

NSLA NEWS

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

NSLA Board Meeting
Sept. 25, 2013; 7:00 pm;
Teleconference

NLA/NSLA Conference
Oct. 9-11, 2013
Younes Conference Center,
Kearney

President's Message

As school librarians, differentiation should come naturally. We differentiate by providing a wide variety of titles in our print and media collections based on curriculum as well as individual student needs. We differentiate by providing guidance and instructional design to teachers depending on their instructional needs. We differentiate our inquiry instruction, providing varied graphic organizers, allowing students to choose their own topics and questions, and encouraging different modes of presentation to complete projects and assignments. And perhaps the most joyful differentiation we do is the differentiation we provide when we advise students one-on-one in choosing materials to read, complete assignments, or even just to satiate their curiosity. We help students be successful in ways that best suit them.

To me, differentiation all boils down to respect for the individual.



"At its core, differentiation indicates that a teacher is teaching human beings as well as content."
(Tomlinson, 2010)

School librarians, too, have differentiated needs. As president of NSLA, I believe it is my charge to support the purpose of our association: "To advocate for school library programs, provide professional development opportunities for school librarians, and develop leaders in the school library field" (2013-2014 Member Essentials).

This means respecting the needs of the inner city high school librarian with 3,000 students as well as respecting the K-12 rural librarian who also wears the hat of English teacher and track coach; understanding the needs of the 30-year veteran school librarian, along with the one who was hired about a week ago. Some are expert bibliophiles, while others are tech geeks. The job of differentiating for all of them is daunting.

This year, NSLA will be taking a long look at

different ways, both old and new, to differentiate our professional development for you, our members. Last year, many new forays were begun: a workshop on connecting technology to curriculum, an advocacy seminar, and the continuance of the NLA/NSLA Conference and the second Heartland Conference. A vision team is already in place for the future.

But we can't do it without you, without knowing what needs you have and the ways you learn best. Let us know what you want by sending your ideas to me at crowsr@unk.edu. Also, feel free to join us as we roll up our sleeves. Ask others in your circle of influence to join us, too. This is your organization, and together we are on the move! ☺

Dr. Sherry R. Crow
NSLA President

NLA/NSLA: Make the Connection!

In the spirit of partnership and collaboration NLA members hope to see many NSLA members at the upcoming conference in Kearney. Cooperation between school librarians and public librarians builds readers and community, a dual purpose which is vital to an educated society. Who better to understand and encourage advocacy for literacy in the community than this partnership? There are also connections between academic and special librarians that school librarians many times do not realize they have until they come to conference and have conversations across the table with those in their related profession. We are all information professionals, no matter what the nomenclature may be. We want to do our jobs to the best of our ability, whether it includes relationships with teachers, administrators, and community stakeholders or mayors, city administrators and city council. Annual conference allows us to come together with shared aspirations - the best for the best. See you in October!

Robin Clark, NLA Liaison

"I don't have to look far to find treasures. I discover them every time I visit a library."

-Michael Embry,
Author

NLA/NSLA Conference

The NLA/NSLA Conference planning is underway, and it looks like the conference is shaping up to be a fun and educational experience. The venue, the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, is brand spanking new and sports five upscale hotel facilities, two of which are connected directly or by a walkway to the conference center.

<http://www.younes.com/our-properties-2/kearney-ne/>

Fun things to do at the conference will include a night at the legendary World Theater (eating popcorn and watching a famous librarian movie tbd), and a wine and cheese-tasting event on Thursday night. The exhibits are always fun and enlightening as well.

The pre-conference for school librarians is a very

practical one, about the new Safari Montage. Safari Montage is the integrated Learning Object Repository, Video Streaming Library, Media Delivery System, and Digital Learning Platform all wrapped into one that the ESUs have purchased for all Nebraska schools. Come hear experts Beth Kabes (ESU 7), Stephanie Dannehl (ESU 11), and Judy Henning (KPS) explain how to implement this powerful resource in your school. This pre-conference will be held at ESU 10 from 2:30-5:30 on Wed., Oct. 9, letting out just in time for the movie bash at the World Theater beginning at 6:00. Cost is \$30.00.

The keynote speaker this year is Stephanie Vance, the "Advocacy Guru." Her work stems from a deep and abiding belief that government is effective

only when citizens are active participants. Her work has been the subject of a variety of print media stories, including a column in The Washington Post. Both Robin Clark and I have heard her speak and found her to be very entertaining and stimulating.

And of course, come to the conference to see and hear your colleagues share their latest tips and tricks for doing our job. What a great time for networking!

The conference dates are Oct. 9-11, 2013.

Registration is open now: see p. 7-8 for print form or register online at <http://nebraskalibraries.org/conf2013/>

Dr. Sherry R. Crow
NSLA President



AASL

This upcoming year is my final as NSLA's AASL Liaison. As a result, I thought I would share with you what I do at the national conferences and as an active member of AASL.

There are two conferences a year which I attend and represent the interests of Nebraska School Librarians. ALA hosts both, and the divisions, like AASL, hold their business meetings during this time. It gives us a chance to touch base with others across the country and discuss what is working (or not) for them.

You may have noticed that I referred to us as "School Librarians". This was a title that members of AASL agreed on a few years ago, and is in fact, one of the items discussed over several years, during the meetings at ALA Midwinter and Annual. AASL also requested input from those who were unable to attend conferences. The majority of those weighing in, determined the title "school librarian" best described us. There are still those that are uncomfortable with this title, as I am sure would have been the case with any that was chosen. But knowing we had a voice is

important to me. As members of AASL, we are invited to bring forward concerns about those things we feel affect us and our jobs so that AASL and its membership can work towards solutions. At this point, you may be asking yourself, what (besides loss of School Librarian jobs nationwide), is a concern? There are several, but most revolve around developing ideas and curriculum that can help us as we provide curricular support to our staff and students. For instance, in our meetings this summer, there was a great deal of talk about STEM and Common Core. Now I understand that Nebraska is not a Common Core state, but 46 other states are. And any resources provided in concert with AASL will benefit all of us.

One of the things that AASL is currently working on is Senior Project/Capstone projects. They created a Task Force to determine how many schools use it, what the involvement of the school librarians is, and how AASL can help create or collect resources. Because our high school mandates senior project for graduation, I chose to request a seat on this task force. We will be starting

our work again soon via email and forums. As a matter of fact, many of the committees and task forces are conducted via the web. This allows participation, even if you cannot travel to conference.

In addition to this Task Force, I have enjoyed sitting on a variety of committees, including the Technology Pathfinder Award, AASL Collaborative School Library Media Award, Research Grant Award, and Parent Outreach Task Force. Reading the variety of applications submitted for these various awards, has helped me gain a better understanding of how to write an application for one, should I ever choose to apply!

So back to my original assertion. The next two conferences are my last as your state liaison. That means applications will be sought for my replacement. The job description for the AASL Liaison was revamped three years ago, assuring that the position will be filled with someone who has an understanding of (or is eager to learn more about) our state issues as well as national issues. The requirements are; a member of NSLA for at least three years, a

member of AASL for at least one, and having been on the NSLA board as either an elected member or a liaison. The term is 3-years and you will meet some incredibly dedicated and energizing people during your term!

So if you fit the criteria, please consider applying. If you are chosen, your experience will be well worth it.

See page 22 of the Member Essentials for more information. <http://www.neschoollibrarians.org/documents.html>

Carrie Turner
AASL Liaison

"Librarians are information mountaineers, guiding us to high peaks, encouraging us to keep our gaze skyward."

**-Holly Metz,
Author**



Image from www.dvusd.org

Heartland 2013

Heartland 2013 was held August 2nd and 3rd on the University of Nebraska at Omaha campus. Over one hundred school librarians were able to listen and learn from national speakers on the topic of Common Core and Inquiry.

Dr. Marc Aronson from Rutgers University kicked off the conference by explaining the shift in thinking in regards to non-fiction texts. Now is the time he said, for school librarians to shine in their buildings as instructional leaders. The English Language Arts standards for Common Core rely heavily upon students being exposed to and using non-fiction texts.

Though Nebraska is not a Common Core state, many of our language art standards ask students to build knowledge through non-fiction, provide evidence from text to support an argument, and to become proficient readers with complex texts. These are the same skill sets as associated with Common Core and are the skills our students need in order to be successful in life beyond high school. Aronson made the case that we as librarians already have the tools and the knowledge to help our students to make the leap from

passively reading to fully engaging in non-fiction text. He illustrated several ways in which we could engage students in non-fiction texts through clustering, contrasting lists and arguments, highlighting spectacular non-fiction illustrations, or using interesting unusual words, which support academic vocabulary. Our role is to help students discover all kinds of materials that match their reading and thinking needs. Aronson wrapped up by reiterating that the shift in focus to non-fiction texts is an opportunity to collaborate with teachers and engage students in information in a whole new way.

Dr. Barbara Stripling, who is the current president of the American Library Association, started off the afternoon on the topic of Inquiry. In her career as a school librarian and Library Director for New York Public Schools, Stripling found many students were simply completing work but there was little actual learning involved. She became convinced that the skill of inquiry must be deliberately taught to all students. Through her work she created the Stripling Model of Inquiry, which takes students through the process of

wonder, investigate, construct, express, reflect, and connect. Stripling is the first to admit that teaching inquiry is hard and that we all need to be deliberate and transparent in our teaching to ensure success for our students. She gave several examples of how to align assessments with the inquiry process as well as how to teach point of view and making inferences. She wrapped up the conference with the thought that school librarians are crucial to the success of all students and that libraries change lives, one by one.

Thank you to the Nebraska Library Commission and the University of Nebraska at Omaha for helping to make Heartland 2013 a wonderful success. All of the materials presented by Dr. Stripling and Dr. Aronson during the conference can be found on the Nebraska School Librarians Association website under the Professional Development link at www.neschoollibrarians.org

Stacy Lickteig
Past-President



AFCON

Save the Date
Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013

Author and intellectual freedom activist ReLeah Lent will be the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON), co-sponsored by The Nebraska English Language Arts Council (NELAC) and ACLU Nebraska. Lent has

written extensively about literacy, adolescents, and secondary education, including the crucial role of academic freedom for teachers and students. Among her other books, she is the co-author (with Gloria Pipkin) of *At the Schoolhouse Gate: Lessons in Intellectual Freedom* (Heinemann, 2002) and *Keep Them Reading: An Anti-Censorship Handbook for*

Educators (Teachers College Press, 2013). The meeting will take place from 10:00 to 1:30 at the new Courtyard by Marriott in Lincoln's Haymarket area. In addition to the keynote address and subsequent discussion, it will include academic freedom awards and lunch. Registration information will be posted on the AFCON website.

Helpful Links
About AFCON:
<http://www.academicfreedomnebraska.org/>

About ReLeah Lent:
<http://releahlent.com/>

About Keep Them Reading:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-moshman/anticensorship-handbook_b_2594136.html

Leadership in the School Library

Attendance at two back-to-back library conferences in the state led me to think about the school librarian's role in the school community. The five different levels of perception was a concept introduced at the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute. The levels are: 1. Magnifying glass – your job. 2. Eye level – your library and its role in the school. 3. Helicopter – Your school and how it is viewed in the greater community. 4. 747 – Looking around beyond the library profession to view current educational practices. 5. Satellite – looking ahead to the future of librarianship in the education of tomorrow.

Becoming a true leader in your school community

requires the views from a greater distance. The Heartland 2013 School Library Conference introduced participants to the Common Core standards. Nebraska is one of only five states that have not adopted the Common Core as a guide to curriculum and teaching, however there is an understanding that Nebraska students must be able to demonstrate the level of skill represented by these standards if we want to remain economically competitive. At the heart of the Common Core is a new emphasis on critical reading and thinking. Students must embrace the inquiry process and be able to ask good questions to gain meaning and their own insights.

School librarians have an opportunity to work with teachers in the design of rigorous assignments that require more than a list of facts and which prompt students to deeper levels of thinking. Especially important is teaching students to identify point of view and understand how perspective impacts understanding.

School librarians must be key leaders in their schools by becoming familiar with the requirements of the Common Core and by assisting teachers in meeting the thinking demands of the new standards. This is an opportunity for true leadership and advocacy. As you create rigorous new projects and teach the skills that make

students successful, you need to share the results. You may be good at what you do, but you must make it visible in the school community. Showing "your stuff" is at the heart of advocacy because increased student learning will get everyone's attention.

Gail Formanack
NDE Liaison

@your library®

Board Meeting Report

Kim Gangwish

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We're on the Web!

www.neschoollibrarians.org

Twitter

@NSLAorg

2013-2014 Board

President: Sherry Crow,
crowsr@unk.edu

President-elect: Beth
Kabes, bkabes@esu7.org

Past-president: Stacy
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stacy.lickteig@ops.org

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chaeffne@lps.org

Alysa Haack,
ahaack@lps.org

Paula McClung,
pmcclung@lps.org

Liaison information can be
found in the Member
Essentials on the website.

The August 1, 2013 meeting was called to order by President Crow. Sixteen members were present.

The agenda had no additions and was approved by a motion from Carrie Turner, seconded by Courtney Pentland. Motion carried. Minutes from the April 27, 2013 meeting were approved by a motion from Chris Haeffner, seconded by Carrie Turner. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was given with a total net worth of \$28,301.17. The report was approved to be filed for audit.

Executive Secretary's Report - Membership update - 311 active, 26 lapsed, Fall Newsletter deadline- August 9th.

Committee Reports:

AASL- The Affiliate Assembly recommended a review and update for consistency and vertical alignment of The Crosswalk of the Common Core Standards and the Standards of the 21st Century Learner. A recommendation was also made to create a task force to produce products that would support STEM. The AASL would like the AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner Lesson Plan Database be searchable by CCSS along with keywords.

AFCON - Annual meeting September 28, 2013

NLC - Received \$150,000 in state funds for public libraries to purchase eBooks and audio books for each year of the biennium. Dr. Sherry Crow was elected Chair of the Nebraska Library Commission board.

NDE - Kristina Peters is the new NSLA liaison at the Nebraska Department of Education. She is an e-learning specialist.

Awards and Scholarships - A couple of the awards were renamed. The new names for the awards are NSLA Distinguished Service Award and Sound off for School Librarian Award. Scholarship application recommendations: **Ann Daudt** and **Shari Hudson** for NSLA Continuing Education Scholarships. Susan Findlay for the Karla Wendelin Continuing Education Scholarship.

Learning 4 Life - future presentations in Kearney for NLA/NSLA and in Holdrege for ESU #11 Fall Conferences.

Old Business - At the Fall Conference there will be a movie at the World Theater on Wednesday night and awards will be presented during the luncheon. The Heartland Conference had 132 registrants. The name change from NEMA to NSLA is now legal. Election results - Alysa Haack and Paula McClung were elected as Board Members at Large. Beth Kabes is now the President Elect. Angie Richeson won the special election for Treasurer and Stephanie Dannehl won the special election for Secretary. Courtney Pentland motioned to certify the vote and Chris Haeffner seconded. Motion carried.

New Business - some changes were made in the Strategic Plan 2013-2014. The 2013-2014 budget was motioned for approval by Chris Haeffner and seconded by Stacy Lickteig. Motion carried. Conference and PD Vision team will think about a long term plan for NSLA and ways to work with other organizations.

Carrie Turner moved to adjourn and seconded by Angie Richeson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Dannehl, NSLA Secretary



Nebraska Library Association/
Nebraska School Librarians Association

Annual Conference

October 9-11, 2012

Kearney, NE

Registration Information

First Name	<input type="text"/>	Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Job Title	<input type="text"/>	Institution	<input type="text"/>
Address 1	<input type="text"/>	Address 2	<input type="text"/>
City	<input type="text"/>	State	<input type="text"/>
Daytime Telephone Number	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>
Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> NLA <input type="checkbox"/> NSLA <input type="checkbox"/> Nonmember		

Badge Information

Full Name (as you wish it to appear)	<input type="text"/>
Institution or City Name	<input type="text"/>
I am a : (Check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> (A) Speaker / Panelist <input type="checkbox"/> (B) First-Time Attendee <input type="checkbox"/> (C) New Member (prior to registering for the conference) <input type="checkbox"/> (D) Exhibitor <input type="checkbox"/> (E) Return Attendee

Registration Fees

All requests for refunds must be made before September 15, 2013.
NO requests will be filled after that date.
Requests prior to September 15th will be filled following the conclusion of the event.

POSTAL registration rates are included below.

Register ONLINE to receive \$10 discount from listed pricing.

All registrations not received electronically will be assessed the higher rate.

Member rates apply to all current members of NLA and NSLA.

Early **POSTAL** Registration (Received before Aug 1)

- Full Conference (Member) - \$100.00
- Full Conference (Non-Member) - \$135.00
- Full Conference (Student) - \$40.00
- Thursday only (Member) - \$70.00
- Thursday only (Non-Member) - \$110.00
- Thursday only (Student) - \$35.00
- Friday only (Member) - \$70.00
- Friday only (Non-Member) - \$110.00
- Friday only (Student) - \$35.00
- E-Conference \$25.00

Late **POSTAL** Registration (Received before Sept 20)

- Full Conference (Member) - \$110.00
- Full Conference (Non-Member) - \$150.00
- Full Conference (Student) - \$50.00
- Thursday only (Member) - \$85.00
- Thursday only (Non-Member) - \$130.00
- Thursday only (Student) - \$45.00
- Friday only (Member) - \$85.00
- Friday only (Non-Member) - \$130.00
- Friday only (Student) - \$45.00
- E-Conference \$25.00

Nebraska Library Association/
Nebraska School Librarians Association
Annual Conference

Name _____ Institution _____

Menu Selection

Please Indicate Your Attendance and Meal Choices

*Note: No meal tickets will be sold on site at the conference.
Please refer to the conference website for complete menu descriptions.*

Thursday Luncheon Attendance

- NLA Annual Meeting
- NSLA Thursday Lunch

Thursday Luncheon Meal Choice

- Chicken Picatta - \$20.00
- Grilled Portabella (Vegetarian) - \$20.00
- Greek Salad (Non Vegetarian) - \$20.00
- Attend with no meal - \$0.00

In lieu of a banquet, this year NLA/NSLA is presenting a complimentary evening of hors d'oeuvres and a wine tasting of local/regional wines. Come join us for an evening celebration!

Thursday Reception and Wine Tasting Attending - FREE

Friday Luncheon Attendance

- SCYP/Mad Hatter
- College & University
- Paraprofessional
- Public Library/Trustees

Friday Luncheon Meal Choice

- Italian Style Pot Roast - \$20.00
- Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian) - \$20.00
- Chicken Breast Cobb Salad - \$20.00
- Attend with no meal - \$0.00
- Not Attending - \$0.00

Pre-Conference Events

*Preconferences will be held Wednesday, Oct. 9th
Please refer to the conference website for complete descriptions and locations.*

Breaking Down Barriers to Excellent Customer Service \$35.00

or

Safari Montage \$30.00

Conference Events

Please refer to the conference website for complete descriptions and locations.

I plan to attend: **Wednesday Night -Party at the Movies - \$5.00**
(Check all that apply)

NLA DOES NOT INVOICE FOR EVENT ATTENDANCE OR ACCEPT PURCHASE ORDERS

If paying by check, please include a copy of your confirmation with your payment and remit to:

Nebraska Library Association
Attn: Conference Registration
PO Box 21756
Lincoln, Nebraska 68542-1756.