

ST-6  
State Report - Nevada  
March 2011  
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### **Nevada Library Association**

The Nevada Library Legislative Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, in Carson City, Nevada. The day begins with a presentation by our NLA lobbyist and a discussion of the Nevada State Library and Archives budget and reorganization, after which participants will walk to the legislative building to attend an Assembly floor session. After lunch, librarians are free to meet with legislators by appointment. Sara Jones, Director of the Carson City Library, is making the necessary arrangements. Librarians may be seated on the floor with a legislator by request.

The Churchill County Library will be closed on April 13<sup>th</sup> so that librarians can travel to Carson City to speak for our public libraries. NLA President Barbara Mathews will be present.

The Nevada Library Association Conference is planned for October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in Carson City, Nevada. The theme for this year's conference is "To Boldly Go Where No One Has Gone Before." Program proposals are now being accepted.

### **Nevada Young Readers' Award Program**

The Nevada Young Readers' Award Program is a division within NLA.

Voting is in progress for the four categories of the 2011 Nevada Young Readers' Award. Voting must be completed by May 15<sup>th</sup>, after which winners will be announced. Winning authors will be honored at the Nevada Library Association Conference in October. Winners of the 2010 awards are as follows:

Picture Book category:	<i>Chester</i> by Melanie Watts
Young Reader:	<i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> by Kate DiCamillo
Intermediate:	<i>Unwind</i> by Neal Shusterman
Young Adult:	<i>The Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins

The new list of nominated books for 2012 has been chosen but has not yet been posted on the Nevada Library Association website.

### **Nevada State Library and Archives**

The Nevada Library Directors Meeting is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup>, in Carson City, in conjunction with the Library Legislative Day. One of the topics of discussion will almost certainly be the proposal by Governor Brian Sandoval (R) to eliminate the Department of Cultural Affairs, reversing Governor Bob Miller's process of pulling cultural departments together. This would require the Library and Archives to become part of the Administration's IT department. State museums and the Arts Council would become part of the Nevada Commission on

Tourism, and Historic Preservation and the Comstock Historic District would move to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Consumer Health Services workshops, provided by NSLA with LSTA funding from IMLS, are scheduled for April 4 (Reno), April 5 (Hawthorne), and April 8 (Las Vegas.) Each day encompasses two workshops: mornings will be devoted to workshops called Health Information for Kids and Teens and Seniors, Oh My!, and afternoons will feature Health & Wellness @ the Library: The Essentials of Providing Consumer Health Services. The workshops are presented by Kelli Ham, MLIS, Consumer Health Coordinator for the National Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Southwest Region (NN / LM PSR).

### **Library news and information:**

The BTOP (Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program) computers are being installed statewide. Installation has been completed in Churchill County, Carson City, Humboldt County, the Nevada State Library and Archives, and some branches of the Lyon County Library System. Installation is still to come in the remainder of the Lyon County libraries, Elko County, Tonopah, and White Pine.

As is true in many states, Nevada faces huge budget shortfalls at the state and county levels. The State Legislature is in session, and Governor Brian Sandoval's proposed budget imposes huge cuts on education at the State, University and District levels on top of significant cuts in the past two years. It's uncertain what the Governor's reorganization plan to place the Nevada State Library and Archives under the Administration's IT department would mean to the services it will be able to provide. Libraries in Nevada have already shortened hours, cut staff and positions, and leaned heavily on volunteer help, and they're facing even more drastic measures. Library expenditures in school libraries in the state, in many areas, fell more than 65% below expenditures for collection development in the previous two years, and even then, those expenditures were less than \$4.00 per pupil per year. While there seems to be little support for library services and education at the administrative level, some state legislators have indicated support, although the depth of Nevada's financial doldrums may force cuts under even the best scenario. It is a time when all who care about libraries and education need to speak out, to delineate the value of libraries to students and to the general populace, and to make those points to legislators.

"Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries."

--- Anne Herbert, quoted in *The Next Whole Earth Catalog* (1980).