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## MPLA BOARD REPORT

NEBRASKA REPRESENTATIVE: Julie Beno (formerly Simpson)

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the MPLA Board. I am currently figuring out my responsibilities. I am able to complete this report with help from the systems newsletters.

News from around the state:

Personnel:

Laura Johnson: Continuing Education Coordinator at the Nebraska Library Commission

Greg Mickells: Assistant Library Director Lincoln City Libraries

Michael Sauers: Technology Innovation Librarian, Nebraska Library Commission This newly created position will be responsible for introducing Nebraska Libraries to and training staff on new and useful technologies in order to improve library services.

One Book, One State 2007: Crazy Horse by Mari Sandoz

In 2006 Alex Kava made 34 speaking engagements in Nebraska promoting her book: One False Move, the 2006 One Book One Nebraska.

RAN: Read across Nebraska [www.readaloudnebraska.org](http://www.readaloudnebraska.org)

RAN's mission:

- Promoting healthy, successful children and families through reading aloud
- Fostering school and community efforts that develop lifelong readers

Two RAN events: Frank Seafini will be in Omaha on Feb, 23rd . His workshops are loaded with practical ideas grounded in a solid foundation of literacy theory and research.

AND Mem Fox will be in Kearney Oct. 24, 2007.

Mad Hatter Award Winner at the NLA/NEMA 2006 conference: Patty Birch, North Platte Senior High Media Specialist. (

The Washington Branch of Omaha Public Library is working to start a monthly televised teen talk show called "The Main Concern". If you are in Omaha plan a visit to see their state of the art teen center.

Lincoln City Libraries two newest branches, Eiseley and Walt, are celebrating their fifth year anniversary in February with many programs. Lincoln City Libraries now has a FLIKR account for staff to share bulletin board and display ideas. Google Eiseley and Flickr and you will see some public library pictures already on Flickr.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Library Science Education Programs received a Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service to its Profession. This recognition draws important attention to library science education and libraries from key policy makers in both the university and the community.

The 2006 Nebraska Book Awards. The Nebraska Center for the Book recognizes and honors books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by NE publishers, set in Nebraska or concern Nebraska. The 2006 winners are:  
Anthology: Slamma Lamma Ding Dong: An Anthology of Nebraska's Slam Poets editors: J.M. Huscher, Matt Mason. Dan Leamen

Children/Young Adult: The Nebraska Adventure by Jean Lukesh

Cover/Design/Illustration: These Trespasses by Jim Reese

Fiction: This is not the Tropics by Ladette Randolph

Nonfiction: Impertinences: Selected Writings of Ela Peattie, a Journalist in the Gilded Age by Ela Peattie

Non-fiction Honor Book: Rainmakers: A photographic story of Center Pivots by the Groundwater Foundation.

Poetry: No Accident by Aaron Anstett