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Arizona Library Association Report, April 2008
Submitted by Shirley Condit, Arizona Representative

- 2008 OneBookAZ - Arizona readers are currently “These is My Words” by Nancy E. Turner for the 2008 OneBookAZ. Kids are reading “Danger in the Desert” by Terri Fields. Go to <http://onebookaz.org/> for more information about these books.
- Mesa School District – has decided to eliminate all school librarians, nurses and speech pathologists in their school district. Library Media Specialists will be sent back to the classroom. Mesa (in the Phoenix area) has 87 schools and serves 74,000 students and has been one of the top school districts in the country. Librarians are being urged to attend the board meeting on Tuesday, April 22nd carrying signs in support of the District’s librarians. Parents and other constituents of the District are being urged to sign up for a 3 minute talk during the board meeting to discuss why a school library staffed with a certified teacher-librarian is vital.
- MaintainIT – Arizona is an active participant in TechSoup’s “MaintainIT” project. This project produces Cookbooks that address common Library computer issues. The Cookbook Co-hort is a forum that allows you to connect with other librarians to discuss problems, projects and success stories. Join today by going to <http://maintainitproject.org/cookbookcohort>
- Big Picture Presentations - Through a free workshop series, forward-thinking library leaders and influencers from around the country will provide insight, inspiration, and innovative ideas for Arizona libraries. Topics include:
 - April 10: Taking Informed Risks and Learning from Failure. Presenter: Donna Nicely, Director, Nashville Public Library
 - May 14: Creating Community Dialogue. Presenter: Nancy Tessman, former Director, Salt Lake City Library
 - July 15: Leading Change. Presenter: Scott Jacobson, Valley Leadership
 - Sept. 16: Creating the Community of the Future. Presenter: Will Bruder, architect.

This series is part of Leadership Academy 2008, a project sponsored and funded by Arizona State Library, Phoenix Public Library, Scottsdale Public Library and Chandler Public Library.

- Arizona Memory Project - is growing by leaps and bounds. Just over a year old, the project has over 30 online collections of primary sources related to Arizona’s rich culture. Full text searching allows users to explore the collection for government documents, historical artifacts, photos, and even oral histories. Check out the site and see what you can discover. <http://azmemory.lib.az.us/>