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WLA News & Events

SAVE THE DATES!
April 18-20, 2012
Tulalip Resort

Hello WLA Members,

Welcome to our January edition of WLA's eNewsletter, **Connect**. The purpose of the newsletter is twofold: to help publicize WLA activities and to encourage people throughout the state to share ideas and information about their library system.

Please share **Connect** with friends and coworkers who may be interested in learning about WLA and what libraries are up to throughout the state. Anyone may sign-up to receive **Connect** by emailing communications@wla.org.

Connect is a reflection of libraries throughout the state, both big and small. Please let us know what innovative or interesting developments are taking place at your library. We welcome article submissions and story ideas. Submission information is available at the bottom of this eNewsletter.

WLA Member Profile
Will Stuiwenga



One Tribe: Bringing Washington's Libraries Together

On the 2012 Conference website, you'll also see we've posted information about the conference registration rates and hotel information as well as a schedule of events. This information is being provided in advance to assist our members and libraries in their budgeting and planning processes.

Online Registration is scheduled to open on Friday, January 27!

Look for our email announcement later this week!

It's Time to Renew Your Dues!

Dues Renewal Notices were mailed last week. If you did not receive your notice, please send an email to admin@wla.org along with your current mailing address, and we will put a copy in the mail to you.

You can also renew your membership online at <http://wla.org/membership/>

Become a WLA LIBRARY
AMBASSADOR

The Washington Library
Association (WLA) encourages



"WLA has assisted my professional growth in so many ways: providing continuing education, opportunities for assuming leadership roles, developing professional friendships with colleagues, and so much more."

Will Stuiwenga acts as editor for the WLA Connect Member Profile articles, and this month he's profiling himself, since no one else has volunteered. If you'd be willing to submit your profile for a future newsletter, you'll find instructions [here](#). Meet Will:

Q. How do you like your job as Cooperative Projects Manager at the Washington State Library?

A. It's deeply rewarding to be able to assist libraries statewide in providing various types of eResources to their patrons at a reasonable cost.

Q. How long have you been a member of WLA?

A. Almost 8 years.

Q. How have you been personally involved in WLA? [read more...](#)

2011 Wrap-up, Plus Two Great CE Resources for the New Year

By Kelli Bragg, Metadata Librarian

I can't believe it's been a year since joining

libraries of all types and sizes to select one or more Library Ambassadors to serve as a liaison between the library organization and WLA.

Library Ambassadors are members of WLA who are interested in and willing to promote WLA and the benefits of membership within the organization they work for.

Serving as a Library Ambassador is simple - all we ask is that each ambassador do something to promote WLA at least once a month in the organization they work for.

Click here for some examples of activities ambassadors could try!

To volunteer as a Library Ambassador, contact the WLA offices at 425-967-0739 or info@wla.org.



Join us for our 2nd Annual Library Snapshot Day!

We will collate all the information we receive and package it so that you will have powerful statistics available, i.e., "If all of Washington's libraries had been closed the week of April 8-14, 1,356 people would not have been able to apply for jobs online" "If all of Washington's libraries had been closed on April 8-14, 70,000 items would not be circulating among our customers."

We need YOUR participation to gather the numbers we need to

the WLA's Marketing & Communication Committee and writing about Continuing Education opportunities for Washington State library staff.

First, you'll notice that "MLIS Student" has been replaced with "Metadata Librarian" :-). Second, while the past year has seen me provide you with information and links about various educational resources, I would love to hear from readers to find out if they have any suggestions for the CE portion of the newsletter as we head into 2012.

Since we're beginning a new year, it's quite fitting to revisit all the opportunities presented in the newsletter over the past issues in one fell swoop as a year-end wrap-up. I'll then talk about two fantastic Web sites that list educational webinars, upcoming and archived, provided by different CE providers..."CE Clearinghouses," if you will.

Highlights from 2011:

(Clicking on the title will take you to the article):

Why You MUST Visit WebJunction

Special Notice of WESTPAS Offering: Protecting

Copyright Law Best Practices: What You Can and Can't Do with Library Property

Infopeople: A Continuing Education Wonderland!

Library Journal Webcasts: Continually Delivering Excellent Information

What IS a Print Disability? An Answer and Resources

Virtual University: Convenient, Affordable Education!

Two New Continuing Education Resources

Okay, now that last year has been wrapped

make this a success. The larger the numbers, the greater the impact.

Let us know that you are going to participate by completing our [Form Survey!](#)

As you plan, make sure to visit our [Wiki](#) for additional tools.

up in a tidy little package, let's move on to two great sites that really embody the beginning-of-the-year idea of "A New Year, A New You." [read more...](#)

WLA's Annual Conference Update

By Kristin Piepho, 2012 Conference Chair



Dan Savage, Nancy Pearl, Brett Hartinger, a Performer Showcase, collaborative art project and more!

The 2012 WLA Annual Conference scheduled April 18-20 at the Tulalip Resort is shaping up to be a very exciting conference.

Programs have been selected and can be found on the [WLA Conference Webpage](#) along with many more details of the conference.

Two new options have been added to this year's schedule of events including an all Interest-Group Luncheon on Thursday, April 19, as well as a tour of the Hibulb Cultural Center on Thursday evening.

Registration for the Conference is scheduled to open at the end of this week. Be sure to register by March 2 to take advantage of the early-bird registration rate.

Creating Digital Collections: What Even Small Libraries Should Consider



As eBooks and online resources increase in popularity, digitizing special collections should be considered.

By Kerry Maher, Librarian, King County Library System

If the future of books is ebooks, then aren't the materials we have that are unique to our organization in even greater need of being digitized, so they are not lost in the shuffle with our focus on ebooks? It's up to us to determine which materials are pertinent to being digitized and making sure they are accessible to the world. This is what librarians do and we can't afford to let commercial enterprises do our job for us. If libraries are at a tipping point and we don't know where they will be in 10-20 years, we've got our work cut out for us.

Many libraries have special historical collections which only a few have access to, but the thought of digitizing a special collection with little money or time seems nearly impossible. However, The Washington State Library Digital Best Practices site offers a detailed guide to planning and creating a digital collection. It presents the project reports from five libraries who participated as pilot sites to test digital methods and procedures several years ago. There are step-by-step directions concerning costs, time, technical and collection issues as a result of the project. We tend to think only large institutions can undertake digitization

projects, but with the help of other organizations even small libraries can digitize an important collection.

Review the report of the Ellensburg Public Library from the pilot project, and you will find that the most satisfying part of their project was that, "We have shown that it is possible for a small library to create a useful and good quality digital database from its unique collection with a reasonable amount of funding and resources, when it is supported and assisted by the larger university libraries." [read more...](#)

On Camera: Ellensburg Public Library Holds First-Ever Retreat



Ellensburg Public Library Board Members met Tuesday, January 10 for their first-ever retreat. From left: David Kaufman, Diane Huckabay, Jeanette Williams (Chair), Jane Nurick, Bob Ota, Linda Diebert, and Nancy Wieking

Have an article you'd like to submit for WLA's Connect Newsletter? Send submissions to WLA's Marketing & Communications Chair, Brooke Fisher, communications@wla.org

Was Connect forwarded to you from a WLA member?
To subscribe to Connect, email communications@wla.org