

**AzLA 2000 Books, Bytes and Beyond!**

About 900 librarians and vendors attended the AzLA conference, Books, Bytes and Beyond! November 15-17. Orson Scott Card was the conference keynote. Teri Metros is the new President of AzLA and Robert Shupe was elected President-elect. There were 82 exhibits. AzLA always has a strong and popular showing of authors.

**AzLA**

The AzLA conference planning committee has had a post-conference de-briefing in preparation for planning for the joint AzLA/MPLA conference scheduled for December 5-7, 2001.

January 25, 2001 is the annual Legislative Day.

AzLA has a new web location – azla.org and is processing a member survey, looking forward to an organizational re-structuring.

**Gates Foundation Grants**

Computers are starting to arrive as part of the Arizona State Partnership Program with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The total value of the Gates grant to Arizona will be close to \$5 million.

**University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS)**

Dr. Brooke Sheldon begins as the Dean of SIRLS on January 1st. Three new faculty are being recruited. Four interns from the library school are part of the Gates Library Program.

**Convocation of Arizona Libraries, Archives and Museums**

The third annual convocation of library, archive and museum professionals will be March 4-5 in Prescott. Kathie Dengler and Richard Battle from the Strong Museum, Rochester, New York will be the featured speakers discussing the paradigm shift in the museum that happened as a result of their guest service priority.

**2<sup>nd</sup> State Conference of Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums**

The Institute of Museum and Library Service is sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arizona State Conference of Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums this year at the Blue Water Resort in Parker. This year's conference will focus on topics related to issues of culture, community advocacy, and tribal archives. Training in library development, archive management, and museum collections will also be offered.

Jane Kolbe  
Arizona Representative to MPLA  
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