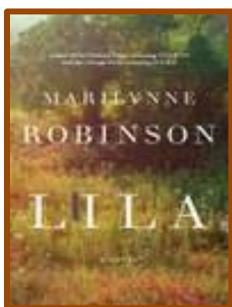


Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER October 26, 2015

- 1) Next “All Iowa Reads” Title Announced
- 2) Call For Proposals—ILOC Conference 2016
- 3) ILA Conference Session Sharing
- 4) Dates & Deadlines Heads-Up
- 5) Meetings / Events This Week



1) Next “All Iowa Reads” Title Announced: The next *All Iowa Reads* title for 2016 was announced at the Iowa Library Association conference: Lila by Marilynne Robinson. Ms. Robinson is an Iowa author, having lived in Iowa City since 1989, when she began teaching at the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. She is the author of four fiction books including Home, Gilead, Housekeeping, and Lila, in addition to four works of non-fiction. She has won the Pulitzer Prize, the Hemingway Foundation Award, the National Book Award, along with many other literary prizes.

The Iowa Center for the Book (ICB) coordinates the *All Iowa Reads* project. Since 2002, the ICB has been a division of the State Library of Iowa; its mission is to “stimulate public interest in books, reading, literacy, and libraries.” From the ICB website comes this description of *Lila*: “...though Lila is part of the *Gilead* trilogy, the novel stands on its own as a powerful story of a woman who, homeless and unschooled, nevertheless leads those around her from ‘doubt and sorrow’ to compassion and understanding. The action in the story takes place before the two earlier works, Gilead and Home. ‘When *Lila* arrives in *Gilead*, she struggles to reconcile the life of her makeshift family and their days of hardship with the gentle Christian worldview of her husband, the Reverend John Ames, who paradoxically judges those she loves...’ ”

Like previous years, Iowa Library Services will eventually have multiple copies of Lila for local libraries to borrow. Amanda Grom with NW District will handle and track reservations for NW libraries, although the books will actually be mailed out from Des Moines. We’ll let you know when the copies are available for lending. But in the meantime, be sure to share this news with your local book discussion groups and make plans to reserve your copies. And visit the Iowa Center for the Book website to read more <http://www.iowacenterforthebook.org/>



2) Call For Proposals—ILOC Conference 2016: In an earlier *Eye-Opener*, we asked you to save the date—**January 21, 2016**—for the next **ILOC Conference**. **ILOC** stands for **Innovative Libraries Online Conference**, a proven and popular event, drawing hundreds of Iowa library staff and trustees together for full day of learning online.

The **ILOC Team** has chosen “**Digital Citizenship**” as the theme for 2016. You may have heard similar phrases like digital literacy or digital inclusion. The concept of digital citizenship can be complex, but essentially it encourages people of all ages to be responsible and savvy users of today’s social media, websites, and digital products. Actually, Common Sense Media set up Oct 18-24 as Digital Citizenship Week for 2015

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/digitalcitizenshipweek>

With these ideas in mind, the **ILOC Team** is planning for the conference to include sessions on online etiquette, cyber safety, digital health and wellness, and more. As in past years, we are including a “**Call For Proposals**,” seeking session ideas and most importantly—people willing and able to present them. Recommend someone as a speaker—or recommend yourself! To be considered as a presenter, complete this required online form <http://www.statelibraryofia.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/iloc/iloc-presenter-form> and return it electronically by midnight, **November 13, 2015**. Selected presenters will be notified by November 23. (late submissions will not be considered because of the lead-time needed prior to the event) Read the details and instructions on the application form carefully and let us know if questions.

If you’ve never attended an **ILOC Conference** before, you can get a good feel for it by checking out some of the presentations from this year: recordings and accompanying PowerPoint slides are still available on this webpage <http://www.statelibraryofia.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/iloc> Look for more news about **ILOC 2016** in the months to come. In the meantime, save the date **January 21, 2016**—and nominate yourself or someone you know as a presenter!



3) ILA Conference Session Sharing: Hundreds of conference-goers attended the 125th anniversary celebration of the Iowa Library Association conference in Des Moines two weeks ago. In today’s *Eye-Opener* and over the next few weeks, we’ll share some of our favorite sessions. Today’s article comes from Central District Consultant Maryann Mori, writing about a session on Iowa’s Open Meetings Law.

"...As a district consultant, I routinely field questions about Iowa's Open Meetings Law. For this reason, I wanted to be sure to attend this particular session titled 'Open Meetings, Open Records.' It was presented by W. Charles Smithson, who is the Director of the Iowa Public Information Board. The IPIB was established in 2012 with the authority to enforce Open Meetings Laws, to issue penalties to organizations not following the law, and to go to court for such cases. In other words, his organization has power! Examples of Mr. Smithson's instructions:

- If a majority of your trustees are gathered at the same location (i.e. ball game, civic gathering, water cooler, etc.), a member of the public may challenge your board for having an illegal meeting---even if the conversation had nothing to do with the library. Best advice is for a majority of trustees to avoid congregating in public.*
- The law requires that agendas be posted physically. There is no mention of an electronic posting requirement, although such postings can be a good idea. However, do not post the board's agenda **only** in an electronic environment, as the physical (paper) agenda is required to be posted in a conspicuous location. Check with your city to see if there are specific locations as to where public meeting agendas must be posted, as there are no state requirements that speak to location.*
- If a controversial issue causes a bigger-than-anticipated crowd to attend your library board meeting, do not turn people away from the meeting. Instead, start the meeting at the originally-designated location, announce the new location, recess with sufficient time to allow people to move to the new/bigger location (recess can be up to 4 hours), and post notice at the original location giving indication of the new meeting location (for any late-comers). Note that the meeting must begin in the original location. You can also postpone the meeting and reschedule it to a different day to allow time to arrange for a larger meeting location.*
- Your board does not have to provide for public comment. Public attendance, yes, but public comment is up to the board. Boards should have a clear and public policy regarding public comment at library board meetings.*
- If a complaint is filed against your library board, the office of Iowa Public Information Board (IPIB) will contact you. BE RESPONSIVE! IPIB only wants to get your side of the story, but make sure to answer any notices/questions promptly.*

My thanks to Maryann for sharing this ILA session! She ends with this good advice: "...your District Consultant is readily available to provide trustee training for your board. Standards stipulate that new trustees must receive orientation, that all trustees must receive continuing education annually, and that trustees need to be trained in legal issues such as Open Meetings Law. Contact your consultant to schedule a trustee training session soon!..."

A few more national webinars finish out the month, find registration instructions here
<http://www.statelibraryofia.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

October 27. 1:00-2:00PM. *Engaging the Volunteer of the Future* sponsored by VolunteerMatch
<http://learn.volunteermatch.org/>

October 27. 1:00-2:00PM. *Crime Fiction: Cult Classics & Hot New Titles* sponsored Booklist
<http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

October 28. 12:00-1:00PM. *Introduction to Project Budgets* sponsored by Grantspace
<http://grantspace.org/course-offerings/training-calendar/online>

October 30. 1:00-2:00PM. *People—Difficult or Different ?* sponsored by Effectiveness Institute
http://www.effectivenessinstitute.com/index.php?option=com_dtregister&Itemid=54



Monday Morning Eye-Opener Editor:

Bonnie McKewon

Iowa Library Services

Northwest District Office

529 Pierce Street

Sioux City, IA. 51101

866-642-7920

bonnie.mckewon@lib.state.ia.us