

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report October 2010

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## **UNPAID STATE OBLIGATIONS**

Please refer to the Illinois State Comptrollers' website for an update on the state's bills to be paid. <http://www.ioc.state.il.us/>

*"The state's financial position continues to deteriorate as the backlog of unpaid state obligations continues to outpace incoming revenues. With \$4.7 billion in fiscal year 2010 payables on June 30 to start the new fiscal year and \$1.7 billion in additional fiscal year 2010 payments presented during the lapse period, over \$6.4 billion in fiscal year 2011 revenues will be used to pay last year's bills."*

## **TRY-IT! ILLINOIS IS UNDERWAY**

The eleventh annual Try-It! Illinois statewide database trial is underway and runs through November 30. Try-It! Illinois offers library staff and users an excellent opportunity to survey and evaluate a wide variety of electronic resources. Thanks to partnerships between the Illinois State Library and the participating electronic resource vendors, there is no charge for accessing these databases during Try-It! Illinois.

You will need a login and password to access Try-it! Illinois at [www.finditillinois.org/tryit](http://www.finditillinois.org/tryit). Libraries are encouraged to share the Try-It! Illinois login and password with their library users, providing them the opportunity to use and recommend electronic resources for possible purchase at the local level.

Contact Gwen Harrison at [gharrison@ilsos.net](mailto:gharrison@ilsos.net) or 217-785-7334 to obtain the login and password. The login and password have also been provided to regional library systems. Do not post the Try-It! Illinois login and password on the Internet or in publicly archived electronic newsletters. This is vital to the success of the trial and to maintaining the relationships that have been established with vendors.

## **PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION GRANT WORKSHOPS**

Later this month we'll be announcing all the details to apply for a FY2011 Live and Learn Construction Grant. In the meantime, mark your calendar and attend a Construction Grant workshop:

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|------------|--|
| October 20 | Rolling Prairie Library System, 1:30-3:30 p.m.   |
| October 27 | Videoconference from the Illinois State Library, Lewis and Clark Library System, Lincoln Trail Libraries System and Rolling Prairie Library System, 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m. |
| October 29 | Online Web conference via Adobe Pro Connect, 10 a.m.-noon  |

The workshops are open to anyone and there is no cost. Register at:  
<http://www.librarylearning.info/?month=10&year=2010>

## **BORDERS LITERACY DONATION PROGRAM**

For the eighth year, Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White, The Illinois Literacy Foundation and BORDERS stores are collaborating to raise funds for local literacy programs

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report October 2010

---

and promote literacy awareness in Illinois. From October 5 through November 1, 2010, BORDERS customers will be given the opportunity to add a dollar or more to their purchases to benefit literacy programs. BORDERS cashiers will ask customers at the time of their purchase if they wish to make a donation. The Illinois Literacy Foundation selects the recipients and matches them with their respective BORDERS stores. Thirty BORDERS stores, one BORDERS Express and one Waldenbooks store are participating in this year's program.

## **HELP FOR JOB SEEKERS**

Project Compass worked with educator-trainer Pat Wagner to develop a series of video presentations on topics to help library staff respond to job-seeking patrons' increased demands on their time, resources, and energy. Visit WebJunction Illinois at <http://il.webjunction.org/1> to watch the first two videos - "[A Guide to Job-Hunters: One Size Does Not Fit All](#)" and "[You Want to Help and the Clock is Ticking](#)"

## **GOVDOCINFO**

We're less than a month away from the next General Election in Illinois on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Illinois State Board of Elections website is a good source for election related information. <http://www.elections.state.il.us/>

## **FAMILY READING NIGHT \* NOVEMBER 18, 2010**

Family Reading Night is a statewide reading event that encourages families to spend quality time reading together. It is celebrated annually in Illinois on the third Thursday in November. Posters and bookmarks have been shipped across the state to libraries preparing for Family Reading Night celebrations.

If you did not place an order earlier this year but would still like to participate, you are welcome to order materials through the end of October or until materials run out. Additional information can be found online at:

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats\\_new/frn.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/frn.html). Contact Bonnie Matheis at: [bmatheis@ilsos.net](mailto:bmatheis@ilsos.net) or 217-558-2065 with any questions.

## **ENCOURAGE STUDENT READERS TO ENTER "LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE"**

Deadline to enter – December 10, 2010

*Letters About Literature* is a national reading and writing promotion presented in partnership by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and Target stores and sponsored by the Jesse White, Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian, Illinois State Library and the Illinois Center for the Book. The program invites students in grades 4 – 12 to read a book and write a reflective letter to the author letting the author know how the book changed their life or their view of the world.

The program dovetails with Illinois learning standards and consists of three competition levels - Level I for grades 4 - 6, Level II for grades 7 & 8 and Level III for grades 9 - 12. One state

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report October 2010

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winner is chosen for each level. State winners receive a \$50 Target Giftcard and a US Savings Bond at an awards ceremony. The state winners' teachers also receive recognition at the awards ceremony.

The state winners' letters go on to national judging where six national winners (2 per Level of Competition) each receive a \$500 Target Giftcard and will secure a \$10,000 Letters About Literature Reading Promotion Grant from Target in their name for his or her community or school library so that others can experience personal relationships with authors and the stories they tell and twelve national honorable mentions (4 per Level of Competition) each receive a \$1000 Target Giftcard and secure a \$1000 Letters About Literature Reading Promotion Grant for the same.

Students can enter through their schools, youth programs, libraries or individually. Additional information can be found online at: <http://illinoiscenterforthebook.org> or <http://www.lettersaboutliterature.org>. The Illinois Center for the Book website has a state-wide scope with a photo of last year's state winners and will give you access to the Illinois curriculum chart, teacher's guide, letters of past Illinois winners, the entry form and guidelines. The National site shares information about the program from across the United States. Students and teachers from Illinois are quoted.

If you have questions contact Bonnie Matheis at [bmatheis@ilsos.net](mailto:bmatheis@ilsos.net) or 217-558-2065.

## **NEW SURVEY**

The 2010-2011 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study survey (PLFTAS) is now available at [www.plinternetsurvey.org](http://www.plinternetsurvey.org). The State Library strongly encourages ALL Illinois public libraries to complete this important survey. Illinois public libraries receiving a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Opportunity Online Hardware Grant MUST complete the survey as a requirement for receiving the grant. Please complete the survey no later than October 29, 2010.

## **BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITY ONLINE HARDWARE GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE**

The Illinois State Library distributed \$645,500 in grant funds to eligible libraries in Phase 1 using funds provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Opportunity Online Grant Program.

- Libraries were required to purchase a total of 330 computers under Phase 1.
- Many opted to purchase both Phase 1 and Phase 2 computers.
- 439 new computers were purchased and installed in 121 library buildings across the state.

Participating libraries successful fundraising efforts netted over \$215,150 in matching funds. A 25% match was required for phase 1.

- Libraries raised \$53,300 from public funds.
- Libraries raised \$17,004 from foundations or corporations.
- Libraries raised \$144,846 from other donations.
- A 50% match is required for phase 2 and many libraries have already raised 100% of their phase 2 matching funds.

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report October 2010

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Following are the libraries participating in the Opportunity Online Hardware grant program:

## **Alliance Library System:**

Barry Public Library  
Creve Coeur Public Library District  
Griggsville Public Library  
Hamilton Public Library  
Hudson Area Public Library District  
Ira C. Reed Public Library  
M-C River Valley Public Library District  
Macomb Public Library District  
Mercer Carnegie Public Library District

Neponset Public Library  
Pekin Public Library  
Peoria Heights Public Library  
Peoria Public Library - Lincoln Branch  
Peoria Public Library - McClure Branch  
Peoria Public Library – River West Branch  
Pittsfield Public Library  
Pontiac Public Library

## **Lewis & Clark Library System:**

Belleville Public Library - Main Library  
Belleville Public Library - West Branch Library  
Bethalto Public Library District  
Cahokia Public Library District  
Caseyville Public Library District  
Daugherty Public Library District  
East Alton Public Library District  
East St. Louis Public Library  
Frank Bertetti Benld Public Library

Greenfield Public Library  
Greenville Public Library  
Hillsboro Public Library  
Litchfield Carnegie Public Library  
Roodhouse Public Library  
Roxana Public Library District  
Six Mile Regional Library District - Main Library  
Six Mile Regional Library District - Branch Library

## **Lincoln Trail Libraries System:**

Champaign Public Lib. - Douglass Branch Library  
Newman Regional Library District  
Oakwood Public Library District

Paris Carnegie Public Library  
Rantoul Public Library  
Westville Public Library District

## **Metropolitan Library System:**

Broadview Public Library District  
Calumet Park Public Library  
Chicago Ridge Public Library  
Homewood Public Library District  
Justice Public Library District  
McCook Public Library District  
Nancy L McConathy Public Library District

Oak Park Public Library - Dole Branch Library  
Oak Park Public Library - Maze Branch Library  
Palos Heights Public Library  
Schiller Park Public Library  
Stickney-Forest View Public Library District  
William Leonard Public Library District

## **North Suburban Library System:**

Arlington Heights Memorial Library  
Evanston Public Library - South Branch  
Wilmette Public Library District

## **Prairie Area Library System:**

Annawan-Alba Township Library  
Bradley Public Library District  
Colona District Public Library  
Hanover Township Library  
Joliet Public Library - Main Library  
Kankakee Public Library  
Mt. Carroll Township Library

Pembroke Public Library District  
Peru Public Library  
Rock Falls Public Library District  
Schmaling Memorial Public Library District  
Silvis Public Library  
Western District Library

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report October 2010

## **Rolling Prairie Library System:**

Carnegie-Schuyler Library  
Herrick Township Public Library  
Lincoln Library - Main Library

Riverton Village Library  
Sumpter Township Library

## **Shawnee Library System:**

Albion Public Library  
Altamont Public Library  
Anne West Lindsey District Library  
Bryan-Bennett Library  
C.E. Brehm Memorial Public Library District  
Carmi Public Library  
Carrier Mills-Stonefort Public Library District  
Centralia RLD - Main Library  
Centralia RLD - Irvington Library  
Centralia RLD - Ralph & Bernice Sprehe  
Library  
Centralia RLD - Sandoval Branch Library  
Christopher Public Library  
Coulterville Public Library  
Crab Orchard PLD - Main Library  
Crab Orchard PLD - Pittsburg Branch  
Cutler Public Library  
Dahlgren Public Library  
Dodge Memorial Public Library District  
Dongola Public Library District  
DuQuoin Public Library  
Eldorado Memorial Public Library District  
Evans Public Library District  
Fairfield Public Library

Flora Public Library  
Freeburg Area Library District  
Galatia Public Library District  
Herrin City Library  
Johnston City Public Library  
Jonesboro Public Library  
Lawrence Public Library District  
Lebanon Public Library  
McCoy Memorial Library  
Metropolis Public Library  
Mounds Public Library  
Norris City Memorial PLD - Main Library  
Olney Public Library  
Pinckneyville Public Library  
Ramsey Public Library  
Rick Warren Memorial Public Library District  
Sallie Logan Public Library  
Sesser Public Library  
Sparta Public Library  
St. Elmo PLD - Main Library  
St. Elmo PLD - Beecher City Branch  
Stinson Memorial PLD - Main Library  
Stinson Memorial PLD - Cobden Branch  
Vienna Carnegie Public Library

Currently, the 2010-2011 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study is live and completion of this survey is the next requirement of the grant. Opportunity Online libraries have been asked to complete their survey prior to October 29. This is the second of three surveys libraries will be required to complete.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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|------------------------|--|
| <b>October 25 - 28</b> | 2010 Synergy: Illinois Library Leadership Initiative, Lisle  |
| <b>October 25 - 28</b> | ILEAD U, University of Illinois at Springfield   |
| <b>October 28 – 30</b> | Illinois School Library Media Association Annual Conference, Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. <a href="http://www.islma.org">http://www.islma.org</a> |
| <b>October 29</b>      | Deadline to complete the 2010-2011 Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study  |
| <b>November 18</b>     | Family Reading Night   |
| <b>December 10</b>     | Deadline to enter Letters about Literature   |