



Today in EYE-OPENER December 19, 2016

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1) State Library Highlights for 2016: This is the last issue of *Monday Morning Eye-Opener* for this year, a good time to harken back. Like your libraries, the State Library had some noteworthy accomplishments this past year. So we're popping the cork on our Highlight Reel for 2016!



While we can't consider budget woes to be a highlight, the agency met money worries with creative responses. With staff resignations, positions were not replaced; instead jobs were re-assigned, office space at the Miller Building in Des Moines downsized to two floors, and other cost-saving measures put into place.



A notable improvement came in the spring with flipping the agency name from Iowa Library Services back to the original *State Library of Iowa*. Complementing the name change came a new logo and tagline: *State Library of Iowa—Information, Consultation, Destination*.





Standards for Iowa's public libraries were revised in 2016; the State Library Commission approved them in June, becoming effective in July. Substantive changes impacting libraries across all three funding tiers brought the topic of standards front-and-center at September's Town Meetings, plus many more reviews at individual county and board meetings throughout the fall season. If your library board would like a review of the changes, just let me know—"Raising Our Standards" is a timely topic!



Iowa library directors, staff, and trustees participated in State Library sponsored continuing education throughout the year. Roundtables, workshops, and webinars covered the gamut of topics. Just to name a few: adult programming, online health resources, PLA's Project Outcomes and ALA's Libraries Transform, one-book-one-community reading programs, designing with Infographics, and much more. Our Education Team met in Des Moines last week to plan the year ahead—I can promise plenty to choose from, beginning with the [ILOC Conference](#) on [January 19](#). Join us for [ILOC](#) and many more educational opportunities for staff and boards in 2017!



Until then, it's time for a long winter's nap...Cheers to the New Year!



2) Kids First Conference 2017—Presenters Welcome: The [Kids First Conference](#), sponsored by the State Library, lands in odd-numbered years. Which means [Kids First](#) comes back in 2017! Never too early to "**Save the Date**"—[May 1-2](#), with an additional half-day post conference on [May 3](#). The location is [Des Moines Holiday Inn Airport and Conference Center](#).

Youth Services Consultant Merri Monks is soliciting session topics and speakers, here's more from Merri: "... *Do you have an idea for a breakout session for the [2017 Kids First Conference](#)? If so, please consider making a presentation proposal. Breakout sessions are 50 minutes in length. You can co-present your session with others. Each session is awarded one free registration for the day of the presentation; two or more presenters can split the registration fee for that day.*

If interested in presenting a session at **Kids First 2017**, just download the proposal form from the State Library's website <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/t-z/youthservices/kidsfirst%202011/kids-first-20175>. The proposal form is available in both a PDF and a Word document. Once you've completed the proposal form, you can choose to (a) email me at merri.monks@iowa.gov or (b) fax your proposal to 515-281-6191 or (c) mail a hard copy to me at Merri Monks, State Library of Iowa, 1112 E. Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50311..”.



3) ILOC 2017 Conference Preview: Just over 1 month away—ILOC 2017! Sponsored by the State Library, **ILOC** stands for **Innovative Libraries Online Conference** and it's coming up quickly—**January 19, 2017**. This is a great chance for staff to pick up several c.e. credits for the day and all from the comfort of home or office. The **2017 theme** is **“Lean Mean Library Machine.”** It's a fun theme with many fun sessions on tap, including a new feature this year called “Library Hacks.”

The morning keynote speaker is **Teresa Hay McMahon**, Executive Director of the Iowa Lean Consortium (ILC), a non-profit consortium of businesses, government, education, and healthcare. The ILC works to drive competitive performance improvements in Iowa organizations by expanding Lean culture and sharing lessons learned. Lean organizations eliminate waste in processes through active involvement of all employees engaged in non-stop improvement.

Another added bonus: **ILOC** is a wonderful opportunity for library boards to fulfil the standard that requires board education at a Tier 1 level. Remember in the 2016 revision of standards, #8 requires **“all members of the library board of trustees participate in a variety of board development training each year...”** Toward that end, there is an evening program for trustees. The evening keynote speaker is **Pat Wagner**; she is a trainer, consultant, and manager of Pattern Research, Inc. Pat will speak to the role that trustees can play in encouraging **Lean Mean Library Machines!**

Consider this: morning and evening keynote speakers, concurrent sessions on a variety of topics, plus a virtual exhibit hall—all online using Adobe Connect Classrooms and ZOOM meeting rooms. Come and go throughout the day, attending the sessions you're most interested in. A main goal of **ILOC** is to replicate the "in-person" conference experience, but in an online environment without cost, without travel !

Registration is now open in the C.E. Catalog <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/index.cgi> Avoid the holiday rush and register today!

4) Winter Paper Buy Through AEA Purchasing: Did you know that Iowa public libraries are eligible for many of the same discounts that K-12 schools enjoy? True, thanks to Iowa's Area Education Agencies and **AEA Purchasing**. Office and custodial supplies, hardware and software too—public libraries are welcome to browse **AEA Purchasing** catalog to see what's available <http://www.aeapurchasing.org/>



From their website: *"...our goal is to combine the purchasing power of Iowa schools to offer competitive pricing on goods, materials, and services through competitive bidding. **AEA Purchasing** is also a member of the Association of Education Purchasing Agencies, a multi-state nonprofit organization that works to leverage the purchasing power of all schools, regardless of size..."*

So here's the current deal—paper and more paper! **AEA Purchasing Winter Paper Buy** offers discounted pricing on a large variety of paper weights, colors and sizes. The Paper Corporation in Des Moines is the vendor. So if you need paper for your staff or public printers—maybe a paper supply for programming or MakerSpaces—look at this offer. If you think the quantities are too large for your library alone, buying paper this way as a county collaboration project might make good sense. **Order deadline is January 9, 2017**—learn more here: http://www.aeapurchasing.org/vendor_partners/aea-purchasing-paper-buy/



5) Meetings / Events This Week: We're easing into Christmas weekend without workshops or webinars—and without travel in this bitter cold. So just this announcement about holiday closings:

All State Library offices will be closed next Monday December 26 for the Christmas holiday, as well as Monday January 2 for the New Year's holiday. Look for Monday Morning Eye-Opener again on January 9th...

If your Christmas preparations are well in hand, you could catch a few national webinars this week—find descriptions and registration here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

December 19. 1:30-2:30PM. Leadership and Mentorship for Rural Librarians sponsored by Association for Rural and Small Libraries <http://icfl.adobeconnect.com/ce>

December 20. 1:00-2:00PM. *Use It, Don't Lose It! Technology Donations Before Calendar-Year-End* sponsored by Tech Soup
<http://www.techsoupforlibraries.org/events>

December 21. 10:00-11:00AM. *Under the Microscope: Science at the Library*
sponsored by Nebraska Library Commission
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventlist.asp?Mode=ALL>

**From all of us at the State Library, wishing you a Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy, Healthy New Year...
Until 2017!!**



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