Karaoke at the Conference

**Karaoke at the Conference**  
*By Richard Counsil*

Who needs extra motivation to attend the WLA Conference in April? Now you have it! Come Wednesday night for a karaoke event you don’t want to miss. Tentative start will be 7:15pm at the Meet and Greet Reception. First-come-first-sing, this will be a fun and welcoming evening for singers and listeners alike. Send your inquiries to communications@wla.org.

Silent Auction and Gala to Support CWU Brooks Library

**Silent Auction and Gala to Support CWU Brooks Library**  
*By Michele Reilly*

ELLENSBURG, Wash. — Tickets are on sale for the inaugural Central Washington University Brooks Library gala and silent auction from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., Saturday, April 12, in the Brooks Library.

To kickoff National Library Week the Brooks Library will host An Evening at the Brooks. The gala will feature entertainment by Lenny Price and showcase CWU student music ensembles, readings by Mark Auslander, Daniel Herman, Joseph Powell, Katharine Whitcomb, and Karen Zacharias, dancing to the Ellensburg Big Band, and sweets and savories to enjoy. Evening or business casual attire is recommended for those planning to attend. read more...

Self-Improvement, Library Style

**Self-Improvement, Library Style**  
*By Emily Lynch, from our Continuing Education Corner*

As the WLA conference approaches, we’ve got continuing education on the mind. Conferences are a great way to get inspired, get up to date or just get away from your regular routines. But let’s say you can’t make it to the conference, or just want to fit in a little inspiration while you do the dishes or commute to work. As the mom of a busy toddler, I find it challenging to fit in professional development in between readings of “Curious George Goes to the Animal Show” (although she is a very discerning selector of the year’s best picture books!). As such, I do best with learning opportunities that are bite-sized and self-paced, and luckily there are many of these resources out there in library land.

This month we’re featuring resources to listen to or watch. Read on for a grab-bag of some great resources for library service to teens, new books to look out for, or high-quality educational videos to peruse. read more...

WLA Member Profile: Rosy Brewer
Rosellen “Rosy” Brewer is an advocate for libraries, who believes that “librarianship is a noble profession where librarians protect peoples’ rights to information and help them continue their education through their lifetime.” Recently retired from Sno-Isle Libraries, Rosy has been appointed to the Snohomish County Council on Aging and plans to advocate not only for the aging but also for how libraries can help people as they age. Her blog, “Rosy the Reviewer,” can be found at http://rosythereviewer.blogspot.com/ and Rosy says that posts are often library-related, and when she reviews DVDs and books, she always points people to their local library.

Meet Rosy:

Q. How did you like your job as Managing Librarian at the Mountlake Terrace Community Library?
I loved working for Sno-Isle Libraries because it is a very progressive organization that treats its employees very well, and I loved being in a branch library because of the important role it plays in the community.

How long have you been a member of WLA?
7 years

How have you been personally involved in WLA?
I worked on the local attractions portion of the website and arranged for the speaker’s book signing for the 2012 WLA Conference at the Tulalip Conference Center.

How have you benefited from being a member of WLA? read more...

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IG's Corner - CAYAS Spring Workshop

Meet Art and Verse: An Introduction to Amazing Artists and Poetry Play
By Rosalie Olds, from our Interest Groups Corner

Are you looking for new ways to bring art and poetry into your work with children and teens? Come get ideas from Paige Bentley-Flannery, community/children's librarian, who has been doing presentations throughout the Pacific Northwest on art and poetry for fifteen years. In this workshop you will explore Paige's favorite art and poetry books while discovering new ways to interact with art and poems! By the end of the day you'll gain a lot of ideas for programming in and out of the library to draw from in the future.

She'll bring piles and piles of books, colorful paper, crazy art resources and fun. Get ready to yell out words and splatter paint. There will be a bibliography/webliography of online resources provided. This workshop will be offered May 9 from 10-4 in Ellensburg at the Hal Holmes Community Center and May 16 10-4 in Issaquah at the King County Library Service Center. Lunch will be included in the registration. read more...
Update on Washington State Library Microsoft IT Academy

By Christina Hanson

I spoke with Elizabeth Iaukea, Program Manager of the Microsoft IT Academy program at the Washington State Library, on the latest of the Microsoft IT Academy in Washington libraries, program successes, and feedback she is hearing so far. If you are not familiar with the program, a good introduction can be found on the Washington State Library page, here: https://www.sos.wa.gov/library/libraries/projects/ita/

Funding from the Washington State Legislature is paying for access to the Microsoft IT Academy for all public, community college, technical, and tribal libraries at no cost during this current 2-year legislative period. The Microsoft IT Academy provides courses and certification opportunities on Microsoft software products, as well as curriculum and courses designed for basic digital literacy. read more...