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MPLA Board report NEBRASKA

Oct. 10, 2007

Submitted by Julie Beno

Banned Book Week:

- Governor Hein signed a proclamation for Banned Books Week on Sept. 20th.
- Creighton University cancelled a presentation by Annie Lamott. The press release read: "After careful review of Ms. Lamott's most recent writings, we have concluded that key points are in opposition to Catholic teaching which, in our judgment makes her an inappropriate choice for the Women and Health Series" Instead Connections, a coalition of Omaha churches, agreed to sponsor the Lamott program. Creighton is now reviewing its policies on inviting speakers to campus. Some Creighton students showed up at the presentation wearing their Creighton t-shirts.

NLA:

- The Para-professional section is now publishing their newsletter the KEYNOTE on-line. The Keynote archives have been digitized.
- The Diversity committee has contracted with Dr. Naomi Caldwell, a professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island, to present three sessions at the NLA/NEMA fall conference. Dr. Caldwell will speak on Native American library collections for both children and adults as well as multiculturalism in libraries.
- Maggie Harding, past executive director of NLA, moved to Colorado.

LIBRARIES:

- State Senator Fulton read stories during storytime at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln and all the branches to show support for early literacy programs. We made sure Ken Winston, NLA Lobbyist, knew about him doing this.
- Lincoln City Libraries is getting ready for Teen read week: October 14-20, 2007. Several libraries will feature performances by the Academy of Rock, a place middle school kids can go to learn how to play rock and roll. Kids join, bands are formed loosely, and practices are held. <http://www.frccn.org/NFC/Academy-of-Rock.htm>
- Gretna Public Library, in the fastest growing community in the state, has outgrown its 4000 sq ft building. The city has placed a new library on its priority list.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION

- Thinking Outside the Borders: Library Leadership in a World Community Set for October 22-26, 2007.
  - This institute on international library leadership will be held at the Nebraska Library Commission. Librarians from Nebraska, Mexico, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, and El Salvador will attend. This National Leadership Grant activity is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Participants will attend discussion sessions in Lincoln and at the annual conference in Kearney.

BLOGS:

- Lincoln's Chief of Police, Tom Cassidy, writes a daily blog about, well almost everything, that has to do with Lincoln, police, crimes, stats etc. I am including it because it is an excellent blog for insights as to what is happening in Lincoln. <http://lpd304.blogspot.com/>