# **American Indian** Library Association



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 37:2 Fall 2014

# **Message from the AILA President**

#### Halito,

Welcome to the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the American Indian Library Association (AILA). I am so excited by the growth of our organization and by the tremendous resource our members are to each other. We welcome new student chapters, and we continue our collaboration with the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) to support our Talk Story program (funded by Toyota), which promotes literacy through the stories of our cultures. Our AILA list-serve connects us, promotes discussion, and respects the good work done by all our members who, as professional staff, librarians, faculty and trustees of native cultures, help each other meet current challenges and prepare for a promising future.

As an Oklahoma Choctaw, I am proud to assist with the good work of AILA and am humbled by the privilege to connect with the brilliant minds of our founders, our members, and our enthusiastic students, just getting started. This summer I attended the American Tribal Archives, Libraries & Museums conference in Palm Springs where AILA was recognized and received the Institutional Excellence Award. This was only the second ATALM conference I have been able to attend and both have been well worth it. I encourage you to attend. The next conference will be Sept. 10-12, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

At the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, as part of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, I was also honored to interview Lotsee Patterson and present her insights on the founding of our association. The interview is available to read on our website: http://ailanet.org/35-anniversary-lotsee-patterson/. I was also

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#### **AILA Executive Board**

**President** Zora Sampson (Choctaw)

Vice President/President-Elect Paulita Aguilar

**Secretary** Angela Thornton (Cherokee Nation)

**Treasurer** Carlene Engstrom (Salish/Kootenai)

**Executive Director** Jody Gray (Cheynne River Lakota)

Past President Heather Devine (Eastern Shawnee)

**Board Members at Large** Antonio Arce 2014-2016

Omar Poler (Mole Lake Sokaogan Chippewa Community 2013-2015)

Valerie Kingsland (Inupiaq) 2013-2015

Danielle Geller (Diné) 2013-2015

The *AILA Newsletter* is published biannually in May and November.

**Articles** and **News** of interest to AILA members should be sent for consideration to: Danielle Geller at danielle.geller@gmail.com.

**Deadlines** for submitting materials are: March 15 for inclusion in the May issue September 15 for inclusion in the November issue.

#### **Advertising Policy:**

Advertisements will be accepted as space permits. Advertising should be submitted to: Danielle Geller at danielle.geller@gmail.com

**Rates:** Full page: \$125; half page: \$75; quarter page: \$50. Payment is requested at the time the ad is submitted.

**Job Listings:** There is no fee for members to post job advertisements on our AILA-L listserv. The fee for unaffiliated organizations is \$50. Job listings should be submitted to: Jody Gray at grayjl@unm.edu.

#### President's Message (cont'd from previous page)

thrilled to participate in our American Indian Youth Literature Award ceremony there.

I want to encourage you to volunteer for a committee; apply for one of the grants, jobs or scholarships you see the posted on the list-serve; brag about what you are doing locally; and share your ideas for programs and projects. Also please recommend books you like, offer your book reviews, and suggest new books for the American Indian Youth Literature Awards. In turn, we all need to encourage native authors and artists/illustrators.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Zora J. Sampson sampsonz@uwplatt.edu

#### **Letter from the Editor**

#### Ya'at'eeh!

I am excited to present to you the fall issue of the *AILA Newsletter.* This issue is brimming with news and announcements from our committees, members, and partners! We hear from two recipients of AILA travel grants about their experiences at ATALM and ALA Annual; Cathy Wagner from the U.S. GPO announces two tribal libraries as new partners in the Federal Depository Library Program's digital depository initiatives; Dr. Loriene Roy invites our members to share their experiences providing services to veterans for an IMLS-funded grant; and Jennifer Manning shares an interview with Cherokee mystery author Sara Sue Hoklotubbe (whose new book, *Sinking Suspicions*, is available for review!).

I would like to remind you that book reviews are now being published on AILA's website, and I encourage you to browse them here: <u>http://ailanet.org/category/reviews/</u> I also encourage you to keep your eyes open for announcements from Marsha Lytle about available books for review (they are free to you!) and to share your opinions about new titles with the membership.

Danielle Geller, Editor

## **Committee News & Events**

#### American Indian Youth Literature Awards

Submitted by Naomi Bishop, Chair

#### Call for volunteers!

The American Indian Youth Literature Awards Committee is looking for a few Children's and Youth Librarians to join the committee. Please send an email to Naopoleon@gmail.com with a paragraph explaining why you want to be a part of the 2016 AIYLA awards committee. Jury membership and duties include:

- The AIYLA Jury will consist of a minimum of seven members.
- The AILA president will appoint the Jury chair and members.
- Jurors must hold AILA membership and have experience working in libraries.
- Two-thirds of the jury must be recognized members of their nation/tribe/community.
- The jury should include geographic representation from on or near reservations, villages, and rural, suburban, and urban communities, whenever possible.
- Jurors should have experience working with children and youth, and/or teaching, reviewing, or writing for children or young adults.
- Jurors should exhibit a working knowledge of criteria used to evaluate books about American Indians for young people.
- Jurors will serve for a term of four years on 3 staggered terms.
- Jurors may nominate titles in each of the three categories.
- Jurors will make the final decision concerning books accepted for nomination and awards.
- The Jury will reach its final decision by consensus.

#### **Scholarship Review Board**

Submitted by Holly Tomren, Chair

#### Virginia Matthews Scholarship

The American Indian Library Association is pleased to announce that we have awarded the 2014 Virginia Mathews Memorial Scholarship to Sara Guzmán. Sara is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is pursuing her Master of Library and Information Science at the School of Information Resources & Library Science (SIRLS) at University of Arizona.

Sara is active in the Knowledge River program at University of Arizona, where her studies have focused on researching how American Indians and their cultures are represented in information institutions and how American Indian archival collections are framed and interpreted to the public. She is a founding member of the AILA UA Student Chapter and a member of the Progressive Librarians Guild, in which she helped plan a book drive for the San Xavier Learning Center of the Tohono O'odham Nation, and plans to hold future book drives for additional tribal libraries and schools.

She holds a graduate assistantship working with the American Indian Film Gallery (AIFG), a digital repository for films made by or about American Indian people. As a result of her work with AIFG, she wrote a paper on the misinterpretation of Native American art and sacred traditional cultural expressions, which she was able to present at the 2014 Southwest Popular American Culture Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Throughout her academic and volunteer activities she has stressed the importance of tribes reclaiming their own histories and cultures by advocating to build and maintain their own tribal archives and libraries.

Continued on next page.

#### Scholarship Review Board (cont'd from previous page)

#### **AILA Travel Grants**

In 2014, AILA has also awarded three travel grants in the amount of \$600 each:

One travel grant to the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference was awarded to Shannon Rosenbaum. Shannon is a Library Specialist at the Nisqually Tribal Library and is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation - Lakes Band. She was also AILA's 2012 Emerging Leader and is a recent graduate of the Circle of Learning program.

Two travel grants were awarded to the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) Conference, one to Jessie Morgan and the other to Tanaeya Tillman. Jessie is the Education/Cultural Coordinator at the Haines Borough Public Library and is a member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. Tanaeya works at Haskell Indian Nations University and is a member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. She is also a recent graduate of the Circle of Learning program.

#### ATALM Report

Submitted by Jessie Morgan, travel grant recipient

My name is Jessie Morgan, and I am Education/ Cultural Coordinator at the Haines Borough Public Library in rural Southeast Alaska. This summer, I attended and presented at the International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries and Museums (ATALM) in Palm Springs, California. I was honored to receive a travel scholarship from AILA to attend this continuing education event. The first time I attended ATALM in 2007 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, I represented the Chilkoot Indian Association and the Haines Borough Public Library in receiving the Guardian of Culture and Lifeways Award for the Dragonfly Project. Returning to ATALM in 2014 was like coming home after a long journey.

Patty Brown, the Haines Borough Public Library director; Erik Stevens, the Library Systems Engineer; and I presented on the Lkoot-Jilkaat Storyboard project, a partnership project with the Chilkoot Indian Association and funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We shared information on the creation and development of the Storyboard map, an electronic and interactive exhibit using the Microsoft Surface<sup>TM</sup> platform. Elders, youth and technical consultants worked together to plan the exhibit, gather information, and develop the Storyboard content which preserves and shares Tlingit place names, language and cultural information using photos, film, sound, and historical documents. To see our presentation, visit http://cvstoryboard.org/ AKLA.pptx and http://cvstoryboard.org for the Storyboard map.

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I was inspired by projects which utilize local organizations in accomplishing their goals for the community. An outstanding presentation by Shavonn Matsuda, Kauwela Valeho-Novikoff, Kawena Komeiji, and Annemarie Aweau demonstrated successful collaborations to forward traditional Hawaiian knowledge by recruiting undergraduate students from different universities in the Library and Information Sciences Graduate program. They organized a Hawaiian Librarianship Symposium, featuring presenters who are the movers and shakers in the library community to begin discussions for the formation of a Native Hawaiian Library Association. In addition to the presentations and exceptional poster session, inspiration came with outpouring support from professionals, paraprofessionals, and recent graduate students of the Circle of Learning program for my academic future, motivating me to continue on the path to a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts in the hopes of a Master's in Library and Information Science. Gunalcheesh to all of the organizers, vendors, presenters of this phenomenal event.

# Welcome to New Members!

#### **Individual Memberships**

David Alexander University of South Dakota

Jennifer Attocknie Director, Centennial Learning Center, Native American Student Services

Christann Burke Tuzzy Consortium Library

Robert Cassidy

Sarah Dupont

Andrea Flockton University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Allison (Karen) Gallaspy University of Louisiana at Lafayette

George Gottschalk

Hannah Grant

Madeleine Ildefonso Los Angeles Public Library

Patricia Lokey Scottsdale Community College

Kate Mapp Summit County Library

Sheryl Meierotto

Effie Kokrine Early College Charter School

Lisa Nathan

Joey Oandasan

Lina Ortega University of Oklahoma Libraries Wynona Tahnito Library Aide, Mescalero Community Library

Sherri Thomas

#### **Institutional Memberships**

Native Village of Eyak (Linda J. Brown, Librarian)

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan - Tribal Libraries (Anne Heidemann, Tribal Education Librarian)

Navajo Tech College, NTC Library (Clyde Henderson)

Jamestown Skallam Tribal Library (Bonnie Roos)

#### **Student Memberships**

Sarah Byars OU School of Library and Information Studies

John Hernandez

Cynthia Hohl TSCPL

Cordelia Hooee

Kendra Jae

Aaron Novinger Emporia State University

Lauren Peters

Michael Salvador

April Ybarra National Indian Child Welfare Association

# **Business Meeting Report**

June 29, 2014 at ALA Annual, Las Vegas, NV

Submitted by Heather Devine, Past-President

The business handled at the June 29, 2014 Business Meeting is summarized below. All **voting** is in bold.

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m. by Heather Devine. Zora Sampson offered the opening prayer. Janice Kowemy moved to accept the agenda; Janice Rice seconded. **All members voted to approve as submitted.** Minutes from the AILA Business Meeting at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia, PA were presented. Janice Kowemy moved to approve the minutes; Janice Rice seconded. **All members voted to accept the meeting minutes.** 

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Presented by Carlene Engstrom

In the Spring the membership voted to change the fiscal year, so it is now January 1 – December 31. We set our budget and it is now based on the income from the calendar year previous. Our income included IILF and JCLC income, which generated a lot of income. We also received a Toyota grant. The rest is through advertisements for job ads. If your institution has funds to advertise for personnel, consider doing it officially through our Executive Director.

#### Executive Board Report

The executive board discussed the results of the online election. We will continue to do the elections online but will investigate a different method. We also discussed the executive director transition. Thank you very much to Kelly Webster for her work as Executive Director. As of July 1, our new Executive Director is Jody Gray. We are hoping to host an online open house for AILA in October. The board also approved the 2014-15 budget, which is about half of what we took in last year. It includes funding for the newsletter, emerging leader, scholarship and travel grants.

#### Committee Reports

#### **Scholarship Review Board**

Presented by Holly Tomren

Holly Tomren announced the winner of the Virginia Matthews Scholarship: Sara Guzmán, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and is pursuing her Master of Library and Information Science at the School of Information Resources & Library Science (SIRLS) at University of Arizona.

Travel Grant winners were: Shannon Rosenbaum, awarded the Travel Grant for the ALA Annual Conference, and Jesse Morgan and Tanaeya Tillman, awarded Travel Grants for ATALM 2014.

#### **Call for Participation**

Devine called for volunteers for the Talk Story, Membership, and Development committees.

#### **Election Results**

The election results were announced. Antonio Arce, the Ute Tribe Education Director in Fort Duchesne, Utah, will serve as a Member at Large for 2014-2016.

Angela Thornton, Executive Director for the Henderson Libraries of Nevada, will serve as Secretary for 2014-2016.

Paulita Aguilar, Librarian and Associate Professor in the Indigenous Nations Library Program at University Libraries, University New Mexico, will serve as the Vice-President and President-Elect.

#### **Announcements and Discussions**

#### **Diversity Council Status**

Zora Sampson announced that AILA is still seeking a representative to the Diversity Council.

#### Joint Conference of Librarians of Color

Discussions continue. AILA will continue to work

with the ethnic caucuses to determine what will happen moving forward.

#### 2015 ATALM in Washington, DC

Sandy Littletree and Valarie Kingsland participated in the planning session. It would be good to bring up policy issues and advocacy because it will be in DC. There may be issue with TCEs and protocols for Native American Archival materials.

#### **ALA Accreditation Standards**

Raised by Sandy Littletree

We should create an ad hoc committee to investigate the issue and work on developing a statement, including support for increasing diverse faculty and including educational standards around diversity. UW TLAM students and COL students could do a statement to speak to the issue from a practical perspective. The deadline for comments is October 24, 2014.

#### **IMLS Native American Library Program Officer**

Mary Alice Ball will be the program officer for IMLS Enhancement Grants. It is unclear yet who will be the program officer for Basic Grants. It is a concern that they haven't reach out to the community regarding this. There is more of a push to have outcomes as a result of the enhancement grants— a way to track things globally across the enhancement grants and track how things changed over the years. If you are doing community projects with IMLS money to really think about that. Find someone with outcomes experience and demonstrate that with your grant. UW has a tool called the IMPACT survey for public libraries that allows you to measure the impact on your community and there are conversations about developing one for tribal libraries. AILA should continue hosting an online grants workshop and have a place where we could have some resources available.

#### **AILA Student Chapters**

Omar Poler will serve as the liaison to AILA's student chapters.

#### Announcements

- The next International Indigenous Librarians Forum (IILF) will be chaired by Camille Callison, tentatively held August 5-7, 2015 in Winnipeg.
- We Need Diverse Books Please visit the We Need Diverse Books website (http:// weneeddiversebooks.org/) to learn more and to participate in this campaign!

#### Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next Business Meeting will be held on February 1, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the ALA Midwinter Conference in Chicago, IL.

# **AILA Member Spotlight**

#### Naomi Caldwell

Associate Professor and Coordinator, Library Education Media Program, ASU

#### What do you do?

What do I do? I am an associate professor and coordinator of the library education media program at Alabama State University. The program is the only online graduate program



at ASU. Basically, we train people to be certified as school library media specialists in Alabama.

#### What brought you to AILA?

Well, I was a new "junior" librarian at Texas A&M University, Sterling C. Evans Library, College Station. It was a faculty status position and we were encouraged and supported to be active in professional organizations. We all went as a group to ALA and the task was to get involved. I visited a lot of committee meetings and felt at home at the AILA meetings. Janice Rice, Rhonda Taylor Harris, Lotsee Patterson, Virginia Matthews, Cheryl Metoyer, and others were so kind to me. Lisa Mitten and I became friends, as well, given our interest in improving the quality of books for children about American Indians. We all worked on things that were important to the development of tribal libraries and services. And we made time to do social things while at conference. I admired the way they taught new members how ALA works. Each one has been a mentor to me throughout my career. We have remained friends.

#### What other interests do you have?

I make crafts: regalia items, ribbon shirts, prayer fans, jewelry, etc. Together with my two adopted sisters we sing at powwows and native socials. Social media is great fun as I learn the technology and continue to evaluate the image of indigenous people in media for youth. And I write.

At the moment, I also have two research projects: expanding research on indigenous portrayals in media for youth to include Maori, Aboriginal Australian.

The other project is with Dr. Maria Defreese Lawrence (my cousin); we are writing and compiling a collection of and about our beloved Ramapough Lenape people.

#### Why is AILA important to you?

AILA is relational like family. We can always pick up where we left off with my AILA friends. AILA is important to me because it is interested in making a difference in the lives of indigenous people with regard to education and access to information for and about native people. It is critical that our collective voice be heard during a time when many decisions are being made about digitizing resources, and some would prefer to dismiss our existence as a thing of the past. Our youth need for us to continue to advocate for social justice in terms of all aspects of information for and about indigenous peoples.

## Danielle Burbank

Reference Librarian, San Juan College Library

#### What do you do?

I am a reference librarian with San Juan College Library in Farmington, NM. We are two year community college. The reference librarian title encompasses teaching library instruction to all English and Reading courses on campus as well as providing online support for our distance learning students.

#### What brought you to AILA?

I remember Dr. Loriene Roy advocating on behalf of AILA and urging us to be members while in library school.



Danielle Burbank with E. and Pete the Cat.

#### What other interests do you have?

I am a full-time mom and wife as well. I love learning everyday with my 3 year old. Our shared experiences as a family are my main interests these days!

# Is there a resource or project you'd like to alert us to?

I hope everyone votes in New Mexico this coming election. The funding for libraries is on the ballot again.

#### Why is AILA important to you?

AILA is important to me because it keeps me connected to other Natives and non-natives working in the library field. We are here to support one another and to keep our issues relevant in the library world.

# **AILA Member News & Events**

#### AILA Travel Grant: ALA Annual Conference

Submitted by Shannon Rosenbaum Library Specialist – Youth Services, Nisqually Tribal Libraries

With a third visit to ALA's Annual Conference, I'm finally able to state that I GET IT. While the issues, opportunities, and strategies are constantly changing in the world of professional and effective librarianship, I'm finally able to grasp the magnitude and importance of a field I have only just tapped in to.

In prior years, I attended primarily out of obligation, which led to an experience full of hesitation and missed opportunity. This year, however, was a turning point for me. Having completed a year of actual librarianship, confronting and celebrating obstacles and accomplishments of my own, I felt I understood what was actually at the table during AILA's meeting as well as during my own presentation.

Tribal librarianship is in so many ways set apart from other library "types" and can at times feel very isolating, especially within the small communities in which most of us work. Yet it was so refreshing and motivating to come together during the conference experienced and novice members alike—to share input, ideas and fun and most importantly, support one another.

In light of this last statement, I cannot express enough gratitude to those AILA members who came and supported my fellow presenters Dr. Yunfei Du, Tameka Beckett and I during the *Promotion, Advocacy and Creative Funding Ideas* panel (Rural and Small Libraries), as well as those active members on the listserv which brought my attention to this professional opportunity. Lastly, I thank all of AILA for awarding me the funds to attend on behalf of our tribal library here in Olympia, WA. I look forward to seeing many of you soon!

## GPO Welcomes First All-Digital Depository to the FDLP

Submitted by Cathy Wagner Outreach Librarian, U.S. Government Printing Office

In a recent article for the *AILA Newsletter*, Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish introduced herself and the U.S. Government Printing Office's (GPO's) efforts to reach out to the community of tribal and tribal college libraries to expand access to Federal resources in print and digital formats.

In 1994, Public Law 103-382 "Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994" and the later amendments in Public Law 105-185 extended land-grant status to tribal colleges and universities, opening the door to Federal services, as well as to designation status in the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Libraries designated as Federal depositories serve as repositories and public access points for Federal information. The Program, administered by GPO's Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) division, distributes free Federal publications, within scope of the FDLP, in both electronic and tangible format. Physical material is regularly shipped to libraries, and electronic content is available through catalog records with persistent uniform resource locators (PURLs) in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) and through GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys).

Title 44 and subsequent regulations governing the FDLP focused on the print environment; however, publishing formats for Federal information has shifted to digital. In her article, Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish discussed the goal of creating a 21<sup>st</sup> Century "Federal Information Access Program," as the future of the FDLP. Currently, GPO is working with the depository community to plan the evolution of the FDLP. A first step is the transition to an all-digital depository for some libraries and new members.

GPO recently welcomed two new members of the FDLP, Sitting Bull College Library and Northwest Indian College Lummi Library. These libraries elected to join as all-digital depositories. For the first time, GPO will not send any physical material to a depository, and instead the libraries will curate digital collections. These collections will combine cataloging electronic titles with developing finding aids and Web guides to direct patrons to digital Federal depository content. Membership in the FDLP also provides access to some Federal agency subscription databases and easy-to-export catalog records. Membership links these libraries to the existing network of nearly 1,200 Federal depository libraries throughout the U.S., where they can reach out to government information professionals for subject matter and depository operation assistance, as well as inter-library loan from regional depository collections. These libraries also receive free training, guidance, and assistance from GPO.

The future of the FDLP may have opportunities for digital-only Affiliated Federal Access Libraries with less requirements for joining the Program. For now, GPO must operate within the confines of 44 U.S.C. 19, and the Legal Requirements and Program Regulations of the Federal Depository Library Program. Joining the FDLP comes with some administrative cost but opens a door for a host of content and support, and extends access to critical Federal information to library users and communities.

GPO welcomes libraries at land grant institutions interested in accessing the free Federal information through the FDLP to contact <u>fdlpoutreach@gpo.gov</u> or call 202-512-1119 for more information about

Continued on page 14.

# <u>"Libraries and Veterans: Identifying Services and Possibilities" : an IMLS National Leadership</u> <u>Planning Grant</u>

Submitted by Dr. Loriene Roy Professor, School of Information, The University of Texas

According to the U.S. Census, there are 21.8 million veterans within the United States. While there is some good news about this demographic, such as evidence that veterans' annual incomes are about \$10,000 higher than that of the average American, news reports also highlight unmet needs, especially in helping this population through their separation from the military and the impact of physical responses to combat experiences including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), depression, and high incidence of suicide. Recent reporting has provided insight into cases of rape and sexual assault in the military, and especially among LBTQ members of the military, gender identity can negatively impact their service experience.

The School of Information (SI) at the University of Texas at Austin recently received a one-year Planning Grant through the National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which will explore the place of libraries in meeting the needs of veterans and identify useful cases that can serve as national models. This grant will result in the production of a tool kit with advice on providing library responses to this audience's needs; for example, how libraries may collaborate with organizations, like <u>SongwritingWith:Soldiers</u>, to provide the space, resources, and support for veterans, especially in helping this population through its separation from the military and the impact of PTSD.

The project design involves four phases of activity:

- conducting an intensive cross-disciplinary literature review;
- 2. solicitation of case-specific information;

- development of a tool kit of library services for military veterans;
- 4. and identification of future applications and study.

Librarians will be invited to share their casespecific service examples through direct solicitation and through requests issued through state publications; social media sites; and professional organizations, including the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table of ALA, ALA's Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS), and the five ethnic library associations affiliated with ALA: the Black Caucus of ALA, the American Indian Library Association, the Asian Pacific American Library Association, the Chinese American Library Association, and REFORMA: Library Services for Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. Case data will be examined to test concepts of service success to provide ideas on how librarians might measure impact of their services for military veterans. Through familiarizing ourselves with the literature, we will also monitor perceived gaps in services by mapping library service examples against the identified audience needs. In addition, we will consider potential areas of study in regards to library services with and for military veterans.

Given our prior work in design and delivery of services for Native Hawai'ian and American Indian communities, we will be especially cognizant of identifying cases and recommendations that serve veterans from these cultural communities.

The daughter of a Korean war U.S. Army veteran recipient of a Bronze Star, Dr. Loriene Roy

#### **Q&A with Mystery Author Sara Sue Hoklotubbe (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma)**

Submitted by Jennifer Manning

Information Research Specialist, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress

Sara Sue Hoklotubbe appeared at the Library of Congress' National Book Festival in September 2014 to discuss her craft and her new book, *Sinking Suspicions* (University of Arizona Press, 2014). AILA Member Jennifer Manning introduced her presentation, and talked with her as well.

Sara Sue Hoklotubbe was born and raised in Cherokee country in Northeastern, Oklahoma. Her Sadie Walela Mystery series feature a spunky modern Cherokee heroine. Sara Sue is a past winner of the New Mexico/

Arizona Book Award and past Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers' Writer of the Year. She now lives in Pagosa Springs, Colorado with her husband Eddie (Choctaw).

JEM: Did you frequent your local library as a child?

SSH: That is an interesting question—we didn't have a public library in Jay, Oklahoma when I was growing up—there wasn't one until I had graduated. The first library I used was in junior high. But my mother always had *Reader's Digest Condensed Books* and the *World Book* at home!

JEM: How did you decide to focus on writing mysteries?

SSH: I didn't start out to write a mystery—I just wanted to write a good story with a surprise ending. But I have been influenced by Tony Hillerman. When the University of Arizona Press got my first book, they declared it was a mystery, so I said, "OK, it's a mystery."

JEM: How did you find your publisher?



Sara Sue Hoklotubbe at the Library of Congress' National Book Festival.

SSH: I had joined Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers (www.wordcraftcircle.org), and I went to their annual meeting in Norman, Oklahoma. I met with an agent there who looked at my manuscript and wanted all the "Indian stuff" taken out. But then I was encouraged to check out the University of Arizona Press by Dr. Geary Hobson (a Cherokee/Quapaw/ Chickasaw author at the U. of Oklahoma). The University of Arizona Press people read my manuscript and were receptive-they actually suggested I add more Indian characters. They liked that I was writing about contemporary, not mythical, Indian life. They've been wonderful to work with. It hadn't occurred to me to consider a university press. But I like that they keep their books in print longer than commercial presses do. And I've realized that academic presses are reliable and respected by libraries—I think that has opened doors for me.

JEM: How do you feel about eBooks?

SSH: They are a necessary evil. The young want



Sara Sue Hoklotubbe at the Library of Congress' National Book Festival, September 2014.

things to be electronic. But I appreciate tangible books—especially those signed by the author!

I haven't done audio books, but I am open to them if asked. The Library of Congress has recorded my first two books through the Talking Books Program, and I've actually heard from a few of those listeners, which is great.

JEM: Do you ever feel "pigeonholed" as a Native writer?

SSH: No. It is who I am; I write what I know. I hope my stories resonate with everyone. I also hope that when nonnatives read my books, they learn something. There are such misperceptions of what Indians are today. I want people to read my books and get a feel for Indian Country today.

JEM: Have you been invited to speak at many libraries serving tribal communities?

SSH: I did speak around the Tahlequah area when I was living in Northeast Oklahoma, but now that I am

in Pagosa Springs, Colorado, not so much.

JEM: Do you have any advice for Native American libraries and librarians?

SSH: I hope that Native librarians focus on native authors and promote them—ferret out those authors and help them toot their own horns. Native authors may have a harder time, by nature, speaking up for themselves than non-native authors. We can be an introverted, quiet bunch.

JEM: What are your current projects?

SSH: I'm halfway through the 4th book in the Sadie Walela series—the working title is "Buffalo Ranch." I've thought about other writing genres, but nothing concrete yet.

Visit Sara Sue's website, www.hoklotubbe.com

#### **AILA Newsletter Staff**

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Membership to the American Indian Library Association is open to all. Join AILA or renew your membership at <u>http://ailanet.org/</u> <u>membership</u>

Membership includes a subscription to the *AILA Newsletter* and the AILA-L listserv, a discussion group for AILA members.

#### "Libraries and Veterans" (cont'd from pg. 11)

(Anishinabe), Professor in the SI, will serve as a Principle Investigator (PI). She is partnering with the non-profit SongwritingWith:Soldiers and Dr. Wendy Peters (Native Hawai'ian), a consultant and well-known researcher in health issues who has strong affiliations with the Center for Rural Health and the American Psychological Association. A veteran herself, Dr. Peters is developing evidencebased healing practices that are culturally adaptable for Native people and their communities.

For further information about Libraries and Veterans, please contact Dr. Roy at loriene@ischool.utexas.edu.

#### GPO Welcomes First All-Digital Repository (cont'd from pg. 10)

designation. For those libraries that do not qualify for land-grant designation, there may be other designation categories that apply. Libraries can also refer to or contact <u>nearby depositories</u> for free public access to these Federal collections.

# An Unparalleled Portrait of the Native American Journey



This fascinating reference will inspire anyone who appreciates history, diverse cultures, gorgeous photos, and the artistry of modern and historical maps.





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# NEWSLETTER

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