

System Reference Center

Search Newsletter

May 2009
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News You Can Use

Library Garden Grants

These awards support school and youth garden programs that teach about nutrition and the issue of hunger in the US. To be eligible for the 2009 Healthy Sprouts Awards, schools and/or libraries must plan to garden in 2010 with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18. Deadline: October 17, 2009 [Details](#).

The [America the Beautiful Fund](#) offers free seeds. [KidsGardening.org](#) has information on intergenerational gardening.

Poets and Writers Grants for Author Presentations

It's not too late to plan a summer reading program for adults. [Poets and Writers](#) offers grants for an author to present at your library. The deadline is eight weeks before your event.

The program webliography for [July and August](#) has links to book lists and program ideas for all ages.

Interconnections Report Boosts Libraries

A new report, [InterConnections: A National Study of Users and Potential Users of Online Information](#), published by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) delves into the use of libraries, museums and the Internet. The study concludes that "the amount of use of the Internet is positively correlated with the number of in-person visits to museums and has a positive effect on in-person visits to public libraries."

Pew Surveys

The [Pew Internet and American Life Project](#) researches Americans' use of the Internet for their daily lives. Summaries of research reports are free and contain statistics that can be used to plan programs, manage collections and justify funding. Here is a sample of recently posted reports:

[Generations Online 2009](#)

Larger percentages of older generations are online now than in the past, and they are doing more activities online.

[Library Studies and Presentations](#)

These links to presentations and commentary are focused on how libraries can utilize new media and how new media will affect libraries.

Events and Training

Hook Them for Life - May 19, 2009

Sponsored by the BALIS Childrens Committee, [Katie O'Dell](#) will lead this interactive workshop to help you recharge your reading promotion and reveal the secrets of successful summer and year-round reading programs.

Tuesday, May 19, 2009 - [Alameda County Library - Fremont](#)

9:00am - 4:30pm - \$50 - [Details and registration](#)

Registration closed on Monday, May 11, 2009. The information has been retained for our readers' convenience.

For program information: Mary Ann Vande Vusse, Livermore Public Library,
925-373-5500 x5582

Reference Picks

Election May 19, 2009

Find your polling place, download voter's guides, and more on the System Reference Center's [Election 2009](#) webliography.

Program Planning "Day" and "Month" Events

Publicity templates, educational tools, booklists, and program planning ideas are in each link. Some events lend themselves to collaboration with schools and community organizations.

[Smithsonian Heritage Months](#) . [February](#) - [March](#) - [May](#) - [September](#) - [November](#)

[KQED Heritage Months](#) - [February](#) - [March](#) - [May](#) - [June](#) - [September](#) - [October](#) - [November](#)

[National Register of Historic Places - Feature Months](#)

Reading is Fundamental - [rif.org](#) - Reading Rockets - [readingrockets.org](#)

May

[Asian/Pacific Heritage Month](#) - [Library of Congress Links](#) - [National and California Parks Sites and Events](#) - [LII Links](#)

Health Observances - [Clean Air Month](#) - [Mental Health Month](#) - [Older Americans Month](#) - [National Senior Adult Fitness Day](#) - May 27

June

Flag Day - June 14 - [Library of Congress](#) - [Flag.org](#)

[World Music Day / Fete de la Musique](#) - June 21 - Local details in *May Search - Palo Alto* - Performer's deadline was May 8, 2009.

LGBT Pride Month - [San Francisco LGBT Pride 2009](#) - June 27-28

July and August - Reading!

[California Summer Reading Program](#) - [Children](#) - [Teens](#) - [Adults](#)

[Bay Area Literacy Programs \(BALIT\)](#) - [BAYLIT Webliography](#) - [Literacy Works.org](#) -

[California Library Literacy Services](#) - [LibraryLiteracy.org](#)

[California Reading List](#) - [ALA YALSA Book Awards and Reading Lists](#) - [Reading is Fundamental \(RIF\)](#) and [American Library Association Childrens Reading Lists](#)

News from Our Members

Oakland Public Library's New TeenZone

The [TeenZone](#) in the Main Library of the Oakland Public Library (OPL) celebrated its [re-opening](#) on January 28, 2009, showing off its new computer lab with new Apple iMacs, two private group study spaces, improved displays for library materials, expanded display space to showcase teen art, new colorful seating and carpeting, and recycled Terrazzo used for reading bars and work areas. The [Youth Leadership Council \(YLC\)](#) members, who have since graduated, worked on the project from inception to picking the furniture. The many funders included the library's Friends.

TeenZone usage and circulation has greatly increased since its reopening and is so popular that its budget will be spared cuts that other library areas may experience. The iMacs from the Gates Foundation allow the TeenZone to have Internet access for the first time, and reference questions include queries about iMacs, iTunes, and Photo Booth software on the iSight webcam. Since the re-opening, desk staff now spend some of their desk duty monitoring the computers since the library's automated reservation system only works for PC's. Since adults and children like to use the TeenZone computers also, [TeenZone staff](#) is discussing giving teens priority, especially when school is not in session. Staff expect OPL's system-wide Teen Summer Passport Program to bring in even more teens.

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If your library has interesting statistics or press releases, please share them with your staff, post them on committee listservs, and send them to [Mary Beth Train](#) for inclusion in *Search*. One good idea begets another!

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BALIS/PLS/SVLS System Reference Center

www.systemref.org

- For libraries to submit an article or a suggestion for *Search*, email Mary Beth Train at **train-AT-plsinfo-DOT-org**.
- Find *Search* archives at [Search Newsletters](#).
- We're part of the Library!
 - [Bay Area Library and Information System \(BALIS\)](#)
 - [Peninsula Library System \(PLS\)](#)
 - [Silicon Valley Library System \(SVLS\)](#)
 - [Monterey Bay Area Cooperative Library System \(MOBAC\)](#)
- To send a Second Level reference request:
 - [Web form](#)
 - Email us at info-AT-plsinfo.org
 - Fax: (650) 349-5089 or (800) 505-5583
 - Phone: (650) 349-5538 or (800) 644-6244

- [System Reference Center Flyer](#)  Use for staff orientation and training.

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