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2013 Conference



The CLA 2013
Conference
will be held on
April 29-30
at
Crowne Plaza
Hartford -
Cromwell.

The Most Famous Poster in the World

By Carl R. DeMilia, CLA President 2012-2013

James Montgomery Flagg contributed forty-six posters for the war effort as the United States entered World War I. His most famous and most easily recognizable poster depicts Uncle Sam, index finger extended with the caption of "I Want You for the U.S. Army". The poster was originally published as the cover of Leslie's Weekly on July 6, 1916.

According to Flagg, this became "the most famous poster in the world", selling over four million copies between 1917 and 1918. This iconic poster certainly hit the mark in its request as a recruitment tool for that conflict and went on to be reutilized during World War II.

Since it was originally published, the poster has been co-opted to solicit all sorts of causes. In viewing some of the more current uses of the poster I thought it would be great to use this poster again but for a more local theme and to change the wording slightly to "I Want You for CLA."

Why does CLA want you? CLA is your professional association. For CLA to continue to be vital, to be successful, the association needs two things. First, we need new ideas; new visions of what CLA can strive to be for its members. Second, we need new people who are willing to take the step forward professionally to participate actively in the association. We need your energy and passion for libraries and the work we all do.

So I call on you now. Join if you are not a member. Renew to continue your membership. Become an active member by participating in a section or committee. Run for an elected position. Help make CLA a stronger and better able to represent Connecticut's library community.

Carl DeMilia is
Director of the
New Milford Public
Library.



LSTA Success Story by Douglas Lord



Hartford Public Library employees (above) attend a cultural diversity workshop presented by Bill Howe (below.)



As youth services personnel from the [Hartford Public Library](#) system's ten different branch locations trickle in to a recent workshop, most grab coffee and chat as they find seats around a horseshoe of tables. At the front of the room, presenter [Bill Howe](#) stands with a welcoming, friendly look on his face.

Brought in as a speaker on the topic of cultural diversity, Howe's unassuming demeanor belies his Grade-A credentials as program manager for culturally responsive education, multicultural education, bullying & harassment, gender equity and civil rights at the Connecticut Department of Education. He is also an adjunct professor of education at the University of Connecticut, Albertus Magnus College and Quinnipiac University and chairs the [Connecticut Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission](#).

Howe is here today courtesy of a [Library Services and Technology Act](#) (LSTA) grant from the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) in Washington, D.C. as administered by the [Connecticut State Library](#).

The Hartford Public Library received a \$25,876 grant to establish a multicultural Family Welcome Initiative. While books representative of the dozens of languages spoken in Hartford, family programming, and translation services are important components of the project, so is cementing the library's welcoming service culture. A project can be full to the ceiling with materials and resources in a patron's home language, but Hartford's long-time experiences in the

multicultural game have shown that welcoming staff are mission critical.

And that's why the engaging, witty Howe is here. By using examples from his personal life and from today's attendees, Howe covers learning in diverse environments amid different cultures and ethnicities.

Though it is structured, Howe's presentation is not a canned lecture. It features much discussion with attendees as well as a complex language immersion group activity that is both frustrating and hilarious. Throughout, Howe skillfully keys his remarks to the input of the group. Amid the casual atmosphere and laughter, it's clear that attendees are engaged and learning.

Howe makes some revealing cases in point when discussing simple cultural differences. Similarities between different cultures' coming-of-age rites like [Sweet 16](#) parties, [Bat Mitzvahs](#), and [Quinceañeras](#) are minimal. And yet when discussing terms like 'adulthood' and marriage, differences can be extreme. Urban black teenage boys are often considered the 'man of the use' in stark contrast to their suburban counterparts who live ten miles away. And while the younger end of marriageable ages in many Asian and African countries are acceptable there, they can be illegal when these populations come to the U.S.

Howe's coverage also includes learning in multicultural environments. "Culture," says Howe, "affects every-

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thing. But it especially affects learning.”

As educators, librarians should be mindful that different cultures have distinct learning styles. Howe notes that the learning style of the African American culture helps members understand issues holistically, not piecemeal, and that members usually strongly prefer oral presentations. Frequent use of inferences and occasional approximations of figures (e.g., time, numbers) is also common. Asian Americans, says Howe, show high levels of concentration and persistence, refuse to challenge teachers (an indication of disrespect), tend toward modesty and eschew physical contact. Asian Americans also exhibit a level of conformity that may inhibit creativity. Much different from both of these is the Hispanic/Latino style, characterized by involvement of extended family and cooperative groups in learning, tendencies toward displays of affection and physical closeness, and lack of fear in initiating and maintaining meaningful communication with adults.

Using fascinating examples from standardized tests, Howe also spent time explaining cultural biases in American education. One multiple choice question asked “When you are making a purchase in a store, which is better to use” with two possible answers: A) Check or B) Cash. The answer is completely culturally dependent and supports no possible educative purpose; in fact, the ‘correct’ answer reflects a bias that rewards white, middle class responders. Another question concerned matching analogies between

“Strawberry is to Red” to one of five options, the correct answer being “Lemon is to Yellow.” However, the word ‘limon’ in Mexico means ‘lime.’ Limes are green, so this question would, most likely, not be answerable by Chicanos.

Rather than bemoan cultural biases, however, Howe encouraged attendees to instead move forward, offering many concrete, workable strategies for librarians to adequately serve all cultures. Indeed, Howe notes that ESL students tend to develop “better” learning skills as they need to work harder for success in a system ‘rigged’ against them.

Howe also opines that teaching parents to teach kids to read is the most important thing libraries do.

Among Howe’s eleven Strategies for Linguistically Diverse Students are, “Embrace dual-language strategies,” “Use cross-age and peer tutoring,” and “Help children build social capital.”

Howe shared fourteen Strategies for Educating Diverse Students, including, “Encourage active participation of parents or guardians,” “Tap into students’ backgrounds to enhance learning,” and “Identify and dispel stereotypes.”

Howe also encouraged attendees to look beyond library walls to known winners such as the [Harlem Children’s Village’s Baby College](#) program -- a series of workshops for parents of children ages 0–3.

Opportunities for learning more are available by joining the Connecticut State Library’s [WELCOME](#) group and listserv.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CLASS Professional Development 2012 Conference

An opportunity for library support staff to learn new skills and to learn from and network with fellow support staff members from throughout the state.

October 26, 2012
8:45 AM - 3:00 PM

CLA Publicity Committee - Fall Program - PR Tune-Up

PR Tune-Up - Meet with professional designers and improve your PR

October 29, 2012
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Young Adult Section Annual Meeting

"Understanding the Teenage Mind" & "Thinking Big and Going Deep"

November 15, 2012
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

CLA Technical Services Section Fall 2012 Program

An Overview of Non-MARC Metadata

November 15, 2012
9:15 AM - 12:45 PM

CLA CULS Fall Program - Mobilizing the Academic Library: Integrating Mobile Devices and Apps into College and University Libraries

Ipad Programs at Framingham State University and Mobile App Use at UCONN Medical School

November 19, 2012
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM



When I am king, they shall not have bread and shelter only, but also teachings out of books, for a full belly is little worth where the mind is starved.

- *The Prince and the Pauper*

Behind the Scenes by Jennifer Datum

The making of the video for ALA's 50 State Salute

Have you visited the Mark Twain House & Museum lately? My family and I did two summers ago, and we all enjoyed a tour of the house and a visit to the museum. The Museum Center was opened in 2003, and according to the website, “offers guests an opportunity to learn more about Mark Twain, his family, the historic house, and the author's legacy.” What an incredible resource we have right here in Connecticut to learn more about the man who wrote the classic novel The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, who lived in that house in Hartford from 1874—1891.

When Peter Chase of Plainville Library, and Chair of the CLA Intellectual Freedom Com-

mittee learned of the ALA “50 State Salute to Banned Books Week,” he thought of Mark Twain and his Connecticut connection.

As the ALA website states, Banned Books Week 2012 marks the 30th anniversary of the yearly celebration of the freedom to read. Each state was invited to submit a short video highlighting how they celebrate that freedom.

Chase contacted the staff at the Mark Twain House & Museum, and collaborated on the script with Carl DeMilia. They consulted with Robert Dowling, Professor of English at Central Connecticut State University. CLA President. Jay Johnston and Laura Horn of Farmington Library filmed the piece.

The video features Carl DeMilia reading a passage from The Ad-

ventures of Huckleberry Finn while sitting in the library in Mark Twain's house. An original edition of the book rests on the table next to him. As DeMilia states before he reads a passage of the book, it “is one of the most challenged and banned books because Huck Finn uses an offensive term to refer to slaves.” He goes on to encourage viewers to use the book as “an opportunity for learning rather than censorship.”

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity for DeMilia, and a great way for Connecticut to celebrate the freedom to read.

Special thanks to the Mark Twain House & Museum, and Mallory Howard, Museum Assistant.

Check out the video on the CLA website and the ALA channel on YouTube.

National Information Literacy Awareness



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Governor Dannel P. Malloy signed a proclamation declaring October to be Information Literacy Awareness Month! Congratulations to Carl Antonucci - co-chair Connecticut Library Association Legislative Committee - Director of Library Services Central Connecticut State University; Jay Johnston - co-chair Connecticut Library Association Legislative Committee - Executive Director Farmington Libraries; Carl DeMilia - President Connecticut Library Association - Director of Library Services New Milford Public Library who led this successful effort!

There are now 10 states that have proclamations: Alaska, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Texas.

Visit the [National Forum on Information Literacy](#) for more information.

Children's Section by Lynn Zaffino

The CLA Children's Section Annual Meeting was held on Friday, September 21st at the Easton Public Library. It was attended by 58 people. The theme of the meeting was "Tuning In, Reaching Out." The program began with Susan Cormier, Children's Services Consultant/Director of the Willimantic Library Service Center, who spoke about the wonderful products and resources that the Connecticut State Library has to offer for Children's Librarians. Next, Mary Beth Rassulo, Children's Librarian at the Ridgefield Library, presented an informative and interesting program on school collaboration, in which she shared some of the ways that she reaches out to and works with the schools in her community. The morning was rounded out with a program on community outreach and partnership, which was presented by Andrea Falkner,

Head of the Children's Library at the Wilton Library, and Lesley Keogh, Children's Assistant at the Wilton Library. They talked about several outreach programs that the Wilton Library has been involved with, such as the Peabody Museum Paleo-Knowledge Bowl. A delicious lunch, catered by Panino's of Monroe, was served from 12:00 – 1:00. Then at 1:00 we reconvened for our keynote speaker, Michael Sullivan, who presented an inspiring program on connecting boys with books. Michael was a dynamic speaker who had the audience fully engaged in his presentation, which was informative and extremely relevant. This keynote address was sponsored by CT Humanities, and their sponsorship is greatly appreciated. The Children's Section made a profit of \$1104.33, and initial feedback from the meeting has been very positive.

Fairfield University is a Jesuit University, rooted in one of the world's oldest intellectual and spiritual traditions.

More than 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students from 36 states, 47 foreign countries, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are enrolled in the University's five schools. In the spirit of rigorous and sympathetic inquiry into all dimensions of human experience, Fairfield welcomes students from diverse backgrounds to share ideas and engage in open conversations. The University is located in the heart of a region where the future takes shape, on a stunning campus on the Connecticut coast.

DigitalCommons@Fairfield initiative logs 1,000th item by Meg McCaffrey

In the less than six months since the launch of DigitalCommons@Fairfield initiative by Fairfield University's DiMenna- Nyselius Library, more than 1,000 scholarly items have been catalogued and are now available in this open access institutional repository. To date, thousands of researchers from the University and around the world have downloaded materials. Essentially an online library of research papers, conferences and scholarly videos, the project highlights the scholarship of Fairfield faculty.

"This is quite an accomplishment since we publicly launched it only in April 2012," said Nina Peri, project coordinator of Digital Commons@Fairfield noting the 1,000th item logged in was "Amazigh Activism and the Moroccan State," an article by Associate Professor Dr. David Crawford, co-written by Paul Silverstein. "Since then, we have recorded 6,440 downloads from all over the world."

"DigitalCommons is part of an effort by Fairfield University librarians to increase the visibility of faculty members' scholarship, maximize its research impact, and contribute to worldwide accessibility," said Joan Overfield, University Librarian. Its platform is optimized

for visibility through Google, Google Scholar and other search engines.

The institutional repository also includes a unique video collection "American Scholars of Religion," which showcases Professor Al Benney's interviews of major theologians. This collection was recently named an exemplar work by Bepress, the leading hosted solution for institutional repositories. Dr. Benney, professor of Religious Studies, has been working on the "American Scholars of Religion" project for more than a decade, and worked with Jackie Kremer, Outreach Librarian, to mount the collection. Inquiring about immortality, feminism and belief, he has interviewed such major figures as Margaret Farley from Yale, David Tracy from the University of Chicago, and Fr. John O'Malley, S.J., from Georgetown. In a nod to DigitalCommons, Bepress noted: "True to the spirit of the project, Kremer and Benney have found ways to educate students on the subject matter through the work of publishing the massive collection."

You can explore DigitalCommons by going to <http://digitalcommons.fairfield.edu>.



Connecticut's professional organization of over 1,000 librarians, library staff, friends, and trustees working together: to improve library service to Connecticut, to advance the interests of librarians, library staff, and librarianship, and to increase public awareness of libraries and library services.

CLA Today is the newsletter of the Connecticut Library Association. Published every other month, it is posted to the CLA website. Please send submissions for future issues to editor Jennifer Datum at editor@ctlibrarians.org.

If you are interested in serving on the Editorial Board, contact Douglas Lord at Douglas.Lord@ct.gov.

www.ctlibraryassociation.org

Someone, Somewhere Did Something Fantastic!

by Sally Tornow, Region One Representative

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The CLA Awards Committee wants lots of submissions this year for the various awards that CLA offers because we know fantastic accomplishments were made throughout 2012. If you know of a deserving someone, give them the chance for the recognition they deserve. Nominations will open on January 1st, so keep an eye on the CLA Awards page (www.ctlibraryassociation.org/content.php?page=Awards_Scholarships_Grants) and see the list of awards below.

Outstanding Librarian

This award honors the career accomplishments of a librarian who has demonstrated an outstanding record of service to both his or her library and to the library profession. The following categories suggest areas in which the nominee may have rendered significant service: Development of outstanding service in field of expertise, e.g. reference, children's services, administrative, or technical services; involvement in statewide leadership; encouragement of community/institutional support for the library. Preference will be given to nominees who have achieved in more than one area. The nominee must be a member of CLA.

Special Achievement

This award honors an individual who has implemented a significant project or initiated an innovative program during the year. The achievement being honored should have had significant impact on the library, the community, or the library profession; and be timely, taking place within the past year. This award may be given to the same individual more than once. The Awards Committee reserves the right to present more than one Special Achievement Award.

News Media Award

This award honors an individual journalist or news organization for coverage of libraries and/or the principles of librarianship in an exemplary way during the past year. The nominee may be an individual, such as a reporter or columnist; an editorial board; or a news organization such as a newspaper, magazine, radio or TV station. Exemplary media coverage can be evidenced through editorials, features, news reporting and/or special event reporting. Coverage may focus on library issues such as services to special populations and other appropriate topics. Copies of articles and other material should be submitted with this nomination.

Intellectual Freedom

This award recognizes an individual for the demonstration of

extraordinary personal courage in the defense of intellectual freedom; or for the implementation of a successful and creative project developed to raise awareness of intellectual freedom issues; or for a published work on intellectual freedom.

Adeline Mix Award

This award honors a full or part-time student in an approved graduate or undergraduate program, and enables the student to attend the CLA Annual Conference in April 2013. A grant of \$250 will be awarded to cover conference registration, meals, and accommodations. Applicants must be a member of CLA, and the winner must sign an agreement promising to attend the Awards Ceremony and to write a brief article on his or her impressions of the conference for Connecticut Libraries. Applications may be no longer than two typed pages and must include the following information: status of current library school studies, education, degrees and honors, statement of need, and completion of a narrative describing how attendance at the conference will assist the candidate's professional development.

Support Staff of the Year

This award promotes the role and image of library assistants and support staff in the library and information science fields. It also recognizes the importance of support staff and their image in the library profession. Nominees must be currently working in the library profession in Connecticut in a support staff position. Self-nominations will be accepted. Criteria for nomination may include any or all of the following: 1) outstanding service to the library profession, 2) exemplary involvement in library assistant activities at the local, state, regional, or national levels, 3) leading training sessions or submitting articles to professional publications (including local and state newsletters, online articles, etc.), 4) promotion of support staff development, or 5) noteworthy achievements in the local workplace.

Supporter of Support Staff of the Year

This award recognizes library administrative staff who promote the role of library assistants and support staff in the library and information science fields. Nominees must be currently working in the library profession in Connecticut. Self-nominations will be accepted. Criteria for nomination may include any or all of the following: 1) promotion of support staff development, 2) exemplary involvement in library assistant activities at the local, state, regional, or national levels, or 3) publication of professional writing or presentation of professional programs/workshops on the role of support staff in libraries.