

System Reference Center

Search Newsletter

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News You Can Use

Food for Thought

If reduced time and money in your library is causing a re-thinking of procedures, here's some reading.

- [Cluetrain Manifesto's 95 Theses](#)
- [Bruce Mau's *Incomplete Manifesto for Growth* with Katherine Gould's commentary](#)
- [Joan Frye Williams and George Needham Webcast Archives](#)

Web 2.0 Library Applications

Manage your library's book groups or teen clubs and include user-contributed content in your catalog:

- [Online College Blog's 100 Ideas for Facebook](#)
- [User-Contributed Content in Library Catalogs - BayNet Program Links](#)
- [Internet Librarian Blogs. See \[Clip blog for October 29, 2009\]\(#\)](#)

Stacey Aldrich Appointed State Librarian

On November 13, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger appointed Stacey Aldrich to be the State Librarian. She had been Acting State Librarian since February 2009 when Susan Hildreth become director of the Seattle Public Library. Congratulations, Stacey! [Press release.](#)

We the People Book Grant

[The National Endowment for the Humanities](#), in cooperation with the American Library Association's (ALA) Public Programs Office, is sponsoring the seventh [We the People Bookshelf project](#). These 17 books and DVD will complement library programs observing the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Apply online at publicprograms.ala.org/bookshelf/

- [News from Our Members](#)
- [Library-A-Go-Go](#)
- [ProLiteracy Accredited Libraries](#)
- [Community and Big Reads](#)
- [Library Re-Openings](#)

- [About Us](#)

Deadline: January 29, 2010.

Open Source Open Libraries Project

[Infopeople](#), [Califa](#) and the [Open Source Library Consortium](#) are working together to educate librarians on open source software (OSS) for libraries as an alternative to commercial, proprietary integrated library systems (ILS). OSS puts librarians in control of their OPACs and search interfaces, as opposed to the vendor-controlled ILS. Find out more on the project page - opensource.califa.org. Get up to speed with these Infopeople [archived webinars](#).

DataSF

DataSF is an e-government example of the use of mashups and social networking in a blog format - datasf.org. The goal of this website is to improve the public's access to local data, to showcase these applications, and to receive feedback from the public. Could you use a similar format for your library's statistics?

State Library Creates Library Twitter List

The State Library has created a Twitter list consisting of California libraries that Twitter. Twitter lists are a new feature offered on Twitter that allows you to create topic-based lists of users so you can follow tweets from a specific set of users. Add your library to the State Library's list! Also, you can follow the System Reference Center (SRC) on Twitter. The SRC's [Twitter link](#) is back on the System Reference Center's home page. [Details](#)

Events and Training

Math at the Library? What Fun is That? - Free Half-Day Workshop

Utilizing a set of ideas for library displays, stories, games, and activities that support math literacy adapted from the [Mixing in Math](#) project, this workshop is an opportunity to explore how your library can take advantage of newly developed posters, game boards, and resources for family events. The trainers will show how librarians can spark opportunities for mathematical thinking to enhance the services they already provide for children and teens such as craft ideas and space to do homework. Mixing in Math is being developed to help children grow more confident and skilled at categorizing, estimating, fractions, and measurements, while motivating them to read both non-fiction and fiction. Participants will leave with activities, icebreakers, quiet games, and book suggestions.

Monday, January 25, 2010 - [Watsonville Public Library](#)

- 275 Main Street, Watsonville, 95076

9:30am - 12:30pm - [Details and registration](#)

Friday, January 29, 2010 - [San Francisco Public Library](#)

- 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, 94102

9:30am - 12:30pm - [Details and registration](#)

For more information about workshop registration, contact Peninsula Library System staff

at 650.349.5538 or krause-AT-plsinfo.org.

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Reference Picks

Open College Blog

Browsing the [Online College Blog](#) archives for each month yields sites for book reviews and book lovers. The subject sites would please hobbyists and students. Examples:

- [Science students and researchers](#)
- [Art history buffs](#)
- [School librarians](#) - Many sites listed are useful to public librarians also.

ePodunk

[ePodunk.com](#) was selected as one of Reference and User Services Association's (RUSA) best [free reference sites for 2009](#). The site pulls together data from various government sources. Originally founded by journalists, it was acquired by [Internet Brands](#) and positioned to deliver information to prospective real estate buyers. The site is relatively clean and quickly pulls together information from diverse sources, e.g. population, schools, libraries, recreation, ancestry searches, etc.

Wheelchair Riders' Guides from the California Coastal Commission

The California Coastal Commission has published two guides for the California coasts to inform the public about little-known coastal trails accessible to wheelchairs and strollers. The one for the San Francisco Bay and Nearby Coast covers the coast from Monterey County northward; the other is for Los Angeles and Orange County. Although you can download version of these guides, you may also be able to order free print copies for your library. [Details](#)

Resources for Events - "Day" and "Month" Events for Program Planning

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. Posts include separate sections for book lists for children and young adults.

Year End Holidays 2009 - November 15, 2009 - February 13, 2010

- o Thanksgiving Day - November 26, 2009
- o Eid al-Adha - November 27, 2009 - Muslim Festival of Sacrifice
- o Bodhi Day - December 8, 2009 - Buddhist - Buddha reached Nirvana
- o Hannukkah (Chanukah) - December 11-19, 2009 - Jewish Festival of Lights
- o Christmas (Western Latin) - December 25, 2009
- o Christmas (Eastern Orthodox) - January 7, 2010
- o Kwanzaa - December 25, 2009 - January 1, 2010
- o Makar Sankranti - January 14, 2010 - Hindu winter solstice
- o Tu Bishvat - Jewish "Rosh HaShanah La'Ilanot" - "new year of the trees" - January 30, 2010
- o Chinese New Year / Tet - Year of the Tiger - February 14, 2010

[San Francisco Events](#) - [Kaboose Crafts](#)

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](#)

YALSA Teen Programming Ideas - [November](#) - [December](#)

[Great American Smokeout Challenge](#)


January Days and Months

- Financial Fitness Month - [Tools](#) - System Reference Center's [Money](#) weblibliography

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News from Our Members

Update on Contra Costa County Library's "Library-A-Go-Go"

In June 2009, the Contra Costa County Library installed its third book-lending machine in front of the El Cerrito del Norte BART station. The first was in the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART station; the second was in a shopping center, and the fourth and last will be installed in a transit village in 2010. Susan Kantor-Horning, the library's Emerging Technologies Specialist details the LSTA-funded project with photos, statistics and lessons learned in an article in the August 15, 2009 online issue of *Library Journal*. [Article](#) - [Press release](#) 

ProLiteracy Accredited PLP Member Libraries

Taken from Mary Beth Train's clip blog: [ProLiteracy](#) offers the only national accreditation service in the adult basic education and literacy field. The accreditation process requires local organizations to plan and evaluate their services using nationally recognized standards and to train and deploy volunteers to provide most of the tutoring.

- [Watsonville Public Library](#) - [Santa Clara County Library](#) - [Oakland Public Library](#)

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](#)

Library Re-Openings

San Francisco Public Library

- Eureka Valley/Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library - October 24, 2009

- [Press release](#)

Contra Costa County Library

- [Lafayette Library and Learning Center](#) - November 14, 2009

- [S. F. Chronicle story and photos](#) - [Insight companion story](#)

- [New York Times excerpt](#)


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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Pacific Library Partnership 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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