

# AMERICAN INDIAN LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER



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## AILA President's Column

*Liana Juliano*  
*AILA President 2009-2010*

What an honor it is to serve as AILA president this year! I feel so privileged to have been elected, and hope that together we can ride out the rough seas during this recession and come out stronger than ever before. My journey to librarianship was full of many twists and turns, and I firmly believe that the path I took has given me a unique perspective. I was recruited into the profession by a law librarian and have tried to give back to the community whenever possible. You may notice a theme throughout this column and throughout my year as president—Building Partnerships. These partnerships can be whatever you want them to be, but I hope you will seek out new relationships with traditional or untraditional partners, either globally or locally.

It was a very busy summer, and AILA sponsored several programs at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago that were very well received. Past President Janice Rice hosted an excellent program titled “Urban Indian Culture Keepers: Reaching Out and Making Intergenerational Connections.”

Joseph Podlasek, Executive Director of the American Indian Center of Chicago, shared how the center is keeping Indian culture alive through programming and partnerships. Scott M. Stevens, Director of the D’Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History, Newberry Library, discussed the union of Indian scholars and Indian communities in an urban setting and Elizabeth Babcock, Director, Education & Library Collections at the Field Museum, talked about innovative programming at the museum that has highlighted American Indian history and culture. At the conclusion of the program, Joe Podlasek explained to the audience the significance of social dance and the traveling song, after which dancers from the American Indian Center performed. Following the workshop, everyone headed to Camila Alire’s hotel suite to honor Carlene Engstrom on her selection as a 2009 *Library Journal* Mover and Shaker. Janice also honored several AILA members (Coleen Major, Heather Tomren, Susan Hanks, Kelly Webster, Mary Dodge, David Ongley and me) with lovely gifts. Thank you, Janice, for a terrific program. Congratulations to

Carlene and many thanks to Camila for hosting the reception. The suite had a breathtaking 180-degree view of the lake that was probably one of the best in town.

Another great program that AILA co-sponsored was “Mentoring Minority Librarians: Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities.” In partnership with the Black Caucus, APALA, CALA, and REFORMA, members of each group discussed different aspects of formal and informal mentoring relationships. Although this program was on a Monday afternoon and not at the convention center, we had a large audience and a lively Q&A session. One of the session highlights was when a participant told me he did not know there was such a thing as a tribal library, and asked what would be the best way to go about trying to create partnerships between his library and tribes in the neighboring areas. To me, this is the very essence of what building partnerships is all about, and I was proud to have been a part of it.

October brought the 2009 Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (TALM) conference in Portland, OR. Thanks to

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## Emerging Leaders: An AILA Perspective

*Heather Devine*  
*AILA Secretary*

ALA's Emerging Leaders program (EL), created in 2007 as one of ALA past-president Leslie Burger's initiatives, is intended to provide an opportunity for newer librarians to "fast-track" into leadership roles in professional organizations. The program brings together groups of new library professionals to work on a project, allowing for increased experience, networking, and an in-depth introduction to ALA throughout the process. Kicking off at Midwinter, the Emerging Leaders program is conducted largely online. After approximately six months of work, the participants' projects are presented at a poster session at the ALA Annual conference. Following completion of the program, participants may be asked to serve on an organization committee or another library-related group.

Emerging Leaders can be sponsored by ALA Divisions, Roundtables, Chapters, or Affiliates, while projects can be suggested by anyone with an idea. As other ethnic affiliates become involved in the EL program through sponsorships and projects, AILA should consider involvement as well. To provide better understanding about the program, three AILA members who have participated in the EL program were interviewed: Jody Gray, Jacquie Samples, and Holly Tomren.

Jody Gray, current vice president of AILA, is the Diversity Outreach Librarian for the University of Minnesota Libraries, splitting her time between the libraries and the Multicultural Center for

Academic Excellence. She participated in the Emerging Leaders program in 2008, working to create a wiki for the ALA Recruitment Assembly with a goal toward improving the organization, usability, content, and marketing of the ALA Library Career Recruitment Clearinghouse. Jody found the networking aspect of the EL program—and other leadership programs in which she's participated—to be most valuable, and also enjoyed the opportunity to take the time to reflect on her career path.

Jacquie Samples, a member of AILA's Subject Access and Classification Committee, is the Continuing & Electronic Resources Librarian in the Metadata & Cataloging department at North Carolina State University Libraries. She participated in the Emerging Leaders program in 2008, working for the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) to create an online version of the division's New Leader Orientation. Jacquie found that meeting other ELs and learning about them and their jobs was valuable. Although she was skeptical about the value of the program after the initial meeting, she still learned quite a bit from the program—even if it wasn't what she initially thought she'd learn.

Holly Tomren, an AILA member at large and past secretary, is the Head of Monograph, Electronic Resources & Metadata Cataloging at the University of California, Irvine Libraries. She participated in the EL program in 2009, working for the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) to

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## AILA / DEMCO Scholarship Recipient

*Melanie Toledo*  
*Library Manager*  
*Ak-Chin Indian Community Library*

I would like to thank the American Indian Library Association (AILA) and DEMCO for the opportunity to travel to and attend the 2009 Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (TALM) conference in Portland, OR. At the conference, I was able to reconnect with long-lost cohorts from the Knowledge River program at the University of Arizona's School of Information Resources and Library Science, and had the chance to meet some incredible people from all walks of life. It was inspirational to see and hear the various librarians, archivists, information professionals, and museum curators working to change how Native Americans are perceived, protecting and preserving Native American languages, striving to make their communities informed of recent technologies, and, most of all, promoting literacy.

I was impressed with the numerous programs tribal libraries have successfully implemented in their communities, which they described in poster sessions in the exhibit area. I definitely have plans on implementing some of these programs at my library. The conference gave me a much needed break from my current position and allowed me to become a student once again. I came back from the conference knowing how to implement an emergency response plan; discovered there is a document currently in the works for tribal library

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# Federal Websites for Tribal Libraries and Tribal College Libraries

Steve Beleu

Regional Depository Librarian  
Oklahoma Department of Libraries

Librarians at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL), the state library of Oklahoma, work with the tribes of our state, their tribal librarians, and their tribal government staffs. As the ODL Regional Depository Librarian in the Federal Depository Library Program of the U.S. Government Printing Office, I and my staff focus on providing federal government information. So it was a natural thing for us to create a Web page titled *Federal Websites for Tribal Libraries and Tribal College Libraries* - <http://www.oklibshare.org/ieclinks.htm>

This Web page is our attempt to locate and list every federal agency Web site that either focuses on providing information for Native people, such as the Web sites of the Indian Health Service and the Interior Department's

Bureau of Indian Education, or Web sites that provide a significant amount of information for Native people, such as the Environmental Protection Agency's *American Indian Tribal Portal* and USA.gov's *For Tribal Governments and Native Americans*.

The links on our Web page are divided into the following subject sections: Census/Population; Communication; Education; Environment/Wildlife; Exhibits/Maps/Photographs; Federal and Tribal Government; Gaming; Grants and Funding; Health/Human Services; Highway/Engineering/Energy; History; Housing/Land; Justice/Crime; Military; Recovery; Taxes; and Treaties. There is also a section of Online Reference Tools that includes links to such resources as *The Federal Register*, *The Statistical Abstract of the United States*, and *Thomas*, the Library of Congress Web site of legislative

information, and an A-Z list of Federal Government Agency Websites.

I provided the links and user explanations, where necessary, to our Webmaster, Sadie Mattox (who also created the Web page for the federal Office of Indian Education's "Partnerships for Indian Education" national conference that was held in Norman, OK, April 17-19, 2009.) Afterwards, we sent the link to our Web site out to the AILA and other library listservs. We also asked users to send us information about significant federal agency Web sites or features of federal agency Web sites that we missed, and have since received several good suggestions. We would like to continue to receive suggestions from AILA members. You can send your suggestions, or any ideas about how we can improve this Web site, to [sbeleu@oltn.odl.state.ok.us](mailto:sbeleu@oltn.odl.state.ok.us) or [smattox@oltn.odl.state.ok.us](mailto:smattox@oltn.odl.state.ok.us) May you find this Web site useful.

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## Celebrating Support Teen Literature Day at Tribal Schools through Operation Teen Book Drop 2010

Jessica Kramm, Anjali Bhasin, Ann Dobbs  
Graduate students, School of Information  
University of Texas at Austin

Loriene Roy  
Professor, School of Information  
University of Texas at Austin

readergirlz, the top online community involving teen girls and reading, is an organization founded by five women in the Seattle area who write children's and teen's literature. readergirlz is led by five critically acclaimed writers: Dia Calhoun (author of the novel, *Avielle of Rhia*), Holly

Cupala (author of *A Light That Never Goes Out*), Lorie Ann Grover (author of *Hold Me Tight*), Justina Chen Headley (author of *North of Beautiful*), and Melissa Walker (author of the *Violet* series). The recipient of a 2007 James Patterson PageTurner Award, readergirlz promotes teen literacy and leadership in girls. readergirlz features a different young adult novel and corresponding community service project every month and two special literacy projects a year. For more information

about readergirlz, visit [www.readergirlz.com](http://www.readergirlz.com) and [readergirlz.blogspot.com](http://readergirlz.blogspot.com), or contact [divas@readergirlz.com](mailto:divas@readergirlz.com).

In 2008 and 2009, readergirlz helped celebrate national Support Teen Literature Day during National Library Week by securing the donation and delivery of over 8,000 print and audio books to teens in hospitals. readergirlz has partnered with the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the fastest growing of the eleven divisions of the American Library Association, to coordinate nationally the

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# AILA President's Column

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the hard work of many individuals, it was a great success, with nearly 500 people in attendance. At this year's conference, AILA presented the Distinguished Service Award, honoring someone who has worked for the improvement of library and information services for and to American Indian people, as well as advancing the initiatives of the American Indian Library Association.

And the award went to ... David Ongley, Director of the Tuzzy Consortium in Barrow, AK. As director, David leads a consortium that serves many Native village libraries on the North Slope of Alaska. Even though Barrow is in an extremely remote location, that hasn't stopped David from making an impact on librarianship in a wide variety of venues—locally, nationally, and internationally. David has worked diligently to make sure Alaska Natives and their concerns are always represented, and he was instrumental in the drafting and publicizing of the Culturally Responsive Guidelines for Alaska Public Libraries, an essential resource that can be used by public libraries in any area that serves Native patrons. Award Committee Chair Lotsee Patterson said of David, "The one thing that stands out when I think of David is that he prefers remaining behind the scenes but actually spends much of his time and effort on not only AILA, but other professional association work. He never seeks recognition." I feel this comment sums David up perfectly. Congratulations to David on this well deserved honor!

In other award news, the

DEMCO/AILA Travel Grant Scholarship was awarded to three AILA members to attend the TALM conference. I would like to give a very special thanks to John Ison and DEMCO for making this possible and for their continued support to Native librarians.

We have some exciting opportunities in the works over the next year, the biggest one being AILA's partnership with San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science to create a grant that will provide scholarships to Native students interested in pursuing a Master's Degree in library science. What makes this scholarship unique is that SJSU SLIS is a fully online program. Students will be able to attend no matter where they live, and no one has to give up her job or pack up her entire family to move to California. Although, being a native of California myself, I certainly can attest to the many perks of living here.

In line with our commitment to new library professionals through the SJSU SLIS partnership, and following the momentum gained at the mentoring program at Annual, I hope to start a formal mentoring program for AILA. Many of us are already mentoring young professionals informally in our everyday lives, so why not make it official? In the next few months, be on the lookout for program guidelines, and please don't be shy about volunteering to be a mentor or a mentee.

Lastly, Camila Alire has invited AILA, APALA, BCALA, CALA, and REFORMA to create family literacy activities that "will engage their respective

communities." AILA has partnered with APALA and submitted a proposal in November. The theme for our project is: *Talk Story: Sharing Culture, Sharing History*. It will be a library pilot program to serve Asian/Asian-American, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander/Pacific Islander-American, and American Indian and Alaska Native families. The event will celebrate and explore their stories through books, oral traditions, and the arts. The goal is to establish a literacy programming model that will (1) Provide an enriching and sustainable resource for intergenerational Asian Pacific American and American Indian/Alaska Native families, and (2) cultivate a replicable learning event which all families can benefit from

At the start of the year, I will be looking for volunteers to serve on a task force to work on this project, which will include a Web site with resources. We already have one tribal library that has committed to hosting the pilot program, and I hope others will consider it as well.

It has been a very challenging time for many libraries, particularly public libraries, and it looks to stay that way for some time to come. I certainly hope that the coming year will bring some good news for libraries across the country. If you would like to share any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions on what AILA might accomplish over the next year, please feel free to contact me anytime, [lj12116@yahoo.com](mailto:lj12116@yahoo.com). And on that note, I bid you farewell, and hope to see some of you in Boston at ALA Midwinter.



# Emerging Leaders

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determine the most appropriate social software functionality to meet the needs of LITA membership. Holly's favorite aspect of the program was collaborating with other Emerging Leaders, particularly her group's use of emerging technologies to communicate and create their final poster. Like Jacquie, Holly wasn't sure about the usefulness of the initial meeting at Midwinter because of all the "management speak," but indicated that her leadership skills are stronger following completion of the program.

All three agreed that participating in the Emerging Leaders program would be beneficial to librarians new to the profession. However, the recommendation was also made that ALA must grow and improve the program each year by listening to the feedback from previous participants, and also work to make ALA a more welcoming organization. According to Jody, participating in EL exposes you to people in ALA, and it is "good for AILA to have those connections as we work towards our goals." All three also indicated that their involvement in professional organizations has increased since completing the EL program. In particular, Holly explained that the program helped to expand her ALA horizons, and she felt it would be "a valuable experience for AILA members to get a better sense of the larger context of ALA". Jacquie said that participation in the program expanded her horizons as well, and made her "willing to try to become more involved with professional organizations."

One of the ways in which AILA

could be involved in the EL program would be to sponsor an Emerging Leader. This entails providing financial sponsorship of \$1,000, which helps fund the participant's attendance at both the Midwinter and Annual conferences. Sponsoring an Emerging Leader who is a member of AILA would be a great professional development opportunity for an AILA member.

Another path for involvement would be an AILA-sponsored. This requires support from the organization in the form of a mentor for the project. If the project is selected by an Emerging Leaders group, the work would be done between the Midwinter and Annual conferences. Possible projects suggested include: history of AILA scholarship recipients and marketing of the scholarship program; promotion of the American Indian Youth Literature Awards and AILA's other activities; and outreach to tribal libraries and librarians to increase involvement in AILA.

The final way that AILA members can become involved with the EL program is to apply to participate. Past participants offered great advice for interested applicants. Jody indicated that applicants must make sure that they can take the time to participate, and that it's important to receive support from your work organization. Jacquie suggested that applicants should be prepared to speak up, lead discussions on leadership issues, and be willing to be active participants in meetings.

According to Holly, AILA's involvement in the Emerging Leaders program would "promote visibility of AILA in ALA" and could also be an opportunity "to make others not only more aware of AILA, but aware of

issues in Native libraries/librarianship as well." AILA members would also benefit from participating in the program because it will help increase leadership skills and facilitate contact with other professionals. Skills learned through the EL program would in turn benefit AILA, because knowledge and lessons learned there could be shared with the group. Involvement in the Emerging Leaders program either through sponsorship, a project, or member participation could benefit AILA and increase its visibility. For additional information about the EL program, and to learn more about completed projects, please visit the Emerging Leaders wiki at <http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/>.

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## AILA / DEMCO Recipient

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standards; and found out about ten Indigenous authors to watch. I have already contacted one of the authors and made plans for her to visit our library in early 2010 after our library promotes her young adult gothic fantasy books in our community. It will give our young people a chance to meet a Native American author and read a new book they might not have heard about.

I am honored to have been selected as one of the travel grant recipients, and I would not have had the opportunity to attend the TALM conference if it had not been for AILA and DEMCO. In addition, it was my first visit to Portland, OR and it was beautiful! I live in the Arizona desert, and I loved the cloudy weather, rain, and yellow, red, and orange leaves of Portland. Thank you, AILA and DEMCO!

# Teen Book Drop

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events associated with this Operation Book Drop. “If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything,” a national reading club for Native children, is working with readergirlz on Operation Teen Book Drop 2010 (Operation TBD), with the focus on distributing books to Native teenagers. Together, we are currently:

- ✓ enrolling thirty tribal schools or distribution points;
- ✓ collaborating with readergirlz on enlisting major publishing houses to each donate 500 copies of acclaimed, popular, and culturally appropriate young adult novels and audio books;
- ✓ stickering each book with an Operation Teen Book Drop logo bookplate;
- ✓ enlisting librarians to serve as liaisons to the tribal schools to ensure delivery of teen novels and audio books and solicit their advice and counsel;
- ✓ organizing a national publicity campaign advertising Operation Book Drop and encouraging teens to read;
- ✓ producing materials promoting Operation Book Drop, including bookplates, bookmarks, and posters;
- ✓ coordinating the delivery of approximately 8,000 to 10,000 young adult books and audiobooks to at least 5,000 American Indian teenagers;
- ✓ inviting young adult authors and members of the readergirlz online community to leave young adult books in areas where teens gather in their communities;
- ✓ assisting in organizing reading promotion events at tribal schools during National Library Week 2010, including an online post-Operation Book Drop

social event (party).

- ✓ shipping bookmarks and young adult books to tribal schools for distribution to teens;

- ✓ maintaining a Web site with downloadable copies of bookmarks and book plates, plus background information on Operation TBD;

- ✓ using Web 2.0 applications to promote Operation Teen Book Drop on the readergirlz Web site, including a blog and YouTube trailer;

- ✓ updating the Operation Teen Book Drop Web site for increased usability by donors and information seekers

- ✓ updating the Operation TBD Web site for better compatibility for those who use assistive technology, older browsers, and/or mobile devices

- ✓ revising the Operation Teen Book Drop Web site using current technology to enable quick updates and future Web site revisions

- ✓ writing updates on Operation Book Drop for newsletters and other media outlets;

- ✓ organizing Native author involvement in promoting Operation Book Drop.

We have extended initial invitations to schools, resulting in the enrollment of twenty-eight schools in fifteen states. The westernmost sites include two schools in Alaska—Tikigaq School in Point Hope and Harold Kaveolook School in Kaktovik. Indian Island High School in Maine is the easternmost location, with Hakipu’u Learning Center on Kaneohe, Hawai’i the westernmost site. Enrollments of teenagers at the participating sites range from 20 students at Indian Island to 750 students at Alchesay High School on the White Mountain Apache Reservation.

In addition to recruiting participating sites, we are locating volunteer liaisons to assist with the local distribution of books. Current liaisons include librarians at nearby tribal elementary schools, an American Indian Library Association personal member, and students attending the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Librarians and other liaisons have expressed appreciation for the program, particularly given budget limitations and cuts facing school librarians. At least two sites have mentioned severe budget cuts. Operation Teen Book Drop is happy to be able to support literacy and the work of school librarians during this time.

While publishers ultimately determine the titles of donated books, librarians at the tribal schools have suggested donations of specific titles, book series, and books by specific authors. Among the popular authors are Sherman Alexie, Judy Blume, Joseph Bruchac, Robert Peck, Rick Riordan, Jerry Spinelli, and R. L. Stine. Among the requested subjects are books on vampires, graphic novels, high school romance, stories about Native peoples, mysteries, books about horses, and horror or scary books.

Operation Teen Book Drop 2010 will place new books in the hands of Native teenagers. Data from a follow-up survey to site librarians will provide us with information on how to successfully promote reading among Native teenagers. For information about Operation Teen Book Drop 2010, see the Web site for “If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything” at <http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~ifican>.

# The Indigenous Nations Library Program at the University of New Mexico's University Libraries

*Paulita Aguilar, Curator & Asst. Professor  
Indigenous Nations Library Program  
University of New Mexico*

Opening its doors in 1889, the University of New Mexico-Albuquerque Campus is 120 years old. It is centrally located in Albuquerque, NM, along the middle Rio Grande Valley. UNM is a Carnegie Research University/Very High Research Activity institution offering 210 certificate and degree programs. The University Libraries system has four branch libraries: Centennial Science and Engineering (biology, science, engineering, and mathematics), Fine Arts & Design (art, architecture, music, dance, and theatre), Parish Memorial (business, economics, and management), and Zimmerman (education, humanities, and social sciences). Four additional research programs that reflect New Mexico's diverse population and area of service include the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections, CHIPTOLE (Chicano/Hispano/Latino Studies), Division of Iberian and Latin American Resources and Services, and the Indigenous Nations Library Program.

Given the high population of American Indians living in New Mexico and attending the University of New Mexico (UNM), the Senior Leadership Team at University Libraries created the Indigenous Nations Library Program (INLP) in 2004 to serve the needs of American Indian students and communities. In fall 2008, there were 1,594 American Indian students enrolled at UNM's main campus located in

Albuquerque. Of that number, 169 were new freshmen, with 86 percent coming from New Mexico high schools. UNM also has several degree-granting programs concentrating on American Indian or Indigenous studies. Degree programs include Native American Studies, Language Literacy and Sociocultural Studies, Native American Linguistics, and Community and Regional Planning.

## INLP Overview

INLP's goals are to provide outreach to UNM American Indian students and New Mexico tribal libraries, assist in the retention of UNM American Indian students, assist in the recruitment of NM American Indian students, collaborate with UNM departments offering assistance to American Indian students, and provide reference and instruction services to UNM departments offering American Indian curricula. INLP librarians are Mary Alice Tsosie (Navajo) and Paulita Aguilar (Santo Domingo Pueblo). Tsosie's responsibilities include managing a lecture series, providing reference services, and working with New Mexico tribal libraries and American Indian communities. Aguilar's responsibilities include collection development and management, providing reference services, conducting library instruction and tours, and acting as liaison to the Native American studies and Anthropology departments. See the latest information about INLP activities at <http://libguides.unm.edu/inlp>.

## INLP Projects

Many American Indians students in New Mexico do not have access to a computer, whether at home or in a school library. Not surprisingly, when students do find computer time, they rely on *Google* searches or *Wikipedia* to meet their research needs. Without proper tools to access collections or databases, they are unable to reference a wide range of resources. To ease the transition into college, the Indigenous Nations Library Program (INLP) offers an introduction to collections within the University of New Mexico library system. This year, INLP hosted over one hundred students from Santa Fe Indian School and Walatowa Charter School (Jemez Pueblo). Through our program, students learn about different libraries, including the Center for Southwest Research, Parish Memorial Library, and the Fine Arts & Design Library. Seeing rare books, maps, and historic photographs helps participants understand the difference between primary and secondary sources. They also learn about scholarly journals, periodicals, serials, and microfiche. College life presents many new demands for high school graduates. In addition to the nuts and bolts of using our library, we discuss how to balance class requirements, home life, and outside work. For instance, we encourage students to seek out their professors during office hours. All in all, our outreach efforts give New Mexico Native American students a better chance to excel in an academic environment.

Located in Albuquerque is

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# Urban Indian Culture Keepers Program

Heather Devine  
AILA Secretary

At the 2009 ALA annual conference in Chicago, AILA sponsored the program “Urban Indian Culture Keepers: Reaching Out and Making Intergenerational Connections.” The goal of the program was to explore how librarians and Indian community members keep Indian ways alive in urban Indian country. The program began with a welcome song from a local singer.

## First Voices Shared Through Museums and Libraries

The first presenter was Joe Podlasek (Ojibwe, enrolled at Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in northern Wisconsin), executive director of the American Indian Center of Chicago (AIC), the nation’s oldest urban Indian center. He spoke about the need for Indian people to tell their own stories, rather than letting others study us and tell our stories for us. Joe described the community driven process of the American Indian Center, which stresses the importance of being proud of who you are, what you have, and making the best of it.

To support their community, the AIC hosts wellness, education, and arts activities. For example, they created a board-certified curriculum about American Indians for Illinois, providing positive education about American Indians. They also host an

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# Indigenous Nations Library Program at the University of New Mexico

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the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI). SIPI students discovered University Libraries and have been using library resources to conduct research and as a place to study. INLP librarians noted the influx of SIPI students after assisting them with their research at the reference desk, so a formal library bridge program was started with SIPI in fall 2005. Since then, more than one hundred students from SIPI have visited Zimmerman Library, where they were given a tour and an introduction to library research. After the tours, several students expressed that they feel more a part of the UNM community, have an easier time using library resources, and know where to go when they need assistance. Library outreach programs to nearby tribal colleges and high schools have the dual purpose of recruiting students to UNM.

INLP offers out of the classroom learning experiences through its lecture series. In 2008-09 lectures included topics on biocolonialism and intellectual

property, the Inupiat and climate change, pop art, comic books, the NM Indian Affairs Department, Indian health care, and religion and federal Indian Law. These lectures are open to the entire UNM community and are popular among undergraduates, faculty, and staff. Each lecture has an average attendance of forty-two individuals. Some of the topics were controversial, like biocolonialism, but created discussion among students and faculty. UNM faculty have stated that the lecture series supplements their curriculum, and they encourage students to attend the lectures.

To learn more about INLP, visit the website at <http://libguides.unm.edu/content.php?pid=16313&sid=109864> or contact Paulita Aguilar at [paulita@unm.edu](mailto:paulita@unm.edu).



Photos from Indigenous Nations Library Program at the University of New Mexico above and at left



# Urban Indian Culture Keepers

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annual powwow, which was the basis for a traveling exhibit created with The Field Museum, "50 Years of Powwow." To support their arts activities, the AIC recently opened Trickster Gallery; the only art gallery in Illinois owned and operated by Natives. The Indian Center promotes understanding between the Native community and the larger community, as well as educating the local Indian community. Joe suggested that one way libraries could improve services to American Indians would be to support Native-authored books, such as providing readings and signings of Native-authored books to increase awareness of Native authors.

## Relationship between the Archive and Community

The second presenter was Scott Stevens (Akwasasne Mohawk from New York), Director of the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History at the Newberry Library. He stressed the importance of people working in archives to articulate the relationship between the archive and the community it represents. The Newberry collection represents one of the largest collections of American Indian information. One of the main concerns for the library is access: archives are not always inviting, and archivists may need to rethink what the initial experience is like for Native people visiting an archive. For example, archives may need protocols for assisting people with content. Stevens explained that the

written word has not always been kind to American Indians, who may ask, "Why is our history in your library?" Archivists must be culturally literate and culturally sensitive to the communities they serve.

Stevens suggested two ways to provide better services: (1) bring together Indigenous wisdom keepers with the written word, exposing the people to the richness of information and learning about how they think the information should be used, and (2) educating libraries and librarians about contemporary Indian cultures, because librarians can't provide a taxonomy or description if they don't understand the context. Bringing American Indians into libraries and archives can help in determining the content, and also provide information to communities. Stevens stressed that professionals should make sure not to get caught up worrying about users' educational backgrounds, but rather, they should seek to understand what they can bring to the table so that both the institution and the community can benefit.

## Unearthing Museum Archival Materials for Public Education

The last speaker was Elizabeth C. Babcock of The Field Museum. She spoke about a project to remaster the film *In the Land of the Head Hunters* (1914) by Edward Curtis. It was the first feature length film to exclusively star Native North Americans, documenting the Kwakwaka'wakw. The film was released as *In the Land of the War Canoes* in the 1970s. Material that had not been seen since 1914—such as the original black and white film, field

recordings, and the original score—were found in 2006. This discovery inspired a project to restore the film and provide supplementary programming that explores the Kwakwaka'wakw perspectives on the film, as well as the film's cultural content and historical context. Activities included a panel about the feelings of people seeing their great-grandparents in a film, and the representation of the Kwakwaka'wakw in the film. An extensive Web site, hosted by Rutgers and found at <http://www.curtisfilm.rutgers.edu/>, explores the project in-depth and the activities surrounding it. Babcock also explored some of the other work The Field Museum has been doing with local organizations, such as the American Indian Center of Chicago.

## Closing and Reception

The program closed with a dance exhibition by two active members of the American Indian Center of Chicago. It was wonderful to have the involvement of local dancers and singers, especially in an urban environment where it can be hard to stay connected to your culture and roots. After the program, a lovely AILA reception was hosted in Camila Alire's suite, with amazing, sweeping views of Chicago and Lake Michigan. Photos from the program and reception can be found in the AILA Flickr group at <http://www.flickr.com/groups/aila/>.

# American Indian Library Association Business Meeting Minutes July 12, 2009 - 3:30 to 5:00p.m.

Chicago Hyatt Regency McCormick

Conference Center 24

## Attendees:

Stephanie Beene, Debra Capponi, Heather Devine, Mary K. Dodge, Lois Dye, Carlene Engstrom, Jane Fisher (guest), Kimberly Francisco, Alison Freese, Jody Gray, Lorie Ann Grover, Susan Hanks, Richenda Hawkins, Rita Hodge (guest), Liana Juliano, Adam Khalil, Janice Koweny, Ally Krebs, Alana McGrattan, Karen Brown Letarte, Sandy Littletree, Leslie Monsalve-Jones, David Ongley, Lorie Roy, Theresa Seidel, Holly Tomren, Benjamin J. Wakashige, Kelly Webster.

## I. Call to Order

President Susan Hanks called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.

## II. Prayer

Rita Hodge from the American Indian Center of Chicago offered a welcome and blessing.

## III. Introductions

All those present introduced themselves.

## IV. ALA Washington Update (Emily Sheketoff)

Emily Sheketoff was unable to attend.

## V. Approval of Agenda

An agenda item was added for Lorie Roy's liaison report from the ALA Executive Board.

Liana Juliano moved to accept the agenda as revised. The agenda was approved unanimously.

## VI. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the AILA Business Meeting from the 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver, CO were approved unanimously as submitted.

## VII. ALA Executive Board Liaison Report

Liaison Lorie Roy reported this year's ALA Annual Conference has record registration (27,353 as of this morning, including 100 new exhibitors). Membership is down to approximately 65,000 (from approximately 67,000); YALSA is the only division with increased membership. ALA has eliminated ten positions due to budget cuts. *ALA Connect* (<http://connect.ala.org>) has launched. The ALA Executive Council will be discussing reports from the Committee on Education and the Task Force on Electronic Member Participation.

## VIII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joan Howland was unable to attend. President Susan Hanks provided the Treasurer's Report as submitted via email.

## IX. Executive Board Report

Vice President Liana Juliano reported that the Executive Board successfully

adopted a balanced budget of \$11,550 for 2009-10.

## X. AILA Committee Reports

Written committee reports were distributed and will be appended to the minutes.

### a. Development and Fundraising

Chair Richenda Hawkins reported that the committee's primary goal this year is to fundraise for the American Indian Youth Literature Awards. Richenda is working with President Susan Hanks on different levels of membership and fundraising events, in addition to contacting vendors and gaming tribes. If you are from a gaming tribe or have contacts, please let Richenda Hawkins or Heather Devine know. Richenda suggested that it may be useful to have an AILA membership directory in order to better facilitate this type of networking & communication.

### b. American Indian Youth Literature Awards

President Susan Hanks reported that the next American Indian Youth Literature Awards will be presented at the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. Hopefully the event will be held at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). The committee will need help organizing the awards event. Carlene Engstrom asked for volunteers.

### c. Nominations and Elections

The following slate of AILA candidates was presented:

Vice President/President Elect: Jody Gray

Secretary: Heather Devine

Members-at-Large: Lisa Mitten, Holly Tomren

Susan Hanks moved to approve the slate. Ben Wakashige seconded. There were no nominations from the floor. The slate of candidates was approved unanimously.

## **XI. Other Committee Reports**

### **a. OLOS Subcommittee on Library Services to American Indians**

Chair Janice Rice was unable to attend. She will distribute the OLOS subcommittee report via email on the AILA listserv.

### **b. Committee on Rural, Native and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds**

David Ongley is the outgoing chair; Susan Hanks is the incoming chair; Sandy Littletree is the AILA liaison. The committee held a program Sunday morning "2.0(verload)," which was very well attended. The committee is partnering with *WebJunction* and corporate entities on various initiatives. The committee is working with OLOS on various resources for its Web site, including the advocacy toolkits and the *TRAILS Manual*.

### **c. Diversity Council**

Diversity Council chair Leslie Monsalve-Jones reported that the Diversity Council is preparing for the ALA election. She asked AILA members to consider running for Councilor-at-Large. She

also encourages AILA to write proposals to take to the Diversity Council. The Committee on Diversity (COD) meets Monday

### **d. ALA Program Committee**

Chair Janice Rice was unable to attend. Susan Hanks reported that the AILA program Saturday, "Urban Indian Culture Keepers," was very well attended. A well-rounded panel provided very good food for thought. Collaboration with the American Indian Center of Chicago was a great success, and we hope to partner with more urban Indian centers in the future, as ALA conferences travel from city to city.

### **e. IMLS Report**

IMLS Senior Program Officer Alison Freese distributed her written report. Starting this year, unused funds will not roll over; they will be returned to the treasury. Therefore it is important for tribes to claim the funds they were awarded. In the past two years, since submission through *Grants.gov* became required, there have been thirty fewer tribes applying for the Basic Grant. This gap represents a digital divide that needs to be addressed.

## **XII. Announcements and Discussions**

### **a. Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference (TALMS)**

Carlene Engstrom reported that AILA is cosponsoring this year's conference, which will be held October 20-22, 2009 in Portland, OR (<http://www.tribalconference.org/>). Many AILA members are working on conference

planning, including Susan Hanks on programs, David Ongley on preservation, Kelly Webster on awards, and Richenda Hawkins on fundraising. The deadline for nominations for the awards program has been extended to July 31; an announcement has been sent to the AILA listserv. AILA is offering four \$750 travel scholarships for this conference, generously funded by DEMCO; the deadline for that application is August 15, 2009. Please see the AILA website (<http://www.ailanet.org/>) for application form and instructions. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries was funded by IMLS to continue these tribal archives, libraries, and museums training and educational opportunities for another three years.

### **b. Traditional Cultural Expressions and Libraries**

Carlene Engstrom reported that AILA representatives have been working with Carrie Russell at the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy to develop library principles concerning the management and protection of traditional cultural expressions. Several background documents prepared by Carrie Russell were distributed at the meeting. A draft of the statement is available at <http://wo.ala.org/tce/>. Unfortunately all of the meetings about TCE at the annual conference have conflicted with AILA meetings and programs. Carrie Russell will be presenting more information at the Portland TALMS conference to get more feedback. It is extremely important to get comments and feedback on this document.

### c. LSTA Reauthorization

Ben Wakashige reported that the *Library Services and Technology Act* (LSTA) is up for reauthorization this fall. Alison Freese at IMLS was assured that funding for Native American library services would continue to be funded at the current level (1.75 percent of the total). The following tips were offered:

- ✓ It is important for all of us to know what LSTA is and understand its impact.
- ✓ It is important to know about your congressional delegation.
- ✓ It is important for recipients to develop stories- what are you doing with your grant?

Ben suggested a task force or committee be formed to address these tips. The task force could develop a handout, Web site, etc. that would collect stories and information that could then be distributed to legislators.

### XIII. Other

#### a. Operation Teen Book Drop 2010

Kimberly Francisco described the joint effort between "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything," *readergirlz*, *GuysLitWire*, and YALSA to bring thousands of young adult books to Native teens. See [http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~ifican/otbd\\_index.html](http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~ifican/otbd_index.html) for a list of participating reservation schools to date.

#### b. *We Shall Remain*

Stephanie Beene reported that the *We Shall Remain* PBS series aired during National Library Week in April. The

work is ongoing to do continued programming and track libraries that have done programs. There are over 1,000 people in the *We Shall Remain* group on Facebook.

#### c. Family Literacy Initiative

Kelly Webster reported that ALA President Camila Alire will be providing funding to each of the ethnic affiliates to develop a family literacy program. AILA will be forming a task force to work on this initiative; please contact Kelly Webster if you would like to participate.

#### d. ALA Connect

Holly Tomren reported that AILA now has a community presence on *ALA Connect* at <http://connect.ala.org/node/73012>. Please feel free to join and participate. One does not need to be an ALA member to create a profile on *ALA Connect*.

#### e. Knowledge River

Sandy Littletree is the new program manager of Knowledge River at the University of Arizona's School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS). Knowledge River is recruiting for its next cohort; see <http://sirls.arizona.edu/KR> for more information.

#### f. Bylaws

Member at Large Kelly Webster reported that a ballot to revise AILA's bylaws has been distributed to AILA members. Please remember to vote by July 31, 2009.

#### g. JCLC II

Jody Gray is the AILA representative on

the steering committee for the Second Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC), which will be held September 19-23, 2012 in Kansas City, MO. As a fundraising effort, Jody is selling JCLC pins for \$5.00.

### XV. Adjournment

President Susan Hanks adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Lorie Roy thanked Susan for all her hard work as president.

### XVI. Appendices

1. Report of the Distinguished Service Award Committee (Honoring our Elders)
2. Report of the Communications and Publications Committee
3. Report of the Children's Literature Award Committee (American Indian Youth Literature Award Jury - AIYLA)
4. Report of the Scholarship Review Board

#### Distinguished Service Award Committee (Honoring Our Elders)

The Committee is accepting nominations for the award, which will be announced at the National Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference in Portland, OR, October 18-22, 2009. Nominations will close July 31.

Criteria and eligibility are available at: <http://www.ailanet.org/activities/ho.htm>



Criteria - Nominees should have demonstrated, over a period of years:

- ✓ Significant and continuous service to the ongoing operations and growth of the American Indian Library Association;
- ✓ Service to Indian communities and exceptional progress in his/her career development that has resulted in specific and extraordinary service to the American Indian Library Association;
- ✓ Work for the improvement in library and information services for and to American Indian people.

Eligibility - Open to all active and retired AILA members. Deadline for nominations - is July 31, 2009.

Letters of nomination should address the criteria, plus any other relevant points that the nominator wishes to include, and should be sent to [Lotsee Patterson](mailto:Lotsee.Patterson@ou.edu) at [lpatterson@ou.edu](mailto:lpatterson@ou.edu). Past Recipients: Bonnie Biggs (2006); Lotsee Patterson (2003)

### **Communications and Publications Committee**

The committee has continued to work on issues surrounding the AILA *Newsletter*, Web site, and brochure. Heather Devine is researching a content management system to make it easier to manage and update the Web site. Mary Johnson and her editorial team, Lisa Mitten, Clare Castleberry, and Elaine Cubbins have done a great job with the *Newsletter*. The *Newsletter* will be published three times in 2009 and then will transfer to a semi-annual publishing schedule. The results of the *Newsletter* survey

indicated that most people are willing to receive the newsletter via email. There are approximately 180 individuals and institutions that chose to continue receiving the *Newsletter* in print. It is therefore necessary to find someone who is willing to handle the duties surrounding printing and mailing. An ad hoc committee is going to be formed to finish work on the AILA brochure. A call for listserv manager will go out to the AILA list after ALA annual. The listserv position is a two-year position, with the person serving one year as apprentice to the current manager and one year as mentor to the next apprentice manager. A call for an apprentice manager was not sent out last year. Heather Devine has joined the committee and will serve as co-chair with Liana Juliano.

### **Children's Literature Award Committee (American Indian Youth Literature Award Jury - AIYLA)**

Books are arriving from publishers for consideration for the 2010 AIYLA awards. We have received four titles so far, with at least two more on their way. Suggestions from AILA members for books to consider are welcome, as is contact information for publishers or authors. As a reminder, there can be up to three awards presented, one each for picture book, middle grades, and young adult titles.

Jury chair Lisa Mitten will be distributing letters to publishers in the exhibit hall during ALA Annual in Chicago alerting them to the awards, and requesting submissions from them.

The awards presentation will take place at ALA Annual in June 2010 in Washington, D.C. The Jury would be happy to have assistance from local AILA members in the D.C. area in planning the reception, performers, any speakers, etc.

### **The 10 AIYLA Jury members are:**

- Lisa A. Mitten  
AIYLA Jury Chairperson  
Social Sciences Editor, *Choice Magazine*  
Middletown, CT
- Karen Alexander  
Library Director  
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Stephanie Betancourt  
National Museum of the American Indian (NYC)
- Naomi Caldwell  
Asst. Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Studies  
University of Rhode Island
- Cindy Carrywater  
School Librarian  
Hays, MT
- Holly Ristau  
Library Director  
White Earth Tribal College  
Mahnomen, MN
- Carlene Engstrom  
(formerly) Library Director  
D'Arcy McNickle Library  
Salish Kootenai College  
Pablo, MT

Gabriella Kaye  
Children's Librarian, Mashantucket  
Pequot Museum & Research Center  
Ledyard, CT

Sarah Kostelecky  
Library Director, Institute of American  
Indian Arts  
Santa Fe, NM

Jolena Tillequots  
Yakama Nation Library  
Toppenish, WA

### Scholarship Review Board

No applications came in for the AILA Library School Scholarship or the AILA/DEMCO Travel Grants.

With the hard work of Liana Juliano and Richenda Hawkins, the Scholarship Review Board approved the following guidelines for the DEMCO/AILA Travel Grant:

Through the generosity of DEMCO, the American Indian Library Association (AILA) will provide financial assistance to four American Indian library professionals currently working in tribal libraries of any kind to attend the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago, IL. The deadline is June 1, 2009.

### Purpose / Award

The DEMCO/AILA 2009 Conference Travel Scholarship will provide \$750.00 to support attendance at the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference from July 9-July 14, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois. This will be used to help cover registration and travel expenses.

### Required Criteria

- ✓ Applicant must be a current AILA member in good standing.
- ✓ Applicant must be working in a tribal library of any kind

### Preferred Criteria

- ✓ Applicant must possess a master's degree or doctoral degree in library and/or information science.
- ✓ Applicant must be an American Indian enrolled in a federally recognized tribe

### Application Instructions

**(Enclose the following items in your application package)**

- ✓ Completed DEMCO/AILA 2009 Conference Travel Scholarship Application. Please type your responses into the Scholarship Application, then save it. Name the document in this format: LASTNAME\_Conference\_Travel
- ✓ Statement of Need: Please state in 300 words or less the reason you are requesting travel assistance.
- ✓ E-mail both the DEMCO/AILA 2009 Conference Travel Scholarship Application and the Statement of Need to Joan Howland at [howla001@umn.edu](mailto:howla001@umn.edu).
- ✓ Deadline is June 1, 2009

### Selection Procedures / Timeline

The AILA Scholarship Committee will select the Travel Scholarship recipients. Application deadline: June 1, 2009. Award recipients are notified: June 17, 2009. Public announcement of award: June 19, 2009. Travel award check distributed prior to ALA conference: June 26, 2009. Recipients of the scholarship will be required to attend the AILA

Business Meeting on Sunday July 12 and be present for an award ceremony with DEMCO.

### Administrative Procedures

- ✓ The scholarship shall be administered under the AILA bylaws.

### Condition of Award

The award recipient will work one day for AILA at the ALA annual conference in order to gain mentoring experience from AILA members; the recipient is encouraged to attend AILA programs. He/she must use the scholarship for travel expenses to and from the Annual Conference of the American Library Association and the annual program of AILA. In case the terms of the scholarship are violated, the Scholarship will be rescinded and the recipient is required to return the funds in full amount to AILA.

In the event that no applicants satisfy the criteria, no travel award will be given, with the option to grant an additional award the following year.

The following committees had no reports at this meeting:

### Development & Fundraising

Chair: Richenda Wilkinson

### Programming Committee

Chair: Janice Rice

### Subject Access & Classification

Chair: Mario Klimiades

# IMLS Native American/Native Hawaiian Library Services Program Report for AILA Annual Conference Business Meeting July 12, 2009, Chicago, Illinois

Report by Alison Freese, Senior Program Officer

Here are the statistics on the Native American / Native Hawaiian Library Services Program for FY2008 and FY2009:

## 2008

Total Funding: \$3,624,781 which includes \$3,574,444 from Congressional Funding and \$50,337 carryover funds from 2006 (no-year funds not claimed by tribes).

### Total FY2008 Awards:

- ✓ \$170,000 for 34 Basic Grants of \$5,000 to 34 tribes.
- ✓ \$1,050,000 for 167 Basic Grants with Education Assessment Option of \$6,000 to 175 tribes
- ✓ \$1,894,281 for 15 Enhancement Grants
- ✓ \$510,500 for 1 Native Hawaiian

## 2009

Total Funding: \$3,717,000 from Congressional Funding.

### Total FY2009 Awards to date:

- ✓ \$155,000 for 31 Basic Grants of \$5,000 to 31 tribes.
- ✓ \$1,062,000 for 169 Basic Grants with Education Assessment Option of \$6,000 to 177 tribes
- ✓ Enhancement Grants & Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant TBD

Data was also provided that tracked the number of Basic Grants awarded since 1998 when IMLS was formed and the Native American / Native Hawaiian

Library Services Program was transferred from the Department of Education. It was also noted that in the past two years (since required submission of application through grants.gov was implemented) that there have been about 30 fewer tribes applying for the Basic Grant.

The 2008 Enhancement Grantee Information Exchange Meeting was held in conjunction with the Training for American Indian Library Services Immersion Institute held in Catoosa, OK in October 2008. In order to give you an idea of the variety of projects underway at tribal libraries around the country, below are a few of the Enhancement Grant Projects:

### 2007 Enhancement Grant:

The **Hopi Tribe** will be providing library services to all of its eleven villages situated along a 90-mile stretch of highway transecting the reservation with the Hopi Public Tutuqayki Sikisve or "Librarymobile." Without a library space for over three years, the tribe proposed to reinstate services by bringing the library to its members with the purchase of a heavy-duty pickup and a 32-foot-long trailer retrofitted for bookmobile services. The tribe will be establishing a regular schedule of routes, then take the existing collection out of storage, purchase new materials to update the collection and get connected once again to the county's automation system. Resource sharing with a countywide consortium of public libraries and the

larger library community can then be reestablished through interlibrary loan. Internet connectivity on the bookmobile will provide much-needed access for many Hopis who do not have computers at home.

### 2008 Native Hawaiian Library Services Program:

With its Native Hawaiian Library Services grant, the **Alu Like, Inc.**'s Native Hawaiian Library is opening two new satellite library sites on Oahu and offering literacy programs in all eight satellite sites. They are initiating pilot oral history project with kupuna (elders) as a first step toward an Oral History Center and are continuing after-school tutoring programs to provide homework assistance and reading development help for at-risk students.

### 2006 Enhancement Grant:

On behalf of the **Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**, the **D'Arcy McNickle Library of Salish Kootenai College** digitized documents from its tribal special collection, including the tribal newspaper, *CharKoosta News*, from 1956 through 1988. In partnership with the Mansfield Library of the University of Montana, the project created Web-searchable metadata and posted the digitized documents on the library's home page. The library is providing cultural and genealogy programs to promote use of the library's tribal special collection and the Salish and Kootenai Tribal History Film Project by the reservation community.



# AMERICAN INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FALL 2009 Newsletter  
Editor: Mary Johnson  
Nebraska Indian Community College  
425 Frazier Ave., N. Ste. #1  
Niobrara, NE 68760

Visit us online at <http://www.ailanet.org>

## AMERICAN INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 2009-10 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Membership dates are annually from July 1 to June 30. Please use this same form to update your address

Send check and completed form to: American Indian Library Association  
c/o Kelly Webster  
12 Highfield Rd. #2  
Roslindale, MA 02131

Would you like to join the AILA-L listerv?    yes \_\_\_\_\_    no \_\_\_\_\_    already subscribed \_\_\_\_\_

### Contributions

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to the American Indian Youth Literature Award: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to the AILA scholarship fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_