


System Reference Center

Search Newsletter

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News You Can Use

Pacific Library Partnership (PLP)

Watch for the official announcement of the new website of the Pacific Library Partnership (PLP). PLP staff were delighted with all the features of the new site and think you will be also.

PLP's official beginning was July 1, 2009, BALIS, MOBAC, PLS, and SVLS formed the PLP to streamline the systems' administrative tasks and offer opportunities to leverage technology to enhance service to members and, in turn, the public.

Berkeley Customizes Computer Languages for Classes

Berkeley Public Library discovered a language feature that is in Vista, Windows XP, and older versions of Microsoft operating systems. Librarians now change their classroom computers to display Chinese to Chinese speakers in their classes conducted in Chinese, even though English is the default language on these computers.

Microsoft has posted instructions for displays in other languages on its "help and how-to" sites for both Windows XP and Vista:

- Windows XP: [Set up Windows XP for multiple languages](#)
- Vista:
 - For more information and a link to change the display language: [What can I do with regional formats and languages?](#)
 - [The Language bar](#) See the links at the end of the article for changing the input

language and the keyboard.

- [About Us](#)

When needed, staff change the language option on the master computer in the classroom for the hour. At the end of the class the volunteer logs off the master computer. Since all the computers have [Deep Freeze](#) installed, closing the sessions and rebooting causes them revert English, which is the default.

Database Marketing Ideas

On September 17 and 18, Gale conducted workshops, *Taking the Library Out to Patrons*, on using Gale's resources and tools to promote the use of member libraries' databases. The ideas can be adapted to promote other library services as well - support.gale.com. Another resource are the ideas that the BALIS Adult Services Committee [brainstormed](#) this last year.

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Events and Training

The Future of Libraries 5.0: Libraries: The Recovery Engine on the Hard Times Train

The Pacific Library Partnership Staff Development Committee (formerly known as the Library Staff Development Committee of the Greater Bay Area) and the [BayNet Library & Information Network](#) are sponsoring the fifth workshop of its popular annual series. The keynote speaker is Danielle Milam, [Las Vegas-Clark County Library District Foundation](#) Development Director, formerly Urban Library Council Vice President for Program and Development. She will be followed by representatives from local libraries presenting their case studies of creating, implementing and learning from library services for job seekers and small businesses.

Wednesday, September 23, 2009 - [San Francisco Public Library](#) (Koret Auditorium)
8:30am - 5:00pm - \$40 registration fee - [Speakers' materials](#)

For more information about workshop registration and openings, contact Peninsula Library System staff at 650.349.5538 or krause-AT-plsinfo.org

Edmond Otis - Making Difficult Conversations Easier - October 9,, 2009

The Pacific Library Partnership is sponsoring a unique one-day workshop for all library staff. [Edmund Otis](#), licensed psychotherapist, author, trainer, and accomplished university educator, uses lecture, discussion, and individual and group exercises to teach participants effective, practical, and positive skills for making the most difficult conversations easier. [Past workshop materials](#)

Friday, October 9, 2009 -San Mateo County Library, Millbrae Branc

1 Library Avenue Millbrae, CA 94030 - [Directions](#)

- 8:30am - 9:00am - Reception

- 9:00am - 4:30pm - Workshop

Sign up [online](#). \$75 registration fee, to be invoiced to your library.

Registrations are due by 8:00am, Monday October 5, 2009.

For more information about workshop registration and openings after the deadline, contact Peninsula Library System staff at 650.349.5538 or krause-AT-plsinfo.org.

Multicultural Entertainment Extravaganza - October 24, 2009 - Santa Clara

The bi-annual *Multicultural Entertainment Extravaganza (MEE09)*, sponsored by the Pacific Library Partnership's Multicultural Services Committees is an all-day event featuring dance groups, artists, storytellers and musicians. Bring your calendar so you can sign them up for your library programs. Children are welcome.

Saturday, October 24, 2009 - [Mission City Center for Performing Arts](#).

3250 Monroe Street, Santa Clara 95051

8:30am - 9:00am - Reception - 9:00am - 3:30pm - Performance

Bring your own brown-bag lunch for the 45-minute lunch break.

Advance registration is [online](#) and ends Friday, October 8: \$10. Onsite: \$15.

For more information about workshop registration, contact Peninsula Library System staff at 650.349.5538 or krause-AT-plsinfo.org.

For more information about the workshop program and performer registration, contact Diana Lara at 408-262-1171 x 3623 or dlara - AT - library.sccgov.org.

[Photos of MEE07](#)

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Reference Picks

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](#)

Reading is Fundamental - rif.org - Reading Rockets - readingrockets.org

[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 Children's Reading Lists](#)

[Rebecca's Pocket](#)

Rebecca Blood has an extensive list of reading list sites and reviews of good reads which she updates weekly. The lists include fiction, thrillers, "chick lit," travel, cooking, gardening, history, and politics. There are separate sections for children and young adults.

September

Hispanic Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15

For an authoritative, easy-to-use list for programming and school reports, see these [eleven sites](#), the result of a search on [Librarians Internet Index](#), using "Hispanic Heritage Month" as a search term in the search box.

Library Card Sign-up Month

Tap into the publicity generated by "Back to School" advertising and the media coverage on the effect of the California budget on education funding to promote your library's databases, webliographies, and catalog.

[ALA publicity materials](#) - [Read Write Think](#)

National Book Festival - [2009](#)

Sponsored by the Library of Congress, the annual festival website has links to featured authors and activities in Washington D.C. as well as to the previous eight festivals.

Young Readers' Toolkit - Also on the festival site, the interactive [Toolkit](#) features information about National Book Festival authors who write for children and teens, podcasts of their readings, teaching tools and activities for children and suggestions for your local festival.

Banned Books Week - September 26-October 3, 2009

Banned Books Week is sponsored by the [American Booksellers Association](#); [American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression](#); the [American Library Association](#); [American Society of Journalists and Authors](#); [Association of American Publishers](#); and the [National Association of College Stores](#). It is endorsed by the [Center for the Book in the Library of Congress](#).

The American Library Association page describes the Freedom to Read, campaign and its [Calendar of Events](#) and [Ideas and Resources](#).

National Alcohol and Drug Awareness Month - [Recover.gov](#)

Deaf Awareness Month & Week – September 21-27, 2009

National Association of the Deaf - [Resources page](#)

- [Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program \(DDTP\)](#) - Includes [California](#)

[Telephone Access Program \(CTAP\)](#) and [California Relay Service \(CRS\)](#)

- [Hearing Loss Association of America](#)
- [National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders - Resources](#)

October

National Disability Awareness Month

- San Mateo County Elections Site's [Disability Awareness Page](#) - eSlate, facts, tips, and, at the bottom of the page, many links
- [KQED Disability Culture Month](#)
- National Organization on Disability (NOD) - [nod.org](#) - [Berkeley's 2007 Award](#)

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month

- [Reading Rockets books and resources](#)
- [Charles and Helen Schwab Foundation's SchwabLearning.org](#)
- [Resource organizations](#)
- [SparkTop.org](#) - "for 8–12 year olds who struggle with learning."

"Library Accessibility –What You Need to Know" [Toolkit](#)

The [Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies \(ASCLA\)](#) new toolkit contains 15 tipsheets in PDF on access issues for patrons who have cognitive, mental, or emotional illnesses; patrons with learning and/or developmental disabilities; patrons with service animals; patrons needing assistive technologies and patrons with physical disabilities

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#) with links for other organizations. - Note for your webliographies: Some of these sites have a "Quick Escape" button to move users to a URL which can't be traced on the computer. It looks like a Google page, but has a picture of a landscape with satellites. Users are also given the numbers for the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1–800–799–SAFE(7233) or TTY 1–800–787–3224.
- [California Partnership to End Domestic Violence](#) - [cpedv.org](#)
- [An Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence Aid and Resource Collection \(AARDVARC\)](#) - [Movies](#) - [Books by topic](#)
- [California Courts Online Self-Help Center](#) - [Protection from Abuse](#) - Information, organizations, and legal information

November

American Indian Heritage Month

- [Smithsonian resources](#)
- [Librarians Internet Index](#) - A variety of informative sites and resources
- [National Museum of the American Indian](#)

- [California Native Heritage Commission](#)
- [California Native Americans from Thinkquest](#)

[American National Diabetes Month](#)

[National Gaming Day @ Your Library](#) - November 14, 2009 - [Lists and activities](#)

YALSA Teen Programming Ideas - [November](#)

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News from Our Members

Watsonville Uses Touch Screens for Millenium

Heather Geddes, Senior Librarian at Watsonville Public Library, reports that the use of flat screen monitors has made circulation transactions much easier and faster in the library's graphic based Millenium OPAC which requires many mouse clicks.

The library's IT person plugged in the monitors to the computers and installed the software in minutes and staff training was brief. One can touch the screen anywhere there is a mouse click, highlight things and use the drag bars on the side of the screen. The monitors replaced both flat screen and CRT monitors. The computers now have the touch screen monitor, a mouse, keyboard, and a scanner. Since the monitors are set to default to a left mouse click, staff uses the mouse only when they need to do a right click.

The time saved and ease of use justified the \$200-\$400 price difference between a regular monitor and a touch screen. Staff report that it is easier on their hands and wrists to use the touch screen monitors since they are not constantly reaching down or over to get to a mouse.

Community and Big Reads

- [Peninsula Library System](#) - *Mistress of Spices* , by Chitra Divakaruni - [Details](#)
- [San Francisco Public Library](#) - *Alive in Necropolis* by Doug Dorst - [Details](#)
- [Contra Costa County Library System](#) - One Book, One City - Danville and San Ramon, Lamorinda, and Walnut Creek - [Cities and Books](#)

[Litquake - 10th anniversary schedule - October 9-17, 2009](#)

Library Re-Openings

San Francisco Public Library

- Ingleside - September 12, 2009 - [Press release](#)
- Richmond/Senator Milton Marks - May 16, 2009 - [Press release](#)
- Portola - February 28, 2009 - [Press release](#)

San Jose Public Library

- East San José Carnegie - August 29, 2009 - [Press release](#) 

Alameda County Library

- [Castro Valley](#) - October 31, 2009 - [Book pass from old site to new](#)


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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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Peninsula Library Partnership (PLP) 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.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-systemref.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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