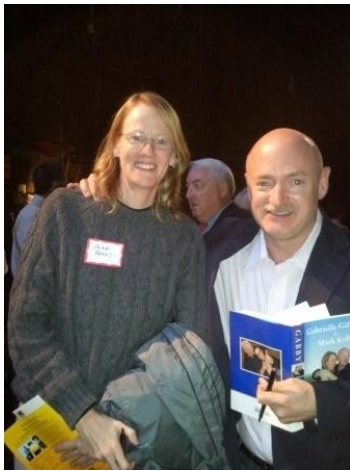




## A Librarian's Dream Come True: The Tucson Festival of Books, March 10 & 11

Mark your calendar now for the annual Tucson Festival of Books, Southern Arizona's annual celebration of books, authors and reading which will be held on the University of Arizona campus on March 10 and 11.



*Pima County Public Library Associate Jenn Berry greeted Captain Mark Kelly recently at an Author event sponsored by the Tucson Festival of Books. Kelly was in Tucson to discuss Gabby, A Story of Courage and Hope, the memoir he penned with his wife, Congresswoman Gabriel Giffords.*

The nation's fourth largest book festival will welcome an impressive list of literary

luminaries including T.C. Boyle, Larry McMurtry, Alice Hoffman, R. L. Stine, Lisa See, Diana Gabaldon, Richard Russo, Pete Dexter, John Sandford, John Scieszka, Luis Urrea, Michael Palmer, Iris Johansen, Sebastian Junger, Timothy Egan, Sy Montgomery, Susan Orleans, Megan McDonald, Jack Gantos, and many, many more. For a complete list of the authors who'll be in attendance visit the [Festival website](#).

Pima County Public Library will be much in evidence, from its Nuestras Raices tent to the PCPL Bookmobile, and we look forward to seeing colleagues from all over Arizona. The Festival is a librarian's dream come

*(Continued on [page 4](#))*

**AzLA Regional Forum**  
Featuring Hildy Gottlieb, author of *Creating the Future*  
Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am—4:00pm  
Registration open until March 1!  
[Read the details now.](#)

## Many Hands Make a Splendid Conference!

Now that the 2011 Conference is a memory, the Conference Co-Chairs would like to thank everyone who presented and attended the event at the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson. The AzLA Conference depends on the AzLA community for programming and for the volunteers who organize, plan, and run the gathering. Without your support and attendance, we wouldn't have a wonderful Conference to look back on! We'd especially like to acknowledge the members of Conference Planning Committee for their hard work-- we had the best committee ever!

Conference attendance was great, up by more than 150 more people over the 2010 Conference. Additionally, we had twice as many vendors and many more sponsors. We send special to thank our exhibitors and sponsors for supporting the Arizona Library Association.

As you know, a printed Conference program was not distributed this year - instead, we provided an online program in advance as well as a mobile app, which saved \$4000 in printing costs (as well as many trees). Among the

*(Continued on [page 2](#))*

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## Message from the President

### Beyond the Box: *The Challenge*

Happy New Year!

And what a year it will be! As everyone knows, 2012 is Arizona's Centennial. This landmark date provides us with a great reason to reflect upon our past successes and celebrate them. Libraries across the state will be hosting events and activities to mark the occasion. However, while we should be proud of our accomplishments, we need to continue looking to the future and plan for how we can build upon our successes.

With this in mind, the theme for AzLA for 2012 is *Beyond the Box*. This is meant to be a challenge to us all. Don't just think outside of the box-- forget that the box even exists, and explore areas outside of your comfort zone. Try learning a new skill, developing a new program, or creating a new service. Not sure where to start? I encourage you to collaborate with others who share different areas of expertise that complement your own. You can look for partners by reaching out to other institutions - maybe a community organization, a museum, or another library. Or, perhaps you can bridge the professional-paraprofessional divide within your own institution. Look beyond position titles to discover hidden talents in your library! And, of course, we'd love it if

you would submit newsletter articles telling us about your endeavors!

AzLA will be a part of the *Beyond the Box* challenge. We will be creating a strategic plan for future planning, continuing to find new ways to increase communication with our members and exploring new ways to add value to your AzLA membership. To assist us in this endeavor, we recently asked you to respond to a membership survey to let us know how we're doing and what we could do even better. And opinions you have: there's been an overwhelming response to the survey. Thank you! The Membership Committee will help me review the survey results over the next month. I'm excited to see what everyone had to say and to find ways to incorporate your ideas into AzLA initiatives. Be on the lookout for future newsletter articles and emails in which we'll communicate the survey results and upcoming changes.

(Not receiving emails from AzLa? You can log onto the AzLA website and check your profile to make sure your email address is current, and that you have requested to receive emails.)

**Nancy Deegan**



**[Nancy Deegan](#)**  
AzLA President

## Many Hands Make a Splendid Conference! (cont.)

lessons we learned, however, was that not having a printed program increases the need for better signage and better communication in advance of the Conference. Look for those improvements in the future.

Many of the conference presenters have sent their presentation slides. These are now up on the [conference wiki](#). If there are no slides posted, it simply means the presenter has not provided them.

This was the final year of service as Conference Co-chairs for Anali Perry and Coni Weatherford. We've had a blast working with the Conference Committee to plan the last two conferences, but are definitely ready for a break. Please join us in welcoming continuing

Conference Co-Chair Ella Gomez and incoming co-chair René Tanner, and in wishing them the best of luck for 2012! The Conference Committee will begin work again in January; if you're interested in helping to plan the 2012 conference, email either [Ella](#) or [René](#) and tell them your area of interest. Enthusiastic volunteers are always needed!

Lastly, remember to save the date for next year's annual Conference, to be held Nov. 8-10, 2012 at South Mountain Community College. See you in 2012!

Your 2011 Conference Co-Chairs,

**Anali Perry**  
**Coni Weatherford**  
**Ella Gomez**





# 2012 Regional Forum

Hosted by the Pima County Public Library

Friday, March 9, 2012 9:00—4:00

at the Manning House

Registration \$50

(includes Continental Breakfast & Lunch)

Registration opens Tuesday, January 10, 2012

and closes Thursday, March 1, 2012.

Register online at [www.azla.org](http://www.azla.org)

For more information:

[jennifer.whitt@pima.gov](mailto:jennifer.whitt@pima.gov)

## with Hildy Gottlieb, *Creating the Future*

author of *The Pollyanna Principles: Reinventing "Nonprofit Organizations" to Create the Future of Our World*

**SHOULD LIBRARIES HAVE A ROLE IN THE FUTURE OF THEIR COMMUNITIES?** The library can be in the vanguard of the forces propelling a community forward, or it can be sidelined by technology, budget cuts and cultural shifts. Take control of your institution's future. Learn how to move from vision to strategy, investigating ways to harness the library's potential as a change agent. Achieve widespread positive impact through successful community engagement.

**Build  
Community**

**Tell  
Our Story**

**Work  
Together**

### Directions:

The Manning House is located at the end of Paseo Redondo behind the circle of palms. Follow the entrance drive on the left of the building to the complimentary parking located on the West side of the Mansion.

**450 W. Paseo Redondo  
Tucson, Arizona**



## Tucson Festival of Books (cont.)

true. There are programs for all reading interests: mysteries, science fiction/fantasy, romance, literary fiction, science and health, travel, history, biography, nature, memoir, poetry and culinary – the list is endless. An entire area is devoted to children and youth, including workshops, crafts and storytelling, and costumed literary characters roam the mall.

The Festival is free and open to the public, as is parking. The Tucson Festival of Books is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 organization. Proceeds are donated to literacy organizations in Southern Arizona.

[Helene Woodhams](#)

Librarian II  
Pima County Public Library

## AzLA Conference Reports

**Editors' Note:** The following seven articles were written by attendees to highlight their favorite experiences of the recent AzLA Conference that occurred in Tucson November 28-30, 2011.

### Diverse Programs Offered at the AzLA Conference

The 2011 AzLA Conference offered many interesting programs. One workshop I attended was "Creating a Place Where the Trendy and the Traditional Meet: Ways to Bring What Teens Like into What They Learn." This program discussed offering books that are very popular, such as graphic novels, to keep kids interested in reading. This is useful information as my library serves a rural community where there aren't many activities for teens. It's a challenge trying to get them involved in the library. This program highlighted a way to provide relevant materials to bring teens to the library and keep them comfortable and happy.

Another workshop I attended was "Website Woes? How and Why User Input Should Guide Your Website Decisions." The session provided a better understanding of crafting programs to patron interests to keep them returning to our library and website. The last workshop I attended was "Stories for Change: Digital Storytelling, Community Building, and Advocacy."

This workshop discussed bringing personal stories to life, sharing them with other patrons, and having film festivals at your library. These workshops provided professional development opportunities that will allow me to better serve our patrons.

This year the conference was held at the Westin La Paloma Spa and Resort in Tucson. This setting provided a very pleasant atmosphere that encouraged learning. Attending these workshops is a great way to be knowledgeable and successful. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and my surroundings and hope to attend next year's conference. My attendance at the 2011 AzLA Conference was made possible through a continuing education scholarship from the Library Development Division, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records.

[Mary Helen Avalos](#)

Deputy Librarian  
Globe Public Library

### Getting Graphic at the AzLA Conference

This was my first library conference – wow! There was a lot to see, loads of information to process and many, many people to meet. Good thing I paced myself.

I was interested in going because I saw several workshops that would support the programming we are currently developing around graphic storytelling. I attended nearly all of the talks pertaining to this topic. Several sessions stood out for me:

- Graphic Novels for Librarians (and Other Interested Library Types) by Merideth Jenson-Benjamin and Kristin Fletcher-Spear (thank you for clearing up my BL confusion).
- Writers Getting Graphic: Comics, the Library, and You! by March Mason, John Layman and Jeff Mariotte.
- Stories for Change: Digital Storytelling, Community Building, and Advocacy by Maya Castillo.
- Libraries and Teen Advisory Groups – TAG!

**"It's a challenge trying to get [teens] involved in the library. This program highlighted a way to provide relevant materials to bring teens to the library and keep them comfortable and happy."**

## Getting Graphic at the AzLA Conference (cont.)

You're it! by Ingrid Trebisky, Pam Park and Justine Hernandez.

- **Radical Librarianship: Libraries & Social Justice** by Stephan Przybylowicz (thank you for bringing that up).

The participants' comments were insightful and contributed to the experience. My favorite moments of the entire conference were the ones I spent meeting Diana Gabaldon (ADD Genius)!

I would like to thank the Arizona Library Association Scholarship Committee for giving me the opportunity to attend this year's meeting. I am grateful to be a part of this community - it is good to know that there are so many of you around! Thank you again for your support.

### [Jeannette Garcia](#)

Archivist

Himdag Ki: Hekīhu, Humu, Im B I-Ha'ap,  
Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum



**Jeannette Garcia**

## AzLA Conference a Boon to Rural Librarians

A small town like ours has very limited resources and technology, but our patrons advance just as quickly as anywhere else. This was the reason I could not pass up the opportunity to learn about new technology and resources at the 2011 AzLA Conference and discover first hand new library programs and successful ideas that other libraries have implemented. Three sessions that stood out for me were "Stories for Change," "A Conversation with Chris O'Dell," and "We Are What We Eat."

During the "Stories for Change" session, I was moved by the example stories. I also learned how to approach digitalized story-telling without pulling my hair out. The presentation gave a very simple yet thorough plan for starting, creating, and editing my story.

"A Conversation with Chris O'Dell" was an entertaining session. The unique perspective of her stories was interesting for me because I am from such a different generation. It was wonderful listening to her describe her experiences with such an enthusiastic and positive outlook. In a small town it's very rare to hear someone talk about another person in such a positive and factual manner.

The "We Are What We Eat" session hit close to

home. Listening to authors share their stories is always pleasant, but it becomes more personally meaningful when they speak about local places. As the authors shared their stories of finding their recipes I could picture the places of which they spoke. After the session I thought about everything my mother used to cook and what I cook for my child. It's funny how you don't notice the connection in your life until you read about it in a book. It's also quite handy to know how to get the stickers out of prickly pears.

This trip to Tucson was rewarding and amusing in so many ways. Walking the exhibit halls with my director and deputy librarian, I learned so much about the companies with whom we work. I also discovered programs for my child and myself that I did not know were available. Additionally, I brought back resources that I can share with my patrons, family, and friends. I would like to thank the Library Development Division, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records who awarded me the scholarship that made this experience possible. I look forward to attending next year's conference.

### [Emily Leverance](#)

Library Assistant  
Globe Public Library

**"Listening to authors share their stories is always pleasant, but it becomes more personally meaningful when they speak about local places."**

## Hungry School Librarian Tastes the AzLA Conference Buffet

The recent Arizona Library Association Conference was valuable to me professionally as a school librarian and personally.

Having recently spearheaded an effort to create Friends of Marana Unified School District Libraries, where I work as an elementary school librarian, the conference proved to be a

great place to network. I spoke with people in other Friends groups and got great ideas about fundraising and publishing on this topic.

I met some great booksellers and previewed and ordered new titles that are perfect for the population that I serve. The advance reader copies the vendors offered will help me pre-

## AzLA Conference Buffet (cont.)

pare for an upcoming author visit at my site, and the program sessions I attended gave me numerous new ideas about presenting literature, connecting with students and pumping up my literacy efforts. Some session highlights for me included:

- “Growing Families with Books: Empowering Everyone Through Family Literacy” by Donie Gignac, Elizabeth H. Soltero, and Thania Mayorga-Shull. These folks shared some great interactive story time approaches as well as information about their Family Reading Time Program.
- “Libraries and Teen Advisory Groups: TAG! You’re It!” by Ingrid Trebisky, Pam Park, and Justine Hernandez. These presenters described the experience of the librarians and teens who created a teen advisory group for the Pima County Public Library system. It inspired me to consider new ways of getting library user input on our library collection, programs, and themes.
- “Creating a Place Where the Trendy and the Traditional Meet: Ways to Bring What Teens Like Into What They Learn” by Carrie Dawson and Marney Welmers of Marana Unified School District provided me with many new ideas and resources for using literature and technology to address learning standards.

The most moving program for me, however, was Word Journeys: After-School Partnering to Nurture Literacy and Build 21st Century Skills by Marge Pellegrino. Marge developed this program with the help of some incredible Amphighigh School students and mentors who offer elementary school students wonderful literacy activities at their local public library. The high school students presenting the session were incredibly poised, knowledgeable, prepared and articulate. It was truly inspiring and impressive to see the leadership, career, and communication skills that were built through this program.

From graphic novelist John Layman to Shakespeare scholar and historical fiction and non-fiction author Jennifer Lee Carrell - the authors at the conference spanned all genres and spectrums of readers. Readings, workshop sessions, book signings and author lunches offered a range of ways to connect with favorite writers and discover some who were new to me.

So, I was nourished professionally and even personally. Considering the broad menu of offerings I’ll bet many attendees share my feeling of satisfaction.

### [Lisa Periale Martin](#)

Teacher-Librarian  
Coyote Trail Elementary Library



**Lisa Martin**

## Golden Nuggets from AzLA Conference

There is an excitement to a conference consisting partly of the promise of intellectual stimulation and professional fellowship and partly of the novelty of new and different surroundings. Throw in a big dash of anticipatory energy, and the 2011 Annual Conference was an exciting place to be.

It is my habit to come away from any learning event with golden nuggets – resonating pieces of knowledge and wit that I glean from all that I hear and see. My golden nuggets:

Keynote Speech – “Imagine the Future: Trends Beyond Technology in Libraries” by Stephen Abram

- What is a library experience? What do we want our users’ library experiences to be?
- When things change, we need to have conversations – what do we care about?

“Repeat After Me: Change is Good! Change is Good!” by Brenda Brown, Sue Hoffman, and Marybeth Gardner

- With each change, leadership shared the problem that led to the need for change, and why the library was changing. Additionally, talking points were shared with the staff so that they could explain changes to the public.
  - Planning at library level and at service level – programming, etc. – was extremely important.
- “Reading Confessions!” by Merideth Jenson-Benjamin and Kearsten LaBrozzi
- Talk about books whenever you can – teens get their reading ideas from other teens.
  - When marketing for programs, have teens

**“The website is not just a representative of what we do in the building – it is an opportunity to provide new services.”**

## Golden Nuggets from AzLA Conference (cont.)

help you.

“Books? Where We’re Going, We Don’t Need Books” by Katherine Griffin, Audrey Alvarado, and Cecilia Tovar

- Use technology to communicate with all staff in the district – webinars, Skype, wikis, Google sites, and video tutorials.
- Don’t make one person the expert – everyone needs to know.

Public Library Division Business Meeting by Marshall Shore Consulting

- Talk with non-users and find out why they aren’t using the library.
- Get out of the library to see what’s coming up next and to borrow ideas.

“The Changing Role of the Library Webmaster” by Melodie Moore, Vincent Alascia, Tammy Allgood, Kristl Chavez, Kim Nalette, and Christine Pearson

- The website is not just a representative of what we do in the building – it is an opportunity to provide new services.

- The website should be dynamic and fresh – make it an engagement tool where people can connect.

“Library Dreams: What Future Will We Create?” by Laura Stone and Nancy Welch

- This was one of my favorite sessions – just for the wonderful opportunity to brainstorm with colleagues.

Closing Keynote – “Ask the Right Questions” by Joan Frye Williams and George Needham

- As we look to the future, we need to ask the right questions of our communities and ourselves, and make every day count.
- Ultimately, if this is work worth doing – it is worth doing with grace, compassion, respect, and a generosity of spirit – how can I do it in good faith?

I am very appreciative of the opportunity to attend the conference. It was a wonderful experience!

[Erin McCusker](#)

Librarian

Flagstaff City-Coconino County Public Library



**Erin McCusker**

## My 2011 AzLA Conference Experience

Taking two days to learn about exciting new changes in the field and connect with other librarians is so empowering. Attending the 2011 AzLA Annual Conference reminded me why I committed my life to this profession.

This was my second AzLA Annual Conference. In 2010 I was nervous, bright-eyed and full of awe at the librarians of Arizona. This year I recognized faces and networked much more comfortably. I felt like I was among my people, not an outsider. I work as a solo librarian at Phoenix Art Museum, making decisions without the input of other librarians, so it is easy for me to feel isolated. Attending conferences helps me to build a support system of colleagues with whom I can confer.

The sessions I attended showed me developments in the world of libraries. I learned how to make a Libx Toolbar that the Museum staff can utilize. I walked away from the DIY Professional Development session with a list of great websites and blogs to keep me current after I

complete my master’s degree. I received validation for the choices I make for the Lemon Art Research Library’s collections when I learned how the Arizona Historical Foundation manages its photograph collection.

I discovered a leadership program I would like to participate in at Pima County Public Library. I learned about the joys of being an embedded librarian, which made me think about ways I could work with the Museum’s curators as an intrinsic part of their team. But most importantly, I was reminded to be excited about change, to look forward to the challenges and to not be afraid to try something new, even at the risk of failure, because that is the only way to stay relevant in this ever-changing world.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to attend the AzLA Annual Conference. I am very proud to be a part of this organization!

[Lindsey Powers](#)

Assistant Librarian

Phoenix Art Museum



**Lindsey Powers**

## Networking and Renewal at the AZLA Conference

The 2011 AzLA Conference offered a wide range of session options that fit the theme “Imagine the Future” that were applicable to libraries of all sizes and types. Choices ranged from methodology and research outcomes to lively and informative roundtable discussions.

Many sessions and opportunities at the conference were useful to me. An inspiring keynote address by Stephen Abram, MLS set the tone for a very positive conference experience. As always, networking opened my eyes to the potential of putting into practice new management and program ideas. Patagonia Library will soon have a non-vetted Local Collection and a BISAC catalog. Attendance at this conference allowed me to create connections with colleagues experienced in implementing these services. Additionally, I can now apply concepts such as “producer to consumer” to our library that I previously associated with other disciplines.

From my conference experience, I now imagine that the future is bright even amid the alarming budget and staffing cuts many libraries are experiencing. The next generation of librarians that I met at the conference conveyed a sense of confidence, creativity, and vibrancy, which I perceive lends itself to a healthy and continually evolving future for libraries in this rapidly changing environment of technology innovation. My attendance at the 2011 AzLA Conference was made possible by a continuing education scholarship received from the Library Development Division, Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records. I welcome the opportunity to share information and insights garnered from my conference attendance with anyone who is interested.

[Abbie Zeltzer](#)

Librarian  
Patagonia Public Library

**“The next generation of librarians that I met at the conference conveyed a sense of confidence, creativity, and vibrancy...”**

## Arizona Snapshot Day

**Save the Date: January 24, 2012**

What would Arizona be like if there were no libraries? What valuable services do we provide on a daily basis that simply go unrecognized and unappreciated?

The Arizona Library Association plans to take a snapshot of a typical day in the life of Arizona’s libraries, and your help is needed. Information gathered will be collated and packaged so that libraries will have powerful statistics available, i.e., “If all of Arizona’s libraries had been closed on January 24, 2012, 1,356 people would not have been able to apply for jobs online,” or, “If all of Arizona’s libraries had been closed on January 24, 2012, 70,000 items would not be circulating among the citizens of our state.”

If you are able, please plan a special event for this day so that you can capture it in story and in photos (even video!) We will create an online presentation to share with the people of Arizona.

Participation is easy. All the information you need is on the [Arizona Snapshot wiki](#).

If January 24th is not a suitable day for your library, please select another day during the week of January 22nd.



For effective, meaningful results we need everyone’s participation: the greater the participation the bigger the numbers we’ll be able to collect, and the more significant their impact will be. We hope all types of libraries will participate: let us see the special things you do every day.

[Monica Farmer](#)  
[Dorothy Hemmo](#)  
(520) 319-3310

## Membership News

### Pint Night Returns to AzLA's Southern Arizona Region

Meet, mingle and mix with your friends and colleagues at an informal social of librarians and library staff! The AzLAPint Night Returns to AzLA's Southern Arizona Region

Meet, mingle and mix with your friends and colleagues at an informal social of librarians and library staff! The AzLA Membership Committee invites you to Pint Night on Jan. 19 at SkyBar , located at 536 N. 4th Ave, just north of 6th Street on the east side, adjacent to the Brooklyn Pizza Company. The fun starts at 5:30.

Meet other folks who love to work in libraries! Members from AzLA will be present to answer questions about the State Library Association.

### Introducing Crafty Meet and Greets

In addition to Pint Nights, the AzLA Membership Committee will be shaking it up in 2012 with every-other-month **Crafty Meet and Greets!** Join the kick-off event on Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wilmot Library (530 N. Wilmot Rd., Tucson) for a Knitting Night Social. Bring projects you are working on, or come ready to learn with a basic knitting lesson. Mark your calendar now!

[Gina Macaluso](#)

Pima County Public Library



## News from the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science: The AzLA Conference, and Beyond

SIRLS had a significant presence at the recent AzLA Conference here in Tucson. Our booth in the Exhibitors Hall saw a good deal of traffic and was the site of a lot of networking, which we hope will translate into new students at both the master's and doctoral levels. Many alumni/ae enjoyed catching up with the SIRLS staff members who were on hand, including **Polly Mitchell** and **Geraldine Fragoso**. The SIRLS reception was attended by eighty people including full-time faculty members **Bryan Heidorn**, **Cheryl Knott**, **Martin Frické**, **Jana Bradley** and **Tom Wilding**.

Wilding's election as AzLA Vice President / President-Elect was announced at the Conference and his term began on Dec. 1, 2011. Wilding began his long library career (dating back more than fifty years) erasing pencil marks from returned books at the District of Columbia Public Libraries. He moved on to more challenging positions at the Smithsonian Institution, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the University of Texas at Arlington where he served as director. He has been very active in the American Library Association (ALA), serving as president of (what was then) the Library Administration and Management Association, as well as serving several terms on ALA Council. He has also been involved in the International Federation of Library Associations, attending conferences and programs from Glasgow to Bangkok. Wilding also taught as an adjunct at the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University before joining the faculty here at SIRLS. He has been involved in most areas of librarianship, including a short stint in cataloging as a volunteer at the Education Library at *Gardd Fotaneg Genedlaethol Cymru* (the National Botanic Garden of Wales).

SIRLS is pleased to announce the appointment of **Catherine F. Brooks** as Assistant Professor. Her appointment is a joint one between the School of Information Resources & Library Science and the Department of Communication. Dr. Brooks comes to us from California State University/Long Beach. She received her doctorate in Education, Curriculum, and Instruction in 2008 from the University of California/Riverside. Her dissertation examined the differences between classroom dynamics in traditional, face-to-face classes and online classes. She has taught at Fullerton and Shasta Colleges.



**Stephen Stillwell**

## News from SIRLS (cont.)

**Molly Raphael**, President of the American Library Association, delighted SIRLS graduates with her address at the December Commencement Ceremony, in which 41 students received their master's degrees. Raphael and her husband, **Ted**, were fêted at a dinner the night before with faculty, student leaders, and alumni/ae.

Brief notices of faculty, staff, alumni/ae, and student activities:

- **Professor Don Fallis** is a visiting fellow at the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy, & Public Affairs at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He has also given guest lectures at the University of Sheffield and the University of Edinburgh.
- Professor Martin Frické book, *Logic and the Organization of Information* will be published by Springer this spring.
- Articles have been published recently by Jana Bradley (*First Monday*), Don Fallis (*Southern Journal of Philosophy*), Bryan Heidorn (*ASIS&T Bulletin*), **Matthew Helmke** (*Frontier In – Open Access*), and **Kathy Spicer** (*MGLSCA Newsletter*).
- Awards have been received by **Jeffery Cruz** (Margaret Maxwell / Beta Phi Mu Scholarship), **Donna Hanley** (Louise A. Stephens Scholarship), **Jessica Hernandez** (*Federal Computer Week Rising Star*), **Maria Mark** (Bradley Award of King County Library System), and **Lindsey Powers** (AzLA Conference Scholarship).
- Presentations have recently been given by Jeffery Cruz at New South Wales Metropolitan Public Libraries Association SWITCH Conference, Bryan Heidorn (eResearch Australasia), and **Susan Higgins** at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference and **Sandra Littletree** for Pima County Public Library's Growing Librarians. **Patricia Montiel-Overall**, **Peter Botticelli**, Sandra Littletree, and **Richard Chabran** all presented at the REFORMA National Conference.
- SIRLS alums presenting at AzLA included **Rebecca Blakiston**, Peter Botticelli, **Dana Braccia**, Richard Chabran, **Kristl Chavez**, **Ann Clark**, **Mary Feeney**, **Nancy Godoy**, **Ruth Kneale**, **Chris Kollen**, **Jamie Lee**, **Berlin Loa**, **Jim Martin**, **Melodie Moore**, **Jill Newby**, **Richard Prouty**, **Stephan Przybylowicz**, **Elizabeth Soltero**, **Sara Tankersley**, **Melanie Toledo**, **Cecilia Tovar** and Tom Wilding.
- Miscellaneous notes: **Jason Kucsma** has been appointed Executive Director of the Metropolitan New York Library Council. **Rachel Leket-Mor**, at ASU Libraries, has received an ALA/NEH Grant. **Nan Schubel** has retired and returned "home" to Tucson.



*Beta Pi, the local chapter of Beta Phi Mu, welcomed new inductees at a luncheon in their honor during the recent AzLA Conference. Beta Phi Mu is the international library and information studies honor society.*

### [Stephen Stillwell](#)

SIRLS Coordinator of Recruiting and Alumni Affairs

## Emerging Technologies

### Predictions for 2012

Ah, the New Year is a time for optimism, reflection, and predictions for the year ahead. Instead of contemplating the end of the world as we know it, I offer my four library-related technology predictions for 2012. These predictions are based primarily on my own opinion, but-tressed somewhat by my blog addiction--so don't hold me accountable if they don't come true!

**1. Apple will come out with a smaller tablet to compete with Amazon's Kindle Fire.** Rumors abound that Apple is developing a 7-inch version of the iPad. I expect that there's truth to these rumors. Amazon's release and pricing of the Kindle Fire was inspired – a tablet with approximately 2/3 the functionality of the iPad at less than half the cost. Apple will need to respond with a cheaper, more portable tablet or accept that they've just lost a chunk of potential customers who feel the iPad is too darn expensive when they want to stream videos, read books, and play Angry Birds.

**2. Mobile devices will become the dominant leisure technology.** Forget netbooks – tablets and smartphones abound. These devices are convenient, portable, and versatile, and there's an option priced within the reach of nearly any budget. How does this affect libraries? This will become the dominant device for retrieving and reading information. More people are visiting your website from a mobile browser than ever before. More people will want to check out ebooks, read the news, or get help finding the information they want. This barely qualifies as a prediction – we're nearly there already!

**3. Publishers will get a clue about ebooks.**

Okay, this one is a little far-fetched, but I did mention optimism. In 2011, publishers explored their own stupidity in terms of ebooks and it is my hope that they learned something, and will make improvements in 2012. I predict that at least one major publisher will realize that providing ebooks to their customers (readers and libraries) in the formats they want, compatible with all devices, using an easily understandable distribution method, will not only be sound business practice, but will also reduce piracy. It's worked for music for the past five years – it's about time the book industry figured it out.

**4. Some version of the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) will pass.**

I'm ending on a bit of a gloomy note – in case you weren't glued to C-SPAN at the beginning of December, SOPA is a bill introduced in the House in October aimed at stopping copyright infringement online by requiring internet service providers to block access to suspicious content. Anyone who actually understands how the internet works is completely against this legislation as being impractical, impossible, and just wrong on so many levels. However, the supporters have deep pockets and Congress never seems to understand technology. Plus, there's a companion bill in the Senate called the PROTECT IP act. I think it'll pass, and if it does, there'll be repercussions for libraries.

These are my predictions. What about yours?

[Anali Perry](#)

Arizona State University  
Hayden Library

**“Amazon's release and pricing of the Kindle Fire was inspired – a tablet with approximately 2/3 the functionality of the iPad at less than half the cost.”**

Emerging Technologies is sponsored by the MCLC Tech Talk Committee and co-written by Anali Maughan Perry, Assistant Librarian at Arizona State University Libraries, and Vinny Alascia, Librarian II at the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, and Tech Talk Co-Chair. Visit the Tech Talk blog at <http://mclctechtalk.wordpress.com/>.

## YA Corner

### “Best of...” 2011

It's the start of a new year, and that means it's time for the end of the year lists. Before I was a librarian (and mother of a toddler), I loved watching all the movies nominated for the Academy Awards. As a librarian, I love seeing all of the library journals' 'best books of the year' lists. Not only do they help with collection development, they also can provide the basis for displays. One of my co-workers does a "New Year New Books" display, complete with party hats and confetti.

Here are some of my favorite lists to peruse each year:

#### [School Library Journal](#)

This list is about best fiction; there are also lists for picture books, nonfiction and adult books for teens.

#### [Kirkus Review](#)

Kirkus' list offers a wide range of titles—humor, history, love stories, contemporary stories, and, of course fantasy, science fiction and paranormal stories.

#### [Publisher's Weekly](#)

This list's website is the nicest, and is filled with information; each page covers a single title. Of course, that means this will take a bit longer to go through the entire list which includes material for all ages.

Don't forget about the booklists from the [Young Adult Library Services Association](#) and the coveted [Printz Award](#) which will be released later in January. The [Best Fiction for Young Adults](#) list makes a great bibliography for teens to take home and use all year long.

While these lists show the quality literature available to teens, most don't talk about popularity. Everyone knows that teen literature has lately been inundated with paranormal tales of varying quality. Still, it's important to take a look at the most popular titles as well as those of the highest quality, since as librarians we also provide material for entertainment. It's the best of both worlds when they merge together.

[YALSA's Quick Picks](#) list takes popularity into account with their booklist, which is geared towards reluctant readers. I have found in my library that the fiction titles don't always grab my users' attention, but the nonfiction is typically pretty good since it tends to be of the more browseable variety that does not get reviewed by journals.

Happy New Year, and Happy Reading!

#### [Kristin Fletcher-Spear](#)

Teen Librarian II  
Foothills Branch Library (Glendale)



**Kristin Fletcher-Spear**

## ON THE PL ROAD: Mesa Express Library

I recently visited the Mesa Express Library, located at 2055 South Power Road in the Power Square Mall, just southeast of Baseline and Power Roads.

According to the library's website, the City of Mesa sits on land once occupied by the Hohokams. Their canal system was later used by the first Latter Day Saint settlers who arrived as part of the First Mesa Company in 1878. Mesa was incorporated in 1883 and today has an estimated 468,000 residents.



*Entrance to the Power Square Mall.*

The first Mesa library opened in 1906 as a reading room maintained by volunteers until the city took it over in 1926. The current facility was constructed in 1981. Mesa's first branch library opened in 1985, to be joined by the Dobson Ranch Library in 1987. The Mesa Express Library opened in May of 2011. According to the Arizona Republic, the sale of books and other materials cover operating costs. Voter-approved bonds and development impact fees on new construction paid for the reno-



**Louis Howley**

## On the PL Road (cont.)

ventions, equipment, and inventory.

Scott Jamieson and Lanty Snelson are full-time staffers who run the library along with 21 volunteers. The Library occupies 3,430 sq. ft. and houses more than 11,000 items. It does not offer programs or events.

The Library, affectionately dubbed “Mel,” is a large open room, subdivided by shelves on wheels. The new books are directly ahead of the entrance, with A/V items surrounding a lounge area with large comfortable chairs. The ten public PCs are along the right wall, as is a display screen featuring library and community highlights.

The service desk is to the left. Behind it is the nonfiction and children’s area where picture books and children’s A/V material occupy the center space. Adult fiction sits in the back right of the Library.



*The Mesa Express Library.*

A Correction: In the last issue of the AzLA Newsletter I wrote that the new Prescott Valley Public Library opened on Oct. 10, 1999, when I knew that it opened on Oct. 10, 2009. I regret the error.

[Louis Howley](#)  
Phoenix Public Library

## The Children’s Author/Illustrator Network

As a reminder, the Author/Illustrator Network has moved, and is now posted on the [AzLA website](#). This move was made when it became apparent that the newsletter’s new, every-other-month publication schedule would impact on the currency of the Network’s programming information for librarians and educators statewide. The online version of the Network is updated as changes occur.

Look for the Children’s Author/Illustrator Network on the AzLA homepage under “Quick Links.” The AzLA Newsletter will continue to

link to the listing as well.

Author/Illustrator programs are the delight of children, teachers and parents, and Arizona librarians are fortunate to have a one-stop shop for calendars, contact and scheduling information of local and visiting authors. We are grateful to Mary Wong who generously keeps the list updated and makes herself available for providing information and scheduling visits.