



**MPLA Board Report**  
**October 2012**  
**Submitted by Leslie H. Langley**

The 2013 OLA Annual Conference is shaping up nicely. ALA President Maureen Sullivan will not only attend the conference but will be a presenter at a pre-conference program sponsored by the OLA Leadership Committee and will speak on the topic of Emerging Leaders.

Encyclo-Media, an annual educational conference that was initially designed for school librarians, was held in September. The sponsorship of this large conference has changed dramatically in the past two years resulting in many changes and a marked decline in attendance of school librarians.

OLA, partnering with Freedom of Information Oklahoma, will sponsor the 14<sup>th</sup> First Amendment Congress on October 31. This program is designed to help high school students understand the first amendment and is always well attended.

The Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People will be held October 25 featuring YA author Alex Flinn and children's authors Betsy and Ted Lewin. This biennial event, presented by OLA, is always much anticipated.

Oklahoma participated in ALA's Banned Books Week Virtual Read-Out. OLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee chair Julia McConnell read an excerpt of John Steinbeck's GRAPES OF WRATH, a book that was once banned in Oklahoma.