

MONTANA LIBRARY FOCUS

MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2011 VOL. 29 ISSUE 3

Parmly Billings Library

The Treasure Hunt for the Treasure State turned into a pirate's chest full of loot for the participants from Parmly Billings Library. Three of the six iPods provided as prizes by the Montana State Library went to recipients in Billings, while the Library added its own swag to that treasure chest with three more winners receiving MP3 players and one lucky winner getting a brand new iPad.

The State Library's iPods went to Middle Schooler and avid library user Julia Balcom, Diana Rogers, whose late husband was one of the Library's stalwart volunteer book menders, and Patt Leikam, an active volunteer with the Friends of the Library.

The MP3 players awarded locally went to library users Tim Best, Ragan Volk, Rane Berg. Louise Barman won the iPad.

Pirate and library staffer Tammie Peterson reached into her treasure chest and presented prizes to many of the winners at a ceremony on Friday, May 13th at the Library.

Thank you very much to the Montana State Library for developing this fun way of showcasing online resources, and helping to facilitate our local prize-giving. Our customers hope to go Treasure Hunting again in 2012.



Treasure Hunt for the Treasure State

GFPL Friends Book Sale

Every library needs friends. The Great Falls Public Library is lucky to have a great group of Friends that hold an annual used book sale. This year marked their fourth annual sale (May 12, 14 & 15) and super results. Great donations from the public, great turnout for the sale and nearly double the profits from the previous three years all spelled success. This year the Friends took in slightly over \$2600. Huge thanks go out to each member and volunteer who worked so selflessly to support the library, and special thanks to key members who did the bulk of the work.

Over the years the Friends have sponsored many successful projects with proceeds from their sale, including Wii Gaming equipment for the Kids' Place, various programs such as Paul Zarzyski and Wylie Gustafson, and a Library Day at the Ballpark last summer just to name a few.



Pacific Northwest Library Association

2011 Annual Conference

Spokane, WA

August 3-5 at the

[Doubletree Hotel Downtown](#)

<http://www.pnla.org/events/conference2011/index.html>

Reasons To Attend the 2011 PNLA Conference

- **Fun Conference**
- **Great programs**
- **Easy travel**
- **Family trip**
- **Meet friends from the Pacific Northwest region**
- **J.A. Jance** – Keynote Speaker
- **Wylie Gustafson and the Wild West** <http://wylieww.com/index.htm>
- **KayLeClaire** – International climber <http://www.kayleclaire.com/>
- **YRCA Luncheon and Author**
- **Corks and Cans**

Montana Library Focus

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It is published six times a year: February, April, June, August, October and December. It has a print readership of 210 and an online readership of over 500.

If you are interested in placing an ad, or sponsoring the MLA Focus Newsletter, please send inquiries, articles, ads, and reviews to the editor:

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Montana State Library's Fall Workshop

An emporium of professional continuing educations for librarians, library staff, volunteers and trustees.

September 23rd and 24th - Best Western Gran Tree,
Bozeman, Montana

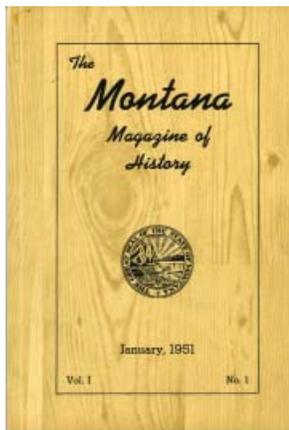
Plan to attend the annual Montana State Library's Fall Workshop to earn up to 12 CE credits. Courses are organized in all four CE areas and formatted around a 3-hr session. This longer session length is designed to provide hands-on experiences and targeted depth of study. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required. Registration begins in August, watch for an announcement on MT-WIRED, friend the Montana State Library on Facebook, or contact MSL trainer Jo Flick jflick@mt.gov to be placed on an email list to receive the announcement. If you have suggestions for sessions at the 2011 Fall Workshop, please contact Jo.

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State History Magazine Turns 60!

By Tammy Ryan, Business Manager
Montana The Magazine of Western History

Here is a Montana success story. Montana The Magazine of Western History, published by the Montana Historical Society, is celebrating 60 years in print. The magazine's nativity dates to April 1950 when the MHS Board of Trustees decided that a "living magazine" ought to be published. With its first issue in 1951, the magazine carried the motto "to preserve, to publish, and to promote interest in the history of Montana." Montana has carried on what those folks set out to do. Today the magazine circulates to nearly 10,000 MHS members and newsstands customers. Because it publishes more than Montana history, it's also a membership benefit for those who belong to the Western History Association, currently based in St. Louis.

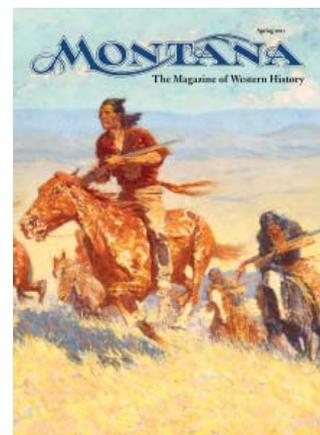


Each Montana issue contains 4 to 6 full-length articles, book reviews, and a small dose of advertising. The often rare photographs, art, and maps used for illustration come from both public and private collections. Articles are peer reviewed to ensure accuracy, and the magazine is used around the world by educators, authors, filmmakers, genealogists, and researchers in almost every field imaginable.

The magazine staff is always looking for ways to make Montana more accessible. The MHS web site offers a free searchable index online, and the magazine is available at hundreds of libraries and throughout the world on JSTOR.

With a growing list of awards from such organizations as the Mountain-Plains Museums Association, National Cowboy Museum and Western Heritage Center, Western Writers of America, Westerners International, Wild West History Association, Forest History Society, Army History Foundation, Wyoming Historical Society, and Enviro-tech the magazine's success would surely make the founding board members proud!

Happy birthday, Montana! If anyone wants to purchase back issues, advertise, or become a MHS member visit them online at www.montanahistoricalsociety.org, friend them on Facebook, or contact Tammy Ryan at tryan@mt.gov or 406-444-4708.



MPLA News

It's not too early to start thinking about applying for the 2012 Leadership Institute! Information is on the MPLA website (<http://www.mpla.us/leadership/index.html>). Application forms will be available after July 1, and will be due November 1, 2011. You don't have to be a member of MPLA, just MLA. There is even funding from MLA to help!

Remember to "like" MPLA on Facebook and follow MPLA on Twitter to find lots more interesting library-related news and information. And, check the jobline page (<http://www.mpla.us/jobline/index.html>) for information on positions in all 12 member states.

It's been a fun 3 years serving as MPLA representative from Montana – thanks for the opportunity! Pam Henley, signing off. Please welcome Norma Glock as your new MPLA Representative.

Montana Library Association Honors 2011 Award Recipients

Individuals and libraries from across the state were honored for hard work and dedication to their communities on April 7 during the Montana Library Association's annual conference in Billings. Each year librarians around Montana nominate co-workers, administrators, trustees, and volunteers who they feel made outstanding contributions and provided leadership to their libraries.

Marilyn Trosper, Director, North Lake County Library District received the Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year in recognition of her tireless work and perseverance against all odds to establish the North Lake County Library District, officially launched in July 2010. The Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year is conferred upon a librarian in recognition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment in library service.

To quote Director of Statewide Library Resources, Bob Cooper, "Marilyn's modus operandi is always the same. Locate an opportunity that will benefit library patrons, work hard and collaborate with others to make it happen...She always makes time to listen to and help others. She reaches out to her fellow librarians and to her patrons with true caring. She strives to embrace the technologies and innovations that will lead to improved library services. She is a leader who has made and will no doubt continue to make a difference for Montana libraries and patrons."

Amy Ling, Library Assistant, North Valley Public Library was honored with Montana Library Association's first Outstanding Support Staff of the Year Award. This award is conferred upon a Montana library support staff employee in recognition of outstanding service to the library profession and excellence in job performance. North Valley Public Library Director Renee McGrath observed that Amy goes the "extra mile to get to know all of our patrons on a personal basis." In addition to spearheading an immensely popular Spanish Outreach program, assisting with grants, and organizing the library's volunteers, social media outlets, and First Friday performances, she "volunteers to take on additional projects to improve the library and foster goodwill between staff, volunteers, and patrons."

Belgrade Community Library received the 2011 Library of the Year Award. Library of the Year is conferred upon a Montana library, library system, or library network for distinguished achievement in service. Belgrade Community Library has worked hard to build partnerships and secure funding to support collection growth, prevent a reduction in hours, and continue to add new programs and services on a limited budget. Belgrade Superintendent Candy Lubansky wrote, "Belgrade Community Library has been especially diligent in its mission of serving the community...and is first and foremost a leader in identifying and filling gaps in services. With their focus on partnerships, they are regarded as a valuable player when it comes to community input...customer service is always a priority."

Peggy Smith, Librarian, Skyview High School in Billings, received Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Montana Library Association. Honorary Life Membership is given to a librarian who has made an outstanding contribution of lasting importance to librarianship or who has rendered outstanding service to library interests. Billings High School Librarians Lyn McKinney and Jan Allen stated that Smith has been instrumental in creating partnerships and embracing technology to advance opportunities for the entire Billings community for 30 years. Rocky Mountain College Library Director, Bill Kehler wrote, "Peggy has worked diligently, but behind the scenes on many conferences, retreats, and MLA workshops and programs with little fanfare or thanks. Members like Peggy are the backbone of our association...it is time to recognize a grassroots organizer like Peggy Smith of Skyview High School."

Niki Whearty, Librarian, Helena High School Library, was honored with the Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award. This award is conferred upon an individual or group who has made significant contributions during the past year to the enhancement of First Amendment rights. In 2010, a Helena High School parent objected to use of Sherman Alexie's book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* in the classroom. In her letter of support, MLA Intellectual Freedom

MLA Honors 2011 Award Recipients, continued

Committee member Lauren McMullen wrote, “Niki is to be commended for the professional manner in which she has managed the current challenge, coordinating activities of participants and using policies and procedures to ensure that the complainants’ concerns are thoughtfully addressed. At this time of writing the outcome is unknown, but I feel sure that Helena High School students will continue to enjoy free and open access to information and ideas because of Niki’s efforts and the efforts of others.”

Albert Martens, Trustee, Rosebud County Library, received the Trustee of the Year Award. This award is conferred upon a Montana public library trustee in recognition of outstanding achievement and leadership in that role. According to Rosebud County Library Director Cheryl Hesper, Martens has “never wavered in his willingness to do whatever was needed to insure that quality libraries and staff were maintained” for over 25 years. In addition to serving as Board Chair with “professionalism and expertise,” Martens has extended his dedication to Montana libraries beyond county boundaries, attending MLA and Montana State Library workshops, contacting legislators, and taking leadership roles in the Sagebrush Library Federation.

Bob Whalen, Principle of Skyview High School in Billings, received the School Administrator of the Year award. This award is conferred upon a Montana school administrator in recognition of outstanding achievement and leadership in the development and promotion of school libraries. In her letter of nomination, Skyview High School Librarian Peggy Smith noted that Whalen is a “willing collaborator in creating and maintaining a quality library program.” In addition to his support for the integrity of the library’s collection and professional development for Skyview High librarians, “he is open to developing innovative programs...He supported the proposal to introduce iPods for audio books loaded with class novels and flip-video cameras for student checkout to do class assignments...He is always willing to listen to new ideas and suggestions that will improve the learning

opportunities and academic success our students.”

The Montana Library Association thanks all of the 2011 award recipients for the wonderful services they have provided to Montana libraries.

It is never too early to start thinking about worthy nominations for 2012! For more information on Montana Library Association Awards and Honors, visit <http://tinyurl.com/3qvx9wh>





MLA Cookbooks *A Literary Feast*

Now available online! 200 delicious recipes for a mere \$10. Go to www.mtlib.org to order copies. Proceeds benefit MLA.

Going to library school?

Apply for a Cates Scholarship to help pay expenses. Applications due July 1. Details and application available at www.mtlib.org.

Want to have some great fun and benefit MLA at the same time?

The MLA PR & Marketing Committee is seeking new members. If you have an interest in writing, marketing, and promoting our wonderful Montana libraries, please contact Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, committee chair, at lisamj@missoula.lib.mt.us.

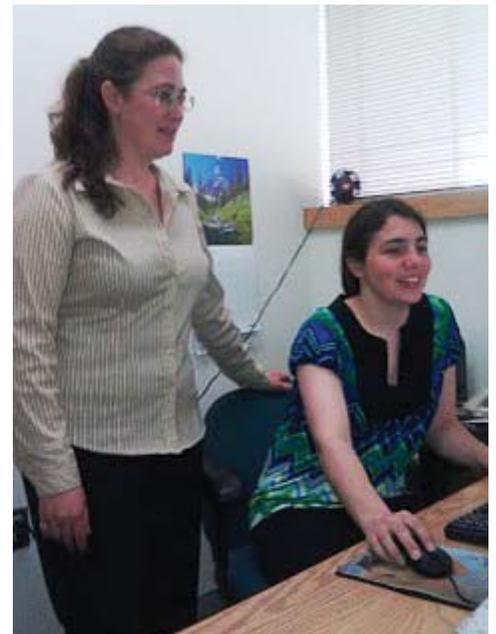
Montana Shared Catalog News

By Ken Adams, MSC Director
Montana State Library

The last few months have been very busy as the MSC underwent growth from 106 member libraries to 133. The following libraries were added and are now LIVE on the MSC integrated library system: Hi-Line Consortium (11 libraries) live in Oct 2010; Petroleum County School Community Library and Sidney-Richland County Library (live in Dec 2010); Glacier County Library (includes Browning branch) and Sheridan County Library (live in Feb 2011); Libby School Libraries and Noxon School Library (live in April 2011); Summit Prep School (live in May 2011); Absarokee School libraries, Darby School libraries and Sun River Valley school libraries are currently manually adding their records to the MSC database and will go live later this year. Additionally, Missoula Public Library added a branch at Big Sky High School and Parnly Billings Library added a branch at the MSU College of Technology in Billings. Six more libraries have been approved by the State Library Commission to join the MSC during the coming year: Henry A Malley Memorial Library in Broadus, Ekalaka Public Library, Fallon County Library, Lolo School Library, Prairie County Library and Stillwater County Library.

Besides adding new libraries, the MSC purchased, installed and migrated to a new, more powerful IBM server and upgraded the operating system, database, web server and the Symphony ILS software. One of the side benefits of the Symphony software upgrade was the added capability to use an iPhone app to search the catalog. Future upgrades are planned for the Directors Station server and software and yet another Symphony upgrade later this year.

Last, but by no means least, the MSC staff added two new employees: Melody Condron is the new Systems Technician. You may know her from her previous position as the Collection Management Librarian with the Lincoln County Library in Libby. Amy Marchwick is the new Training and Technical Services Assistant. She comes to us from her previous position as system administrator at Belgrade Community Library. Both bring extensive experience with the MSC and Symphony software. They will be tremendous assets for the MSC staff and the MSC membership as a whole.



New MSC Staff; Melody Condron (standing) and Amy Marchwick (sitting).”



Nola Huey, Great Falls Public Library Youth Services Librarian, with paperdolls she made for the Summer Reading Program.

Madison Valley Public Library Receives Will James Society Donation

This donation of 12 hardcover books to Madison Valley Public Library in Ennis has been made through the Will James Society Gifting Program. It is the mission of the Will James Society to provide books written and illustrated by Will James in the western genre for readers of all ages to enjoy.



The Society donates books to school and libraries throughout the United States and Canada. They also send “soft cover” versions to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. If you have an address of an individual person or military unit anywhere that would like to have some of these wonderful stories to read, please contact the Will James Society at the address below.

Donations are welcome from individuals to help the Society purchase more books at a generous discount through the Will James Art Company in Billings, Montana. The Will James Society is a non-profit organization, so any contributions made are tax deductible.

For further inquiries to have a donation of books provided to a school or public library, please contact Charlie Nightengale, Director of the Will James Book Gifting Program, PO Box 2767, McCall, ID 83638 or visit their website at www.willjames.org.

Professional Development thanks retiring Committee Members; there are now 3 openings!

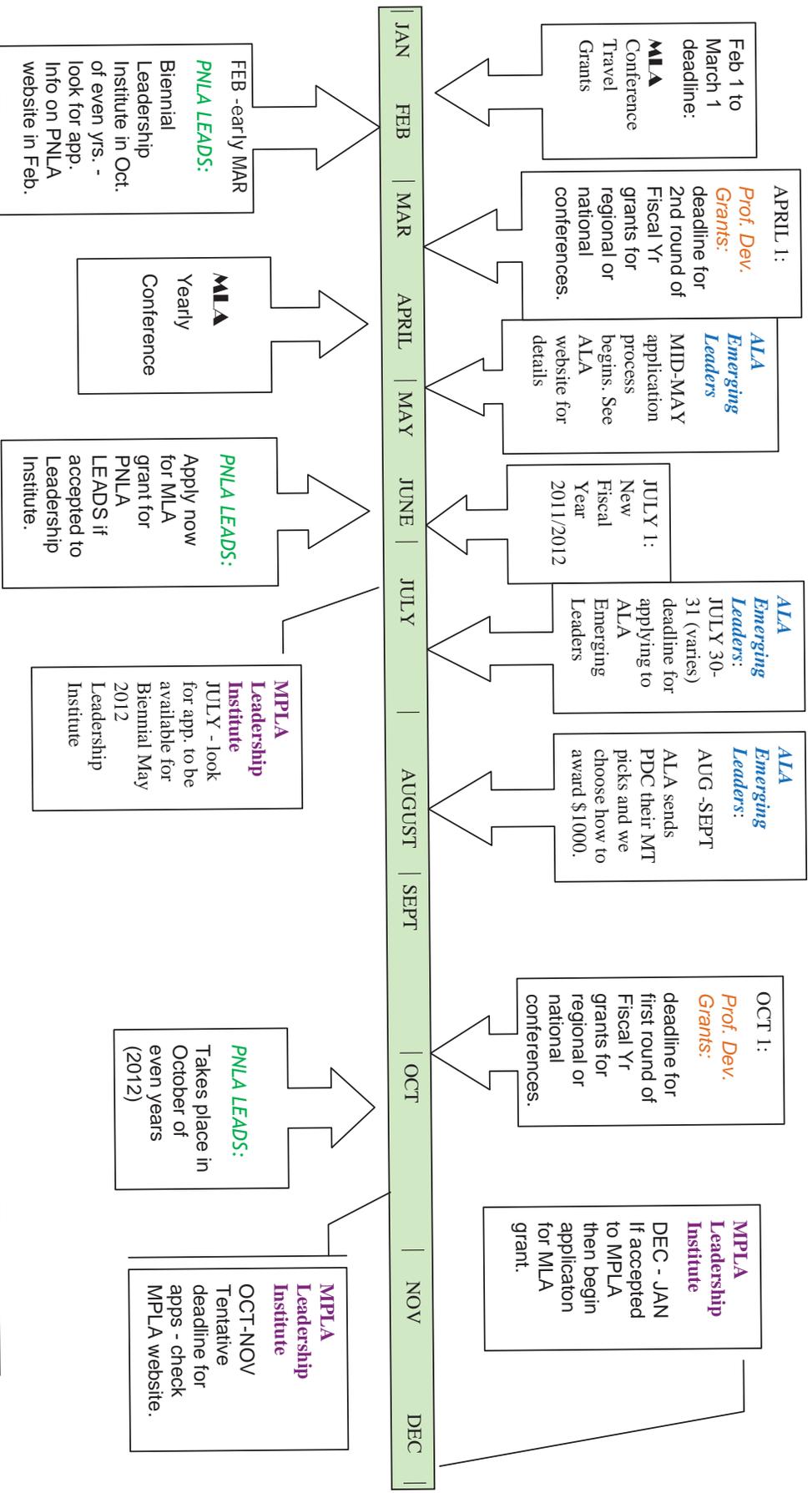
On behalf of MLA members, the Chair and members of MLA’s Professional Development Committee would like to give applause and express gratitude to three members who have finished 3-yr terms on the committee: Roberta Gebhardt who represented Academic/Special Libraries from the Montana Historical Society Research Center; Kari Eliason who represented Public libraries from the Manhattan Community School Library; and Terry Gilham, representing School libraries from Browning High School Library.

Over the past three years, these members reviewed applications by MLA members for ALA’s Emerging Leaders, Leadership Institutes by PNLA and MPLA, and Professional Development Grants for regional and national learning opportunities. Most recently, \$800 grants were given to both Jim Kammerer of Helena and Dana McMurray of Missoula for upcoming conferences in Kentucky and Washington State.

Of course, there are now three openings on the Committee. If you’ve wanted to become more involved with MLA, this is a good starting point. There is no travel necessary, as all committee work is done via email. It takes a minimum of time, and it’s rewarding to be able to assist librarians to become even better at their profession. Interested parties can contact Chair of the committee, Mary Drew Powers, at mme.ref.lib@gmail.com.

A Year of Professional Development Grants: Montana Library Association 2011

For more information, see MLA's website, Guidelines for Grants @ http://www.mtlib.org/Handbook/grant_guidelines.html



MLA Grants: dates may vary year to year. Check the websites of professional organizations to verify exact dates.

- **MLA** Conference Travel Grants: apply Feb - deadline March 1
 - **Professional Development Grants** - for national or regional conferences. Deadlines April 1 & October 1.
 - **PNLA LEADS**: biennial / Oct. in even years. Applications to PNLA Feb to March (check PNLA site); then to MLA for grant after acceptance.*
 - **ALA Emerging Leaders** - Annual. Apply to ALA approx. mid-May, then apply to MLA after acceptance.*
 - **MPLA Leadership Institute** - biennial/ May in even years; look for app. online in July; if confirmed in Dec. - Jan, then apply to MLA*
- * Acceptance to Leadership Institutes does not guarantee MLA grants

Northwest Council for Computer Education Organization honors Colet Bartow for the President's Award

Colet Bartow, Library-Information Literacy Curriculum Specialist for the Montana Office of Public Instruction, was awarded the 2011 NCCE President's Award at the 40th Annual Conference held in Portland, Oregon on March 4. NCCE hosts the largest educational technology conference in the Northwest. The President's Award goes to an outstanding individual who has provided leadership to the NCCE organization and its members. Bartow was spotlighted for her tireless work for the past two years developing the Teacher-Librarian Summit with the committee and her passion for information and technology literacy. "Colet is someone to watch," praised Vince Ruggiano, 2011 NCCE President. "She is fearless when it comes to doing something no one else has tried. The unknown doesn't scare Colet Bartow – it inspires her!" remarked Ruggiano. "Our organization is very fortunate that Colet started participating as an advocate for teacher-librarians in the northwest. She was instrumental in getting the Teacher-Librarian Summit off the ground and keeping it relevant and inspiring," he stated. Bartow has been with the Montana Office of Public Instruction, which serves over 427

school districts, since 2007 and prior to that was teacher-librarian for 13 years at the Manhattan School-Community Library. She received her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Montana ('93) and MA in Curriculum and Instruction from Montana State University ('09). "I appreciate Colet's attention to detail and wealth of knowledge that she brings to our conference," states Heidi Rogers, NCCE Executive Director. "Her strength in both personal and organizational communication is what makes her such an effective leader."

For more information and list of events, go to www.ncce.org or contact Heidi B. Rogers, NCCE Executive Director at hrogers@ncce.org.

About Northwest Council for Computer Education
Northwest Council for Computer Education (NCCE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting effective uses of technology in education. In addition to hosting the largest educational technology conference in the Pacific Northwest, NCCE provides its nearly 3000 members with resources and professional development opportunities through-out the year. The mission of NCCE is to promote and support the effective use of technology in all aspects of education.



Montana Library Association

Montana's Libraries from the Mountains to Plains

Cloverleaf Corporation Publishing Announces Library Challenge

for Upcoming Release in Award-Winning Series, *Montooth 2: Race for the Ryland Ruby*: “Reading Builds Character: Win an Opportunity to Be a Character in the next Montooth Novel”

Challenge open to all school and public libraries

To celebrate the release of *Montooth 2: Race for the Ryland Ruby* by Robert Jay, a new book in the award-winning Montooth series, Cloverleaf Corporation Publishing is pleased to announce an innovative and extraordinary program for public and school libraries. Cloverleaf introduced the appropriately novel promotion for the new Montooth book release at the American Library Association conference with an invitation for all school and public libraries to get involved in the “Reading Builds Character: Win an Opportunity to Be a Character in the next Montooth Novel” challenge.

In conjunction with the release of *Montooth 2: Race for the Ryland Ruby* (ISBN: 978-0-615-40119-5 , Hardcover, \$27.99) Cloverleaf Publishing will give away 5000 hardcover copies of Montooth and the Canfield Witch, 1500 hardcover copies of Montooth 2, as well as display materials and entry forms for participating librarians.

Entrants are encouraged to read both Montooth 1& 2 and the Canfield Witch and complete a brief survey detailing their impressions about the characters, the plot, and the overall series. The judged part of the entry requires submitting a suggestion, of thirty words or fewer, for a plot or character development to be incorporated into the next book in the series. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges and the winning entrant will have his or her name, and the name of the participating librarian, used as secondary characters in the third book in the Montooth series, *Montooth 3*, which is slated for release in February 2012.

For full details and eligibility requirements, please visit: www.montoothlibrarycontest.com.

The Montooth series is a charming and mesmerizing Adult/Young Adult suspense series featuring Catherine “Carty” Andersson, who is 16 years old at the start of the second book. Featuring true-to-life characters living in an era without television, cell phones, and iPods, the Montooth series harkens back to a simpler era. Rich with historical detail, and potentially deadly suspense, the Montooth books are sensational stories about the capable, captivating and clever Carty and her three brave male friends, with whom she shares a tremendous bond of courage, loyalty and respect—and some incredible adventures.

Montooth and the Canfield Witch has won numerous awards, including: Royal Palms Literary Awards—Winner, Historical Fiction category; Young Voices Literary Awards—Winner, Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction category; Young Voices Literary Awards—Winner, Mystery/Suspense Young Adult Fiction; and Young Voices Literary Awards—Winner, Adult Fiction.



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