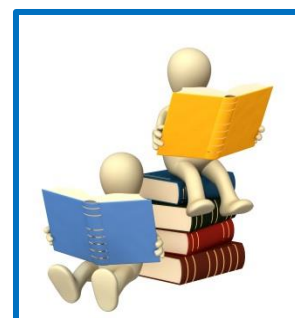


Good Morning—And Happy Easter! Today in EYE-OPENER April 6, 2015

- 1) SILO Best Practice Series Part3
- 2) Iowa Reading Research Center
- 3) Iowa Small Library Association Spring Meeting
- 4) Big Ideas Book Discussion in May
- 5) Meetings / Events This Week

1) SILO Best Practice Series Part2: Last month, the SILO Management Team upgraded some SILO Interlibrary Loan features. And robust conversation in the weeks after prompted a series of “best practice” reminders when using SILO ILL most effectively. In this last installment, a few more tips from IaLS staff:



- **Check your OPEN LENDER folder** every business day. Even though lending libraries have 4 business days in which to respond to requests, it’s far better to check OPEN LENDER folders every business day. Doing so moves all SILO requests through the system faster, which spells better customer service with faster response times.
- **Carefully verify the spelling** when looking for an item in SILO. If you don’t find an item by author—which can be easily misspelled—search again by title. The most precise search of all is using the ISBN number. **Also double-check the format** of an item when searching SILO. Note the page count, the publisher, the copyright, etc.—taken together, all these elements make up the bibliographic description—all necessary to verify that the record in the Locator matches what you’re looking for.
- **Ensure that several people on staff**—ideally all circ desk staff—are trained in SILO borrowing and lending basics. Granted, staff who manage ILL routines 80% of the time will have the process well in hand. But even ILL staff take vacations once in a while...maybe this summer?!
- **And with summer around the corner**, schools and colleges are encouraged to suspend their library’s borrowing and lending activities. Suspending SILO ILL activity bypasses schools and colleges as possible lenders during the summer months, again helping to move requests through the system faster. The only trick is remembering to UN-suspend when those libraries are back in business!
- **Refer to the Interlibrary Reimbursement Terms of Agreement** for much more information concerning the responsibilities of Iowa libraries participating in Interlibrary Loan <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/e/enrich-ia/ill-reimb>



2) Iowa Reading Research Center: Are you familiar with the Iowa Reading Research Center? The IRRC <http://www.iowareadingresearch.org/> provides an online collection of literacy resources available to the public for teaching and learning, for home schooling, and for educator research. Relatively new on the scene, the IRRC was established in 2012 to promote best practices in literacy and lead every child in Iowa to achieve reading proficiency.

The Iowa Reading Research Center works in collaboration with the Iowa Dept of Education, Iowa's Area Education Agencies, local school districts, and community partners with a collection of web-based literacy resources. These resources include videos, activities, parent guides, and articles that build literacy skills for children from birth through sixth grade. Resources are vetted, they are free, and no login is required.

Here is a sampling of IRRC tools for educators

- ✓ Iowa's Early Literacy Initiatives and Legislation
- ✓ Instructional Practice Guides
- ✓ Downloadable Parent Letters and Parent Checklists
- ✓ Research from the Education Field

The IRRC is anxious to spread the word about their organization and looking to Iowa's public libraries for help with that. From an IRRC spokesperson: *"...Iowa's public libraries are uniquely positioned to help connect families with literacy resources that benefit all children. We hope you will spread the word about the IRRC within your community, visit our website <http://www.iowareadingresearch.org/> and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Together we can make a difference so that every child in Iowa achieves reading proficiency..."*

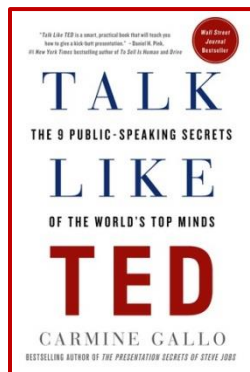
3) Iowa Small Library Association Spring Meeting: The **Iowa Small Library Association (ISLA)** is a subdivision of ILA. And ISLA officers are anxious to let you know about this group's annual spring meeting, coming up on **May 1st**. **"Maker Programming in Small Libraries"** will feature a panel presentation running from 10:30AM-12:30PM. Among the panelists are three from Estherville PL: Director Tena Hanson, Asst. Director Beth Reineke, and Children's Services Coordinator Paula Spoo. In addition, Aimee Clark with Spencer PL and Jet Kofoot with Iowa Library Services are also panelists.



“Maker Programming” is the c.e. credit portion of the day, immediately following a business meeting from 9:30-10:30AM. Here’s more: *“...Interested in doing some maker space activities at your small library? Would you enjoy hearing from some other librarians who are doing technology and maker space programming at their small library? Join us for an online web conference on May 1, when panelists will discuss STEM and Maker programming on a budget. Topics will include after-school clubs, maker spaces, community collaboration, maker spaces with no space—and more! Q&A follows the panel presentation. And feel free to continue the conversation at lunch. Go as a group with attendees from your respective site; each site host will have lunch suggestions...”*

ISLA’s Spring Meeting is indeed online, but this year with a twist. This year, **ISLA** officers are using WebEx web conferencing software to extend this meeting to 25 sites statewide. 25 Iowa libraries will be selected to host this program based on the location of registrants. Indicate on the meeting registration form if you would like to serve as a host location.

You can find a registration form on **ISLA’s** Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/iowasmalllibraryassociation> Also on ILA’s website here <http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/iowa-small-library-association?showall=&start=1> The cost is \$5.00 for ILA / ISLA members; \$10.00 for ILA / non-ISLA members; \$15.00 for non-ILA / non-ISLA members. Register today—and let us know if questions!



4) Big Ideas Book Discussion in May: The next **“Big Ideas Book Discussion”** is scheduled for **May 28** (9:30-11:00AM) And the next book up for discussion is Talk Like TED. So this early announcement gives you plenty of time to read the book and join the conversation! Here’s how this goes:

In **“Big Ideas Book Discussions,”** IaLS staff and guest stars facilitate discussions using books outside of library management, but with plenty of application to library management. Choosing books on leadership, civic engagement, customer service, and presentation skills, we’ll connect those ideas with public library service. In addition to a great assortment of non-fiction titles—and of course the c.e. credit—there are other spin-off benefits of **“Big Ideas,”** such as:

- ✓ titles help with collection development for participating libraries
- ✓ titles are good choices for local book discussion groups
- ✓ this program serves as another model for how to facilitate local book discussions

For more about the book from the c.e. catalog: "...Have you ever watched TED Talks on YouTube? If so, you've watched skillful public speakers demonstrating techniques that lead to entertaining and memorable presentations. One book review of Talk Like TED reads 'Ideas are the true currency of the twenty-first century. So in order to succeed, having the ability to sell yourself and your ideas is the single greatest skill that will help you accomplish your dreams. TED Talks have redefined the elements of a successful presentation and become the gold standard for public speaking. TED—which stands for technology, entertainment, and design—brings together the world's leading innovators and thinkers to show us how it's done...' "

We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the **"Big Ideas"** series for your own collections. Join us for the next good read when we'll talk about Talk Like TED!

5) Meetings / Events This Week: For **National Library Week April 12-18**, Iowa Library Services will be running full-tilt with a variety of classes. Many classes are intended for state employees working on the capitol complex. These on-site classes will be offered at IaLS headquarters in the Miller building, an effective way to raise awareness of State Library services available to Iowans. Some of the **National Library Week** classes will be conducted online, so local library staff statewide can take advantage of those. Find the full listing for next week's classes here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/>

Note IaLS office hours this week: Amanda and I will be attending the monthly staff meeting in Des Moines this **Thursday April 9**; NW office will be closed, but you're welcome to call the Des Moines office on Thursday if you need immediate assistance (800-248-4483) On **Friday April 10**, all State Library staff will be attending an in-service staff development day at Ames Public Library. **The Des Moines office, the State Law Library, and all Districts will be closed for the day on Friday.** Please leave phone or email messages, regular business hours resume on Monday April 13, 2015.

It's a new month of national webinars, find full descriptions and registration information here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

April 7. 1:00-2:00PM. Youth Announcements: Ready for Summer Reads sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

April 8. 10:00-11:00AM. Every Hero Has A Story: Summer Reading Program 2015 sponsored by Nebraska Library Commission <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventlist.asp?Mode=ALL>

April 8. 1:00-2:00PM. *12 Ways to More Effective Marketing* sponsored by WebJunction <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction.html>

April 8. 2:00-3:00PM. *Makerspaces: Curating, Creating, Collaboration* sponsored by Texas State Library <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/workshops/webinars/index.html>

April 9. 1:00-2:00PM. *The Present and Future of E-Books* sponsored by American Libraries Live <http://americanlibrarieslive.org/>



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