



# KASL News

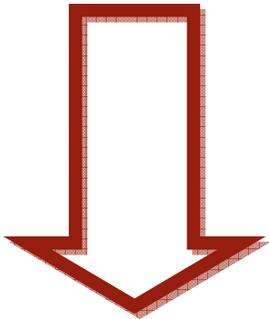
Vol. 3 No. 3

February 24, 2006

## Report from the Educational Organizations Contact Chair

Ann Schuster Mansfield

At our November KASL Council meeting we addressed a request by the Kansas Learning First Alliance, to which we as an organization belong, to hold a conversation among our Council membership determining the contributions KASL makes in the teaching and learning of Kansas students. Below are the results of that conversation. All KLFA member organizations will have their conversations completed by this June and information will be compiled and distributed to us all later this year.



### Kansas Association of School Librarians Conversation report-Nov., 12, 2005

#### Inside this issue:

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| KASL Conversation Report .....     | 1    |
| From the President .....           | 2    |
| From the President Elect .....     | 3    |
| Officer Elections.....             | 4    |
| Professional Partners Program .... | 5    |
| OverDrive .....                    | 5    |
| Reviews.....                       | 6, 7 |
| Summer Institute Info.....         | 9    |
| TEAMS Award Info.....              | 10   |

What does KASL contribute toward making Kansas first in the nation in teaching and learning?

#### Organization responsibilities:

- to provide professional guidance and development opportunities for members of our organization and others in the field of K-12 education
- to continually refine teaching strategies, especially related to the use of information, which improve student learning
- to promote collaboration between teachers and librarians, on an individual basis as well as between KASL and organizations/ individuals who are stakeholders in education
- to act as an advocate for the profession by establishing policies which promote the role of the school library/media specialist; bringing to attention issues which affect the profession
- to encourage leadership both within, and extending beyond, our organization

#### System supports needed:

- adequate funding for school library facilities, materials and personnel at local, state and national levels
- school administrative support that reinforces lines of communication which send and receive information concerning issues related to student learning, school libraries and library media specialists
- establishment of "highly qualified" status for library media specialists as it is defined in NCLB guidelines

*Continued on page 10*

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## KASL Officers

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### *From your KASL President.....*

#### **President:**

Linda Roberts  
lroberts@usd246.org

#### **Past President:**

Ann Schuster  
aschuster@bluevalleyk12.org

#### **President-Elect**

Martha House  
mhouse@cgrove417.org

#### **Secretary**

Nora Jones  
nora.jones@mcperson.com

#### **Treasurer**

Anita Brozik  
abrozik@usd260.com

#### **Assistant Treasurer**

Jane Maresch  
jane.maresch@usd305.com

#### **Parliamentarian**

Jane Barnard  
jbarnard@usd394.com

#### **Historian**

Anita Boese  
aboese@teen.k12.ks.us

#### **Executive Secretary**

Judy Eller  
judy.eller@wichita.edu



Greetings!

Sunday morning in San Antonio found Martha and I intensely engaged as delegates at the 2006 AASL Affiliate Assembly. Not a minute of the four-hour meeting was wasted as Diane Chen, Affiliate Assembly Chair, ran the meeting effectively and provided behind-the-scenes leadership.

To address the “65 percent solution”, a new AASL work group, the Instructional Classification Task Force, has been formed. In support of school librarians, the ALA Council adopted a resolution on January 22, 2006 calling for a coordinated national effort to classify school librarians as instructional staff and to recognize the impact of state-certified school librarians on student achievement.

Another task force will be reviewing Information Power and making a recommendation in June as to whether or not the current standards will be updated. In response to the concern that teacher and administrator programs do not value the importance of school librarians, a call for development of online courses and a toolkit is being made. Since the voting turnout of approximately 10,000 AASL members has been low in recent elections, the AASL Strategic Plan will address involvement of AASL members in order for school librarians to have greater influence in ALA.

Cassandra G. Barnett, a school library media specialist at Fayetteville (Ark.) High School, and Sara Kelly Johns, a school library media specialist at Lake Placid (N.Y.) Middle/Senior High School, have announced their candidacy for the office of AASL president. Both candidates addressed the delegates, and election polls will open on March 15, 2006 and close on April 24, 2006.

A few other important items discussed at the Affiliate Assembly were a) announcement of the Fall Forum “Assessing Student Learning in the School Library Media Center” set for October 13 -15, 2006, in Rhode Island; b) an upcoming visit to Kansas by an AASL officer in 2007 – 2008; and c) the opportunity to register with <http://grants.gov>, which unifies access to federal grants offered by over 1,000 agencies.

Now, back to Kansas and a look at two opportunities we have to help victims of Katrina. First, our Council decided at the November meeting to have a donation box available at the KASL Tri-Conference Luncheon for individuals and/or groups to give monetary gifts to be sent through the ALA Hurricane Katrina Library Relief Fund by KASL. Second, if you are planning to attend ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans during June, you might consider joining an effort called “Libraries Build Communities”. This disaster relief event will give you a chance to volunteer for a full-day community service project to help rebuild libraries.

Last of all, I want to invite all of you to attend Tri-Conference and watch for updates on activities scheduled during the conference. It is such a great time to get acquainted with members and enhance our knowledge base!

Sincerely,

*Linda Roberts*

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## Greetings from your President–Elect . . .

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Dear KASL members:

Consider this letter the Shotgun Approach to Communication. I have so much to say that I fear you may be overwhelmed. I'm hoping it won't be fatal, though. If you begin to expire, pick just one issue or one link to explore, and let everything else ride.

I promised you an update regarding the issues surrounding the Instructional Classification of School Librarians. AASL submitted the ALA Resolution on the Instructional Classification of School Librarians at ALA Midwinter last month in San Antonio, and it passed. The resolution is long because this is such a complex issue, but the full transcript may be found at the following address: <http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6302342.html>

Barbara Stripling reported on the process of crafting and submitting the resolution at AASL Affiliate, and I was very encouraged by what she had to say. NCEC (National Center for Education Statistics) will consider change of those classifications in 2007. We need to continue educating our Kansas state and federal legislators, since background knowledge is essential when these issues arise. After all, the ALA lobbyist cannot do it all.

On the state level, KASL contributes to the KLA lobby, and they have been extremely supportive of school library issues. This is your KASL dues money at work in a very practical way. KLA Legislative Day is February 16, 2006 <<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KLA/legislation/index.html>>, and the push card includes the following:

**Provide Sufficient K-12 Education Funding to Ensure Every Kansas Child the Advantage of a School Library. Kansas needs well-educated people who are prepared to contribute to their communities as workers and involved citizens. Well funded school libraries, staffed by licensed school library media specialists provide needed books, information, and instruction to develop 21st century skills for productive and informed Kansans.**

The entire push card is available at [http://ice.emporia.edu/2006 Legis Priorities.pdf](http://ice.emporia.edu/2006_Legis_Priorities.pdf) A school library voice is very important at Legislative Day, so if you want to be involved, you will be more than welcome. A registration form is available at the KLA Legislative Day website above.

If you are an ALA member, please consider voting in the ALA election to heighten the voice of school librarians within the organization. Voting begins March 15.

If you are feeling particularly brave, consider checking out AASL's grand vision, their Strategic Plan. <<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aboutaasl/aaslgovernance/aaslstrategicplanning/strategicplanning.htm>> I think this is a brilliant and exciting piece of work. The Plan is very clearly written and interesting to read. I think it has the potential to positively impact every school librarian.

Speaking of positive impact, Tri-Conference 2006 will be in Wichita, April 5-7. All the information, including the registration form, pre-conference details, lodging information, the full Schedule of Events, and keynote speaker biographies, is available online. <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/tricon/2006/> Be sure and register before March 22. It's \$15 cheaper! Some of you were extremely helpful in assisting the Tri-Conference Planning Committee work out the kinks in the new online delivery system. Thanks! I always appreciate your feedback, suggestions, questions, and comments, so don't hesitate to let me know what you are thinking. I'm only an e-mail away. [mhouse@cgrove417.org](mailto:mhouse@cgrove417.org)

I can't resist mentioning one more article that is definitely worth reading.

- SLJ.com's article "Sixty-five Percent Is No Solution" by Brian Kenney, Editor in Chief  
<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6302205.html>

AND, here are some blog sites that are worth visiting if you are still with me! I have been encouraged by the interesting and helpful library blogs that have been cropping up on the web. Maybe one of them will be worth a daily visit.

- YALSA's blog <http://blogs.ala.org/index.php?blog=5>
- Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library's PaperCuts blog <http://papercuts.tscpl.org/>
- Young Adult ARCs (that's Advance Reader's Copy) blog < <http://yaarc.blogspot.com/>>

And finally, though a blog for CGHS Library seems impractical right now, these are two excellent high school library blogs that often provide ideas for web page material and programming.

- Galileo Academy of Science and Technology: <http://www.galileoweb.org/liblogary/>
- Northfield Mount Hermon School: <http://nmhlibrary.typepad.com/>

I'd be extremely interested in any website or blog addresses you depend upon in your job. I'd like to add links to the best of them on our KASL page. <http://www.skyways.org/kasl/>

See you at Tri-Conference!

*Martha House*  
President Elect

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## KASL Officer Elections

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### Meet the Candidates:

#### President-Elect

##### Laura Soash

Laura is a Library Media Specialist in the Goddard School District. She serves as part of the faculty at the School Library Media Center Licensing Program at Wichita State University and has also acted as District III Director. Her professional activities also include memberships in NEA/KNEA and Professional Advocacy Council, IDPD and School Improvement Team in the Goddard district. She has been both a middle school and elementary LMS for the past 10 years and is currently working to help plan the opening of a new elementary library in Goddard.

#### Secretary

##### Kaylyn Keating

Kaylyn received both her graduate and undergraduate degrees through Kansas State University. She has been the K-12 Librarian in Cunningham for 8 years and has served KASL as the District III Director.

#### Treasurer

##### Anita Brozik

Anita is the Library Media Specialist at Derby High School and has an MLS from Emporia State University. She has served KASL as the District III Director and is currently the Treasurer.

**Voting will take place the week of February Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>!**  
**Watch your email for the ballot through the KASL listserv.**  
**Ballots are due by Thursday, March 2**

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## Wanted!

Library Media Specialists who would benefit from  
having a mentor

## Reward:

Greater knowledge and peace of mind knowing you are getting expert help from experienced media specialists

## Contact:

Go to [www.kasl.ws](http://www.kasl.ws) and click on  
the mentorship link at the top of the page

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## **KASL's Professional Partners Program**

Peggy Golden, Membership Chair

Remember how you felt the first time you stood in a Library Media Center as a first time Media Specialist? Excited? Confident? Terrified? Isolated? Many of us would have benefited from knowing a veteran Library Media Specialist who was willing to calm our fears, show us the ropes and offer any help that we needed. This didn't mean we were weak or wouldn't have figured out what to do eventually, but wouldn't it have been nice if there had been someone we could have turned to? A mentor who was enthusiastic and passionate about the craft of librarianship could have made a world of difference.

Too often, the knowledge gained during college classes is only theory until there is an opportunity to put it to use. And even then, a fairly new person may still feel unsure, terrified, or very unready for the job. Success as a Library Media Specialist is often directly related to what is mastered through the help and support of an experienced Media Specialist. Wouldn't you like to foster someone's ability to make a Library Media Center his or her own? All you would have to do is help them by explaining the processes you use to balance your day, how you structure your program, offer helpful organizing skills, and sharing tricks of the trade. A mentor can help the next generation of Library Media Specialists master the skills they will need to be successful.

If you are inspired to take a Library Media Specialist under your wing, it's not too late! Or do you know of someone who would benefit from an experienced Media Specialist? Go to [www.kasl.ws](http://www.kasl.ws) and then click on the "Mentorship" link at the top of the page to apply to be either a mentor or a mentee. Right now, this pilot program has 20 mentors and 12 mentees. I'm sure there are more out there who would like to be a part of this program, so spread the word to every Library Media Specialist you know--whether that person is a veteran or a 'newbie'!

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### **Get Into OverDrive!!!**

More than 50 Kansas libraries, schools and library systems have joined the State Library to purchase digital audio books from a company called OverDrive. Anyone with a Kansas Library Card will be able to check out the audio books by downloading them to a PC or Apple computer. From there, the books can be downloaded to compatible MP3 players. The books automatically return to the collection at the end of the loan period. Bestsellers and classics, fiction and non-fiction from popular authors and leading publishers such as HarperCollins, McGraw-Hill, Zondervan, and John Wiley and Sons are available in the OverDrive format.

OverDrive audio books are a part of what will be the Kansas Virtual Library (KVL), now under development by the State Library and OverDrive with help from the University of Kansas Medical Center. Besides the audio books, Kansas Library Card users will also be able to go to the KVL for netLibrary ebooks and our statewide databases, all with a single login. Anyone at all will be able to use the KVL as a one-stop gateway to our free online content and services, like the Kansas Library Catalog, Kansas Digital Library, Western Trails, KANAnswer, and more.

May 1<sup>st</sup> is the launch date for the Kansas Virtual Library. Libraries and schools that wish to join the State Library to purchase OverDrive titles for the KVL can still do so. For more information, contact Eric Hansen at 1-800-432-3919, 785-296-3875, or [erich@kslib.info](mailto:erich@kslib.info).

## Picture Perfect

Luana Lewis  
Jefferson and Lincoln Elementary  
El Dorado Public Schools USD 490

*Leonardo the Terrible Monster* by Mo Willems. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN 0-7868-5294-1, hardcover (40 pages), \$16.99.

Caldecott and Emmy-winning author/illustrator Mo Willems is back with the story of a monster struggling to scare the “tuna salad” out of...well, anyone. All methods failing, our young anti-hero does his detailed research for the “most scaredy-cat kid in the world”.

Leonardo finds his target in Sam and even makes him cry. But, as Sam points out in a tirade that explodes over two pages, Leonardo was just the last straw in a truly awful day. Leonardo makes a big decision, choosing friendship with Sam over scariness.

This is an excellent book to illustrate word choice. The illustrations, just as in Willems’ extremely popular Pigeon books, feature no background. All focus is on the characters and their emotions. Don’t worry, Leonardo is cute and never makes it too scary for very young readers.

Have students create their own monsters on paper or with Kid Pix. Check out Mo’s sketches at [www.mowillems.com](http://www.mowillems.com) for inspiration. And, there could not be a more appealing story prompt for brainstorming. Ask your students, “What scares the tuna salad out of you?” and watch the ideas spill forth.

*Luana Lewis*  
llewis@eldoradoschools.org

**Tri Conference 2006**  
**April 4-7, 2006**  
**Century II**  
**Wichita, Kansas**

[www.kasl.ws](http://www.kasl.ws)

Tri-Conference represents the combined efforts and resources of the [Kansas Library Association](#), [Kansas Association of School Librarians](#), and the [Kansas Association for Educational Communications and Technology](#) to bring you outstanding programming, speakers, and professional activities.

**Alan November** will speak at the **General Session** Thursday, April 6, at 8:30 a.m. in the Mary Jane Teall Theatre.

The featured speaker at the **KASL Luncheon** Friday, April 7, at 11:30 a.m. will be children's author **Angela Johnson**.

Just a friendly reminder that hotel rooms at the Hyatt need to be reserved by March 14. We lose any blocked rooms after this date, and rooms at the Hyatt and the special rate may not be available after that date.

**REGISTER NOW!**

[www.kasl.ws](http://www.kasl.ws)



## Technology Review

Nancy Wagner  
Washington Elementary, El Dorado

If you enjoy making class books with your students and have access to iphoto, here is an alternative way of creating them. Using your school's digital camera have the students take pictures on a field trip, pictures of each other or any other story idea and download the pictures into iphoto. Then you can either create a slide show with music or a classroom book to print. Simply create a new album and drag the pictures to that folder. Then click on that folder and choose the "create a book option" at the bottom. Choose the storybook theme and drag/drop your pictures into the photo spaces. Have your students write sentences to go along with the pictures. When the book is complete click on share at the top, choose print (it will take a minute to load the pages) and at the bottom of the print screen is a pdf button option. Toggle on the arrow by pdf and then choose the first option (save as pdf). Title it and save the file on your computer. Open the saved pdf document and then you can print it in color if you have access to a color printer. If it is a book you really want to keep as a hardback you can click the buy option and purchase one from Apple for \$29.99 plus shipping. These are really nice hardbacks you could donate to the library and they arrive within a week. You can also bind the book with those black plastic binders and punch machine if your school owns one or simply staple on the sides to form a book. Some ideas for these books would include:

- Brown Bear, Brown Bear style using digital pictures of your students instead and writing the student's first name and whom do you see (Amy, Amy who do you see? I see Joe looking at me. ) We finished our book with the last student seeing the teacher and then on the teacher's page we put the following: Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Smith who do you see? I see a classroom of beautiful children looking at me. Follow that page with a picture of the whole class on the last page of our book.
- Mary Wore Her Red Dress style by taking a digital picture of each student and having them write a sentence on their picture page that described what they wore to school that day.
- Field trip books that have digital pictures of the place visited and student written sentences about those pictures.

Nancy Wagner  
nwagner@eldoradoschools.org



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**GARY WILSHER**  
Manager: West Central Division

## William Allen White Celebration

Save the Date!  
An event you won't want to miss!

54th Annual Celebration - October 7,  
2006

Bring the entire school to share in this fun time. Tickets are available for purchase. The price is still \$5.00 per person.

Spend a night at the Emporia Recreation Center and enjoy a visit with an author by registering for the Read-Ins/Sleepover! (FREE)

We will once again offer a Cafeteria style lunch in Memorial Union on the ESU campus. The cost is \$4.75 per person.

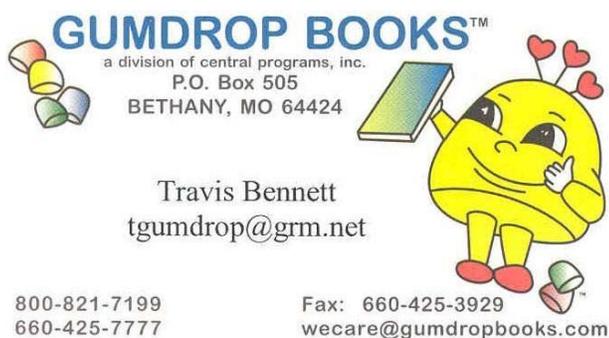
Winning Authors will be announced as soon as possible after April 15, 2006.

Registration Forms are now available at  
<http://waw.emporia.edu>

## Member News . . . . .

*Nancy McFarlin* has been appointed to the AASL Distinguished School Administrators Award Committee by president-elect J. Linda Williams. The charge of the committee is to review nominations for the selection of an administrator to receive the AASL Distinguished Library Service Award for School Administrators for the administration of a school or group of schools who has made an outstanding and sustained contribution toward furthering the role of the library and its development in elementary and/or secondary education. The appointment is for one year, beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2006.

*Nancy McFarlin* has been elected by the KNEA Konza Uniserve district to serve as their representative on the KNEA Instructional Advocacy Commission. The Commission monitors the Department of Education and other agencies that establish rules and regulations to ensure that the highest professional standards are maintained. The Commission also works closely with state Standards Board, the KNEA Practices Commission, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

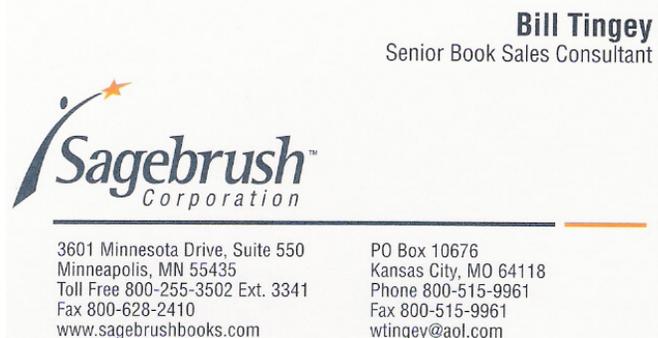


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## Ruth Garver Galiardo School Library Scholarship to be Awarded

Need money to continue with that education?

This scholarship is intended to improve the preparation of Kansas school librarians. The scholarship is presented in the summer session to earn graduate level credit hours in an approved Kansas college or university. You can get an application on the KASL webpage.

Applications are due by April 1st each year.

## Kansas Students Achieve Because of Great School Librarians

June 14-15, 2006

Emporia State University

Jones Institute for Education Excellence

Visser Hall – Room 330 Emporia, Kansas



The 2006 Summer Institute offers school, academic, and public librarians and classroom teachers more opportunities to experience education at it's best – this year with talented authors, storytellers, songwriters, booktalkers, book discussion group leaders, and others who use and share valuable instructional practices, guides, and resources.

### Mike Printz Writers Workshop

**Christopher Paul Curtis**, author of *Bud, Not Buddy* (New York: Delacorte, 1999) Newbery Medal Winner, 2000, and William Allen White Children's Book Award 2001-02, and *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963* (New York: Delacorte, 1995) Newbery Medal Winner, 1996 will be the featured author for the Michael L. Printz Writer's Workshop.

### "How to" Sessions

Guest authors, artists, and Kansas librarians will present best practices in storytelling, booktalking, discussion group leadership, using the Kansas Virtual Library, and many other practices for engaging readers and writers. Sessions will include large group presentations, and small group breakout sessions from which to select your favor topics. **Evester Roper**, international professional storyteller, library consultant and touring artist, and, **Lem Sheppard**, popular Kansas storyteller and musician, will be featured in interactive-instructional sessions.

### Book Autographing

Books written by Christopher Paul Curtis will be available on-site to purchase from the Emporia State University Memorial Union Bookstore. Or you may bring your own books for autograph.

### Register today!

Team participation is encouraged. Registration cost: \$100 for first participant from each school district or library; \$75 for each additional attendee from the same school or library. There is limited space available. Registration will be processed on a firstcome, first-served basis. Maximum seating 120 persons

### Enroll for Graduate Credit (Approved for KSDE Continuing Education Credit)

Participants may enroll for two graduate credit hours in LI755 Summer Institute: Best Practices for Teaching Children and Youth to Read and Write. In addition to attending the two day conference, enrolled students will complete an individualized-to-your audience assignment based on the content and activities presented during the Institute. Enrolled students must enroll and **pay tuition**, and register for the conference and **pay registration fee**. For more information about the course and/or enrolling for credit, please contact Dr. Mirah Dow at [dowmirah@emporia.edu](mailto:dowmirah@emporia.edu)

More information and registration at <http://slim.emporia.edu/programs/summerinst.htm>

Sponsored by:

Kansas Department of Education • Kansas Regional Library Systems • State Library of Kansas • Kansas Association of School Librarians • School of Library and Information Management, ESU

*Continued from page 1*

- adequate opportunities and time provided for professional activities so that our expertise may be shared with one another and as well as with other individuals/groups throughout the state and the nation
- realistic career paths to licensure as a library media specialist

#### **Indicators of Fulfillment:**

- resolution of library-related issues which empower the profession (i.e. adequate funding, staffing, and materials) and thereby positively impact student learning
- increased membership in our organization
- evidence of advocacy initiatives, apparent to those outside the profession, leading to greater local and state support of school library media programs
- recognition of school library media specialists as teachers and leaders



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## **New WSU Library Media Cohort Begins Fall 2006**

Wichita State University will be starting a new cohort for licensure in school library media this fall. Entrance requirements for the program include a bachelor's degree and current Kansas teaching certification/licensure as well as two years of successful teaching experience.

The program requires 19 hours of coursework plus internships. In addition, children's literature is required if the candidate has not already completed it. The cohort completes 1-2 courses each summer and one course each fall and spring semester on Tuesdays from 5-7 at the WSU West campus, completing the practicum in the summer of 2008. The State of Kansas now also requires a Masters degree for school library media licensure, so if the candidate has not already earned a Masters, twelve hours can be applied to a Masters in Curriculum & Instruction at WSU.

The program is specifically geared to the needs of school library media center, with an emphasis on practical, hands-on learning. The instructors all have school library experience, and candidates are teamed with current practitioners.

If you have staff in your building who might be interested, please have them contact Richard Soash, Coordinator of the School Library Licensure Program at 316 729-6591 or [Richard.Soash@wichita.edu](mailto:Richard.Soash@wichita.edu). They can review program requirements and the program at <http://webs.wichita.edu/libcert>.

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## Call For Entries.....

### **The Second Annual Thomson Gale/ LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION TEAMS Award** (Teachers And Media Specialists Influencing Student Achievement)

recognizes and encourages the critical collaboration between the teacher and media specialist to promote learning and increase student achievement.

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#### ***The three award winners will receive:***

- \$2,500 (U.S.) cash award
- Thomson Gale products (approximate value \$500 U.S.)
- A one-year subscription to LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION, the professional magazine for school library media and technology specialists (approximate value \$69 U.S.)
- LMC Educator's Professional Bookshelf (approximate value \$800 U.S.) from Linworth Publishing
- Winners will be featured in a LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION article in the 2006 school year!

#### **A panel comprised of education industry professionals and Thomson Gale/LMC staff will evaluate the nominations based on:**

- Demonstrated collaboration between media specialists and teachers during the 2005/06 school year
- Effective techniques that positively impact student learning and achievement (State and National Standards)
- Support received from school leadership
- Ability for others to replicate this best practice

#### **Who is eligible:**

- All K-12 public and private schools in the United States and Canada
- Examples of the types of collaboration that will be considered:
  - Using large-print books to improve student reading scores
  - Increasing literacy among struggling readers
  - Improving information literacy: open Web vs. subscription resources
  - Using nonfiction materials in classroom libraries to support reading
  - Integrating electronic and print reference resources into classroom learning

**Nominations will be accepted starting April 15, 2006, so start planning now!**

**For more information about the award visit [www.galeschools.com/TEAMS](http://www.galeschools.com/TEAMS)**

For other helpful resources for the school library media center, visit [www.linworth.com](http://www.linworth.com)

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