



Today in EYE-OPENER October 31, 2016

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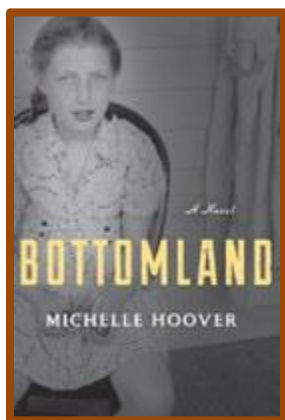


**1) International Games Day November 19:** Game on, Iowa libraries! Catch up with **International Games Day** next month on **November 19**. 2016 marks the 9<sup>th</sup> year for this global event, co-sponsored by ALA, the Games & Gaming Roundtable of ALA, and the Australian Library Association. The intention is to bring communities together at their libraries to enjoy the recreational and social value of games, but the educational value as well.

**International Games Day (IGD)** is run entirely by volunteers and it's totally free to participate. As the official website says *"...it's cheaper than free because after registering with the event, you stand a good chance to get free donations for your library. Register here <http://igd.ala.org/register/> and find a free press kit, complete with press releases and posters..."*

More from **International Games Day** sponsors: *"...In the 21st century, libraries are about much more than books. Gaming at the library encourages young patrons to interact with a diverse group of peers, share their expertise with others—including adults—and develop new strategies for gaming and learning. Plus, it's a way for traditionally underserved groups to have fun in the library and interact with other members of the community. **International Games Day @ Your Library** is a great opportunity for families to get out of the house and play together in the one community institution that welcomes everyone..."*

Over 2,000 libraries around the world are expected to register with the **IGD** event this year. And again, registering with the IGD site makes your library eligible for prizes and donations from supporting vendors. But you can also go low-key by setting up board games, card games, and computer games throughout the library on **November 19**, then promote this as family fun day @ your library. Follow the **IGD** site for lots of ideas and resources <http://igd.ala.org/>



**2) 2017 "All Iowa Reads" Title is Bottomland:** The 2017 All Iowa Reads title was announced at the ILA conference—Bottomland by Michelle Hoover. Described in the Minneapolis Star Tribune as "a mystery wrapped in isolation and ethnic fear," Bottomland is based on the author's real life story of her grandmother.

It begins in Iowa post-World War I, following the Hess family as they try to rid themselves of the Anti-German sentiment that tarnished their name. But when the youngest two daughters vanish in the middle of the night, the family fears the worst and must piece together what happened while struggling to maintain their life on the unforgiving Iowa plains. Told in the voices of the family patriarch and his children, this is a haunting literary mystery that spans decades before its resolution.

Michelle Hoover is an Iowa native, now living in Boston. She is the Writer-in-Residence at Brandeis University and teaches at GrubStreet, where she leads the Novel Incubator program. She has been a Writer-in-Residence at Bucknell University, a MacDowell Fellow, and a winner of the PEN/New England Discovery Award. Bottomland is her second novel.

The Iowa Center for the Book's **All Iowa Reads** program fosters a sense of community through reading. Iowans are encouraged to come together to talk about a single book each year. Libraries, book clubs, and schools are encouraged to sponsor discussions of the title. Toward that end, the Center for the Book will sponsor a webinar in January to help launch the statewide discussion of Bottomland; Michelle Hoover will join the webinar to talk about her novel and its themes.

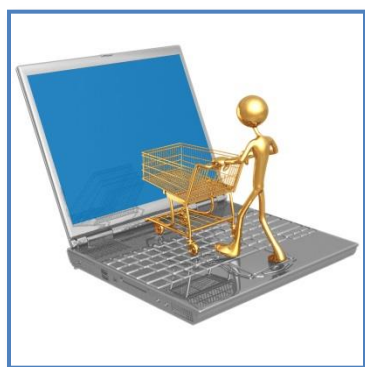
Note that the ICB and the State Library will provide multiple copies of the book and will start taking reservations once we've received all the copies. Libraries are welcome to call their District Office to reserve copies of Bottomland—but again, only after the multiple copies become available—we'll let you know when that is! In the meantime, learn more about the **All Iowa Reads** program and the 2017 title Bottomland here [www.iowacenterforthebook.org](http://www.iowacenterforthebook.org)

**3) Annual Survey is Ready:** This long awaited news comes from Scott Dermont—the **FY2016 Annual Survey** is finally ready ☺ Many technical issues beyond our control caused unfortunate delays this year. So because of the late release date, the completion deadline has been extended to **December 16**.



Scott writes: *"...the data you provide on the survey helps you and your fellow librarians compare library performance, justify budget requests, and describe the condition of public libraries in Iowa. Your data is also used by local, state, and federal officials to help them make funding and program decisions. Your efforts are important and they are appreciated!"*

The **Annual Survey** must be completed online, here's the link <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/a-b/statistics> Each library needs a user name and password. If you've misplaced or need that information, just contact your District office or Scott in Des Moines, we have a master list of every library's logins and we're happy to help with questions along the way.



**4) A Database Purchase Survey:** This news comes from Jay Peterson and concerns the **Iowa Academic Library Alliance / State Library Joint Database Purchase Survey**. That's a long handle, so Jay helps break it down with this explanation: *"... We have an exciting opportunity over the next several months to achieve a level of collaboration among Iowa libraries that we have not seen before. Certainly, Iowa libraries work together, but often within separate groups that don't directly collaborate. We know that libraries in many other states have a strong history of*

*statewide collaboration which has led to significant joint purchasing...now Iowa is looking to partner with academic libraries in a statewide RFP—Request for Proposal—with the goal of expanding database resources to all libraries in our state...”*

In partnership with the State Library, UNI, and ISU, the **Iowa Academic Alliance** will submit an RFP for a multi-vendor database package to interested vendors by March 2017. The current EBSCO base package used by many Iowa public and academic libraries would be replaced by the results of this RFP. For instance with EBSCO, three things could happen (a) EBSCO may or may not choose to issue a response to the RFP (b) any proposal they submit might be different than the current base package and (c) any proposal they submit might not be chosen.

Your answers to the database survey questions will provide valuable information as the **Alliance** develops the group RFP. Please take the time to complete the survey, giving us your honest feedback—we appreciate your input into this process!

Link to **Database Purchase Survey** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPCW6YR>



**5) Meetings / Events This Week:** I'll join **Marcus Library Board** this **Wednesday Nov2** with a program on budget & finance.

Then **Thursday Nov3** is Northwest Iowa's turn for the **2017 Summer Library Program Workshop** at **Western Iowa Tech** in **Cherokee**. For everyone pre-registered, the workshop is broken into 3 segments for 3 age groups: **programming for teens and adults runs from 10:00AM-12:00PM**, **programming for children runs from 1:00-3:00PM**. The 2017 theme applies to all 3 age groups—**Build a Better World**.





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