Oregon State Library. It is available free of charge and is published only in electronic form on the [publications page](#) on the Oregon State Library's [website](#).

To unsubscribe from libs-or, either send an '[unsubscribe](#)' message, or visit the [website](#). All materials may be reprinted or distributed freely.

[Return to top of page](#)