

ST-1

Arizona Library Association Report, July 2006  
Submitted by Shirley Condit, Arizona Representative

- Gates Replacement Grant – Arizona is the recipient of the new Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation computer replacement grant. The grants began rolling out to the most needy states first and Arizona was one of the first states to receive this grant. We received a grant of about \$1 million. The goal of the grant is to assist libraries granted computers between 1997 and 2000 in upgrading their systems with hardware which will be easier to support and upgrade in the future. The grant will be used to fund replacement of hardware such as CPUs, monitors, keyboards, and mice. Arizona will be providing 644 replacement computers for our public and tribal libraries. Grant funds also can be used for upgrades to software, support services, and installation and configuration (i.e. the installation or purchase of Centurion Guard tool or security software installation and configuration).
- Statewide Databases – The Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, Maricopa County and Pima County have collaborated to provide a group of databases that are now available to all residents in the State of Arizona. The databases were selected to meet a wide range of community needs such as homework help for children with products from Grolier and ProQuest, as well as adult needs with products from Gale and Ebsco. The first phase of this project rolled out July 1st.
- Tribal Library Gathering – the first Arizona Tribal Gathering was in May and a second is scheduled for September. The tribal libraries worked on a mission and vision statement for their unique situation. They exchanged ideas for programming and the summer reading program, as well as other ways they can support each other. Staff from the Arizona State Library were in attendance to discuss how the State Library can best help them meet their goals.

Arizona Webjunction – is one year old this month (<http://az.webjunction.org>). Not only does our local page provide information about what's happening around the state but it also has an extensive Learning Center which provides links to over 100 free online courses for library staff. WebJunction announced that the results of the first annual "Member Choice Awards" for outstanding work in the community. One of the winners from Arizona is Editor Mala Muralidharan from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, for her willingness to share ideas and collaborate across Community Partners to make WJ better for library and museum staff."