

Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER April 13, 2015

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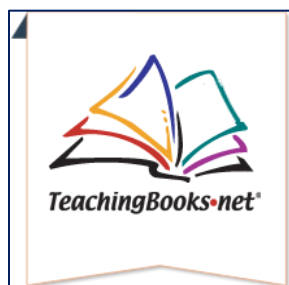


1) Tech Conference in June: Northwest AEA and Prairie Lakes AEA join forces again in June in sponsoring their annual **TICL Conference, June 15-16**. **TICL** stands for **Technology Integration for 21st Century Learners** and is geared for faculty and classroom teachers. I've attended in past years, and I always recommend this conference opportunity for public library staff as well. There is so much here: national keynote speakers, dozens of breakout sessions, and networking with school librarians and teachers. And the best part—close to home for Northwest Iowans—this conference takes place in Storm Lake!

Michael Gorman is one of three keynote speakers. He is well-known for advocating for classroom technology, has won numerous educator awards, and has presented at countless national conferences. Today, Michael is a consultant for Discovery Education, ISTE, My Big Campus, PBS Learning Media, and November Learning.

This year's breakout sessions haven't been posted yet. But judging from past years, attendees are sure to learn about cool web tools for use inside and outside the classroom. 2014's conference included sessions titled "*40 Websites in 50 Minutes*," "*What Educators Can Learn From Business*," "*Technology to Support Literacy*," and much more. So stay tuned for what the **2015 TICL Conference** has lined up—and remember public library staff are welcome!

Again, the **TICL Conference** takes place at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake June 15-16. The registration for 2 days is \$95.00 until April 30, \$100.00 after April 30th. The registration form is here <http://www.ticl-ia.org/>; more news and breakout sessions will be posted soon...



2) TeachingBooks Free Webinar: With summer reading programs looming, TeachingBooks.Net is sponsoring a free webinar regarding summer reading that should be of interest to many. The webinar will showcase TeachingBooks' resources that connect with this summer's super hero theme for kids "Every Hero Has a Story."

TeachingBooks.Net is a website that adds a multimedia dimension to the reading experiences of children's and young adult books. Its online database is developed and maintained to include thousands of resources about fiction and nonfiction books used in the K–12 environment, with every resource selected to encourage the integration of multimedia author and book materials into reading and library activities.

Some of the many resources include

- Meet the Author movies & slideshows
- Book trailers
- Award-winning books
- Movie & TV adaptations
- Lesson plans & curriculum support for teachers

Register for the TeachingBooks webinar on April 21 <http://TeachingBooks.net/IowaRegistration> Choose either 9:00-9:50AM or 4:00-4:50PM that day. NOTE: the link to these classes does not work in Firefox browsers. Use Chrome or Internet Explorer to open the link.

3) ILOC 2015—A Rousing Success: Thanks to Kim Mashek with Northeast District, we have not yet been posted, but some pretty good numbers to report about ILOC 2015. This annual all-day online conference, sponsored by Iowa Library Services, saw 284 people registered. Special thanks to keynote speakers Nancy Kranich and Iowa State Librarian Michael Scott. A few more numbers:



- ✓ Number of attendees can expect to learn about cool web tools for use inside and outside the classroom. at opening keynote = 163
- ✓ Number of presenters = 18
- ✓ Number of Vendors = 11
- ✓ Number of CE Credits = 5.5
- ✓ Number of Adobe Rooms = 4
- ✓ Money spent on hotel rooms, gas and conference food = \$0
- ✓ Increasing YOUR skills and information for your toolbox = PRICELE\$\$

Recorded presentations, along with handouts, will soon be available on the ILOC conference webpage, so check back <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/iloc> And how about this: we're already talking about ILOC 2016!



4) **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..."*

5) **Meetings / Events This Week:** Time again for the **Website Worktime** sessions this week. Choose either **Wednesday April 15** (9:00-10:00AM) or **April 16** (10:00-11:00AM) This month, we will review how to set up a new cover page. This is the type of page that includes the carousel feature. You can begin to create a new home cover page while keeping your old home page in place until the new one is ready to go. **Website Worktime** has a new Adobe Classroom, note the new URL is <https://ials.adobeconnect.com/websiteworktime/>. Please join us as we continue to liven up PLOW websites!

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.statelibraryofiowa.org/>

And check out these and more national webinars, with full descriptions and registration information, here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

April 14. 8:30-10:00AM. *Thrills and Chills @ Your Library: How to Help Your Scariest Patrons* sponsored by Maine State Library <http://evanced.info/maine/evanced/events/signup.asp?ID=2606>

April 14. 11:30AM-12:30PM. *The Reference Interview: Best Practices/Dealing with Difficult Situations* sponsored by Utah State Library <http://stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining/>

April 16. 1:00-2:00PM. *Are Tablets Just Toys? How to Get Work Done (and Be Green!) with Mobile Devices* sponsored by TechSoup <http://www.techsoupforlibraries.org/events>

April 16. 1:00-2:00PM. *Converting Volunteers From Joiners to Stayers* sponsored Wild Apricot <http://www.wildapricot.com/webinars>

April 16. 1:00-2:00PM. *STEAM & the Maker Mentality for School-age Youth* sponsored by DEMCO <http://ideas.demco.com/webinars-category/>

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