

# Illinois State Library Consultant's Report March 2011

## School Library Grants

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White has awarded Fiscal Year 2011 School District Library Program Grants totaling almost \$1.4 million to 679 Illinois public school districts. More than 1.8 million students served by school library media programs will benefit from the grants.

"Our school library media programs are more important than ever in helping students learn and prepare themselves for the future," White said. "Several studies in recent years have shown conclusively that students perform better in the classroom in school districts that have strong library media programs. Illinois was the first state to implement a school district grant program, and I'm pleased that we can continue to provide school libraries with some of the financial resources they need to produce well-educated students."

The School District Library Grant Program provides funds that can be used for things like the acquisition of library materials to support reading for academics and enjoyment, library subscriptions to electronic resources, or improved technology to support student research.

"As a former public school teacher and administrator who has worked with young people for almost half a century, I'm delighted that I can award these important grants each year to enhance library resources and services to benefit millions of students," White said.

## ILEAD U Began Last Week

The second year of ILEAD U (Illinois Librarians Explore, Apply and Discover), the 21st Century Technology Tool Institute for Illinois Library Staff, began last week here in Springfield. ILEAD U is the State Library's initiative to help library staff understand and respond to user needs through the application of participatory technology tools and the creation of an easy-to-replicate model program. Funding for ILEAD U is provided through a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant awarded to the State Library from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. For this second year of ILEAD U, a new component has been added where "apprentices"--out-of-state State Agency library employees--will participate.

You can follow ILEAD U on a variety of social networks beginning Monday. ILEAD U updates will be posted on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/ILEAD-U/310643765269?ref=nf>) Flickr ([http://www.flickr.com/photos/ilead\\_u](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ilead_u)), and Twitter

([https://twitter.com/ilead\\_u](https://twitter.com/ilead_u)). Back channel conversation can be found at #ileadu on Twitter.

## ILL Survey Reminder

The FY 2011 ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey is available for completion at <http://collect.btol.com>. Data submitted should cover the fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. The Survey will be closed on September 30, 2011. If you have questions, then follow these guidelines:

**USERNAME/PASSWORD:** Contact any of these Illinois State Library staff members: Becky Hunter, [bhunter1@ilsos.net](mailto:bhunter1@ilsos.net), 217-557-7259 or Gwen Harrison, [gharrison@ilsos.net](mailto:gharrison@ilsos.net), 217-785-7334 or Ron Winner, [rwinner@ilsos.net](mailto:rwinner@ilsos.net), 217-785-1168. The 800 number is 1-800-665-5576 x1.

**CONTENT/SUBJECT MATTER:** Contact any of these Illinois State Library staff members: Gwen Harrison, [gharrison@ilsos.net](mailto:gharrison@ilsos.net), 217-785-7334 or Ron Winner, [rwinner@ilsos.net](mailto:rwinner@ilsos.net), 217-785-1168. The 800 number is 1-800-665-5576 x1.

**SOFTWARE OR TECHNOLOGY ISSUES:** Contact Bibliostat at 1-866-785-9935.

## Adult Literacy Grant Application Now Available

The application for FY2012 Adult Literacy Grants is now available at [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/who\\_we\\_are/literacy/adultlit-grantapps.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/who_we_are/literacy/adultlit-grantapps.html). **Applications are due April 15.** There are three separate literacy grant categories:

**Adult Volunteer Literacy Tutoring** programs provide one-on-one instruction for adults to improve their reading, math, writing and language skills.

**Family Literacy** programs equip parents and their children, together and separately, to improve their basic reading, math, writing or language skills.

**Workplace Skills Enhancement** programs meet the educational needs of working adults by providing on-site basic skills learning opportunities at the workplace.

### **Become a Volunteer Grant Reviewers for the Adult Literacy Grant Program**

The Illinois State Library is inviting librarians and literacy professionals to nominate themselves for consideration as a volunteer grant reviewer of the FY2012 Adult Literacy grant applications.

If you are interested in helping the State Library select Adult Literacy grant applications for funding, please e-mail a brief letter of application. In that letter, tell us where you

work, indicating whether it is a library, a community based organization, or another type of organization. Tell us the city where you work and the city where you live. Briefly explain why you would like to assist the Illinois State Library in reviewing the Adult Literacy grant applications. Please be specific in explaining your professional knowledge of adult literacy. **Please certify that you are not associated with an organization that is applying for the FY12 Adult Literacy Grant.** Make sure to include all contact information.

Each grant application is reviewed on its own merit, and all applications and comments are confidential until the awards are announced. If you are selected as a volunteer reviewer, the State Library will orient you to the reviewing process in late March or early April. From late April until late May, the volunteer reviewers will independently read, score and write comments about the applications. Typically, there are between 30 to 50 applications to evaluate. A volunteer review committee meeting will take place in early June. Following that meeting, the volunteer grant reviewer's recommendations and comments will be compiled and shared with the Literacy Advisory Board members who will make recommendations to the Secretary of State. Any meetings of the volunteer grant reviewers will be open and subject to the Open Meetings Act. There is no pay or honorarium for volunteering to be a reviewer; however, volunteer reviewers will be reimbursed at the state rate for hotel, mileage and per diem for the review session in Springfield.

The Illinois State Library strives to maintain a reputation of objectivity, fairness and equity in its grant programs. Funding for Adult Literacy grants is awarded by the Illinois State Library, a division of the office of Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White, using state and federal funds. We look forward to hearing from you. Please email Cyndy Colletti at [ccolletti@ilsos.net](mailto:ccolletti@ilsos.net)

## **CENSUS 2010 WORKSHOPS**

The Illinois State Library (ISL) is hosting two Census 2010 workshops (presentation only, non hands-on). ISL encourages you to attend the Census 2010 workshops hosted by your regional library system. If you are unable to attend one of your system sponsored workshops, the ISL wanted to alert libraries within a close geographic proximity about the availability of the workshops being held on site at the Illinois State Library.

**Title:** America is Changing - and so is the Census

**Date:** April 7, 2011 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and April 8, 2011 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (same presentation offered twice)

**Location:** Illinois State Library - 300 South Second Street in Springfield, Illinois - Rooms 403/404

**Presenter:** Stephen R. Laue, Information Specialist from the U.S. Census Bureau

**Audience:** State Agency Employees and Area library staff

**Registration:** Please at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2010CensusWorkshop> to attend

The 2010 Census is upon us - what information was collected and how do you locate and use the data? The American Community Survey will provide annual updates of demographic data at the local level. This workshop will address key changes in Census data products, formats and content, as well as how to access information through the Census Bureau's American Factfinder. Ways to analyze, understand and use Census information will be presented and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and participate in discussion.

Feel free to contact Ron Winner at the Illinois State Library, 217-785-1168 or [rwinner@ilsos.net](mailto:rwinner@ilsos.net) if you have any questions.

## Upcoming Events

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| March 24    | <i>Empowering Library Staff to Meet the Needs of the Spanish Speaking Community</i> , Lewis & Clark Library System. Register at <a href="http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=11301">http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=11301</a> |
| April 10–16 | National Library Week   |
| April 13    | <i>Snapshot: One Day in the Life of Your Library</i> . Learn more at <a href="http://www.ila.org/snapshot/">http://www.ila.org/snapshot/</a>  |
| April 14    | Illinois State Library Advisory Committee, Videoconference  |
| April 15    | Deadline to submit Adult Literacy Grant applications  |
| April 28    | System Presidents and Directors meeting, ISL  |
| May 11      | Spotlight on Achievement and Service Awards Ceremony, ISL   |
| May 16      | Deadline: Reflections on a Veteran essay competition  |
| June 30     | Deadline to Enter Illinois Emerging Writers Competition   |