

Comics & Graphic Novels: Heroes for the Library and Classroom

MLA 2007 Conference Presentation

Red Lion Inn * Helena, MT * 8:30-10:00am * Saturday, April 28th

OUTLINE

Intro—Confessions of a Comic Book Geek

My personal origin in comic loving, introducing comics to the Miles City Public Library and the results.

What is This Stuff Anyways?

Some comics definitions: comics vs graphic novels vs Sunday funnies.

Why Comics Are Worth It

Comics as the new frontier in libraries, the educational benefits of using comics in the library and classroom setting, increased circulation, increased patron demographic, reluctant readers, collection diversity.

What They're Made of—Style, Lingo, the Big Boys

A little bit of comics lingo, a list of distributors and resources including your local Montana comic stores, the Big Bad Voodoo Daddies of comics publishing, independent publishers.

Where Do I Put This Stuff?

The 741.5 Dewey versus fiction debate. Displaying your comics: shelving options, displays, advertising, circulation.

Is Alan Moore's "From Hell" an Appropriate Comic for My Seven-year-old Daughter?

How to select appropriate titles for your library: age recommendations, professional review sources, solid online sources, and award-winning comics.

Why Are Their Eyes So Big? Your Manga Guide

The amazing impact of Manga in today's culture, Manga lingo, Manga publishers, Manga ratings, a note on Manga content and cultural differences common in Japanese comics, honorifics, and Anime, briefly.

The Fun Part/The Best Part: Comics, More Comics, and Film!

A comics overload! Full page shots, content, plot, suggested classroom activities, target audience, fun details, comics into film and more.

Closing

CBLDF, closing remarks, Thank You's, contact information, presentation credits and copyright, some comments on the handouts, instructions on the comics giveaway.