



Chapbook...

Volume 45 Fall 2003

**Quarterly Journal of the Children's Services Section
North Carolina Library Association**

Message From the Chair.... by **Carol Liang, Youth Services Manager,
East Regional Library of Wake County Public Library System**



Fall carries a feel of change. This season certainly is a time of transition for the Children's Services Section board as some members step down because their jobs are becoming more demanding, or leave libraries altogether to focus on different careers. Luckily, change means gaining new members who bring fresh perspectives.

Some of our section goals this year are to choose a new fundraiser, reinvent our website, and even refresh our logo. We also have a conference to plan.

The Children's Services Section is facing two conference years in a row. We just finished one successful conference and we are already looking ahead to next year's. The NCLA Centennial Conference, in conjunction with the Southeastern Library Association Conference, will be held next year in Charlotte. It will be a challenge for us to plan another conference so quickly.

Perhaps more difficult will be how we decide to approach what traditionally has been an off year retreat at Brown Summit Retreat Center. None of us wants to give up our retreat, so we will be working hard on trying to figure out if we can modify the retreat to adapt to this change.

We hope that you will continue to support us as we grow and adapt to the changes we must make to stay viable. As the year progresses, remember that we are interested in your ideas and welcome your comments. Thanks for being part of the Children's Services Section.



From the State Library

by Jim Rosinia, State Library Youth Consultant

On September 30, 1996, a new, restructured federal program was enacted to support library service. The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) of 1996, a section of the Museum and Library Services Act, promotes access to information resources provided by all types of libraries.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services administers the program. Of the annual appropriation for LSTA, 91.5% goes to the State Grant Program. The State Grant Program distributes funds to the State Library Administrative Agencies using a population-based formula. State Library Agencies may use the appropriations to support statewide initiatives and services. They also may distribute the funds through subgrant competitions or cooperative agreements to public, academic, research, school, and special libraries in their state.

The State Library of North Carolina, in consultation with the LSTA Advisory Committee and with input and feedback from the State Library Commission and the North Carolina library community, developed a five-year plan that describes the priorities, policies, and procedures for the administration of the LSTA in our state. It covers the use of LSTA funds in the federal fiscal years 2003-2007, beginning on October 1, 2002 and ending September 30, 2007. The full plan is available online for review at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/plan2003-07.pdf>>

The grant programs available for 2004-2005 are divided into two types – Project Grants and EZ Grants – and projects that will help realize Goal 3 of our LSTA Plan. (“Libraries and librarians lead in support of learning and discovery for children and teens”) may be funded through programs of each type.

Awarded for more complex projects (and generally funded at a higher level than EZ grants), Project Grants have locally defined outcomes that meet the grant program criteria. The LSTA Annual Program sets criteria for Project Grants and the State Library invites applicants to submit Letters of Intent (LOI). The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the LOI’s and makes recommendations based on those criteria following preliminary review by State Library staff. If a library’s LOI is approved, then it is invited to submit a full application. State Library staff as well as peer reviewers then evaluate these full grant applications. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the applications and the reviewers’ ratings and makes its funding recommendations to the State Librarian.

Program Guidelines and LOI applications, in both Word 2000 format and as PDF files, are available at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>> and **LOI’s are due November 21, 2003**. Approval will be announced by December 19. Final, full proposals for libraries with approved LOI’s will be due February 20, 2004.

The two Project Grant programs specifically relevant to Youth Services are the Powerful Partners Collaboration Grants and, to a lesser extent, the Grants for Community-Centered Outreach Services.

Powerful Partners Collaboration Grants are designed to help libraries build collaborative community partnerships focused specifically on the needs of children and teens. The program enables libraries to work in partnership with other organizations, giving libraries a visible role as a strong, vibrant leader in the community. Projects *must* be designed and implemented by the collaborative team. Reviewers look for evidence of a true collaboration rather than “just” cooperation or coordination – for an overview of the differences see Appendix B of the Guidelines at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/PP_GL_04-05.pdf or http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/PP_GL_04-05.doc. In addition to the collaborative nature of the partnership, priority for funding is determined by the presence of a clear, well-crafted project plan which includes a documented community need; a clear goal; specific, measurable objectives; a realistic, clear action plan; a well-developed budget; and plans for an effective evaluation.

The maximum request for Powerful Partners Collaboration Grants is \$50,000 and the minimum is \$5,000. There is a requirement for a local match -- the local contribution to the project must equal a minimum of 10% of the amount of federal funds requested. If the grant amount requested is \$25,000, the local match must be at least \$2,500, and the total project cost will be \$27,500 (\$25,000 grant funds + \$2,500 local funds).

The Community-Centered Outreach Services Grants (“Outreach Grants”) are intended to help librarians implement library services for communities of users who are currently unserved or underserved. Proposed services must be based on the results of needs assessment and planning efforts that involve the targeted audience. The Outreach Grants are an expansion of LSTA Hispanic Services Grants that have been available for several years.

The Outreach Grants are also providing the State Library with an opportunity to respond to feedback from the library community requesting more time for projects which may be a single year or multiyear (up to three years) in length. More details on the multi-year grant option – as well as the bases for selecting projects for funding (i.e., the quality of the needs assessment; a clear understanding of the target community; user-centered library services; local commitment; and a clear, well-articulated project plan) – may be found in the Guidelines at http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/OutreachServ_GL_04-05.pdf or http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/OutreachServ_GL_04-05.doc.

The maximum request for Outreach Grants is \$50,000 unless the project is a collaborative effort of multiple eligible libraries, in which case the maximum grant request is \$100,000. The minimum grant request is \$5,000. As with the Powerful Partners grants, there is a requirement for a local match -- the local contribution to the project must equal a minimum of 10% of the amount of federal funds requested. The match is a 1 to 10 ratio of matching funds to grant funds.

If the grant amount requested is \$25,000, the local match must be at least \$2,500, and the total project cost will be \$27,500 (\$25,000 grant funds + \$2,500 local funds).

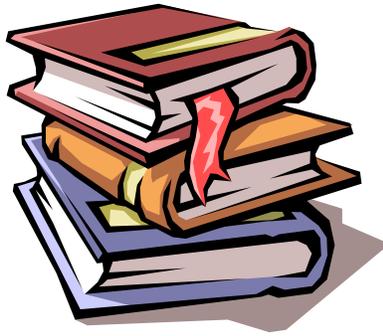
The time to prepare the Letter of Intent is limited. Libraries may not have developed Powerful Partnerships with community agencies or relationships with the community to be targeted by Outreach Grants and/or may not have a clear concept and plan already outlined to prepare a well-crafted LOI. The State Library encourages those libraries to consider applying instead for one of the EZ grants – an LSTA Project Planning Grant.

With a simplified application process, EZ Grants are used for programs with clearly defined purposes and outcomes. The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each EZ Grant program as part of the Annual Program. State Library staff reviews applications and determines funding decisions based on those criteria. EZ Grants do not require a letter of intent, and applicants have the opportunity to appeal funding decisions to the LSTA Advisory Committee.

The LSTA Project Planning Grants mentioned above provide funds – up to \$15,000 (with no local match requirement) – to aid libraries that wish to develop plans, evaluate the viability of a concept, and/or complete preliminary activities. Examples of the types of activities that can be supported with this grant for project planning include: community needs assessments to assist in planning projects, building collaborative partnerships, and developing project plans -- the critical first steps of larger Powerful Partners or Outreach projects.

Another EZ grant program to facilitate planning is simply called the EZ Planning Grants. The purpose of the Planning Grant program is to encourage and support effective planning in libraries by enabling them to secure the services of a qualified consultant to assist with planning, including community-based planning for youth services. Each library may select the consultant of its choice, but the selected consultant must be qualified to carry out the proposed planning activities. The choice of consultant is subject to State Library approval based upon information about the consultant's background and experience demonstrating appropriate qualifications for the planning work. If you wish you had a community-based planning for youth services, think about applying for these funds – up to \$15,000 (with no local match requirement).

Full information on these EZ programs will be released on December 19, 2003, and will be posted on the State Library's LSTA web page <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/lsta/lsta.htm>>.



All You Can Read Book Buffet
(for Teens)
by Angela Arnold
Young Adult Information Specialist
North County Regional, PLCMC

How many times have you had a patron say to you, "It must be nice to read all day at work." After taking a calming breath, you explain what you actually do at work. One day this same thing happened to me and I snapped! I thought if that is what everyone thinks I do then that is what I'm going to do. Thus the 'All You Can Read Book Buffet' was born.

This program was a lot of fun and very simple to put together. What I did was turn our community room in to a reading oasis. Pillows and cushions were placed around the room. There were a couple of tables set up along the walls. One table had new books and magazine for the teens to take and read, the other tables had the food and drink. One very important tip, there is no such thing as too much food when teens are involved. They will eat anything!

I had this program on a Thursday from 11:00am until 5:00pm. Check-in was at 10:30am. At this point the rules of the day were explained. Our rules were that they needed to remember that they are in the library, that the main goal of this event was to read and that they were not being held captive. Reading began at 11:00am. Pizza was served at 2:00pm to the delight of all. Who knew that reading could make one so hungry! At 5:00pm we held a drawing for prizes and the cupcakes were served.

The success of this program was amazing. Many of the teens expressed how much fun they had and are hoping that the program happens again next summer. This was easy to plan and present. It is amazing how jealous coworkers can become when you get to read at work!

NOVEMBER IS NABS CONFERENCE AND FESTIVAL MONTH

Join the North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers as we travel to Providence, RI

By Elisha T. "Mother" Minter

November is the time when the National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS) come together for their annual Conference and Festival and general celebration of all that is good and inclusive in the 'art of storytelling.' Storytellers come from all over the world to witness this event and share the stories of old, some new and some retold, in nooks and crannies, through workshops, on stages and in the marketplace.

This 21st NABS Conference and Festival being held in Providence, RI, November 12-15, is hosted by the Rhode Island Black Storytellers (RIBS), one of 11 affiliate groups across the country. NABS National President, Cheryl "Sparkle" Mosley, of Charlotte, NC, and former state president of the North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers, is excited about this year's conference and its theme, *Embracing Shades of Black Africa, Mother of Us All... "In the Tradition..."*



Linda Goss,
Co-Founder



Mother Mary Carter-
Smith Co-Founder

Founders of NABS, Mother Mary Carter Smith and Sis. Linda Goss, both noted authors and storytellers, have witnessed a dream come true over the past 21 years as the organization has traveled from city to city throughout the U. S. and created a true following of those persons with a love for the oral tradition. There are artists in drama, stories through song, creative movement, panel discussions, traditional drummers and instruction in areas of interest for beginning and seasoned tellers. Participants enjoy an atmosphere of family when African American literature and heritage are revisited as we give honor to the Ancestors.

Special events that fill the conference week include: the opening night “Circle of Love”; The Adopt-A-Teller Program that sends storytellers into the schools visiting thousands of children; the “Heritage Trip” that tours several historically black landmarks in the city where the conference is held; the “Liar’s Contest”; The Scholars Panel Discussions; The Youth Concert; Village Telling; and the Zora Neale Hurston Awards Banquet, where some noted African American author, storyteller or historian is honored for their service to NABS, the country and the world.

Sis. Beverly Fields Burnette, President of the North Carolina Association of Black Storytellers, welcomes all to become active members of our local organizations and work with our affiliate to establish an even stronger organization so we may host the annual festival & conference again in North Carolina in the near future. You can see our storytellers in action all over the state at various functions throughout the year. For more information please contact, Beverly Fields Burnette via email BB71946@aol.com or Elisha Minter via email: elishaminter@hotmail.com.

NABS National President, Cheryl “Sparkle” Mosley, ‘The Story Dove,’ extends a warm welcome to all who love to tell stories, “In the Tradition.” "Storytelling is an art form that touches the hearts and minds of everyone from infancy to mature years. NABS Festival and Conference is designed to reach out and capture the interest of children, youth and adults," quotes Cheryl.

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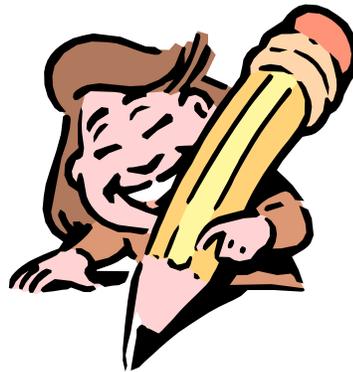
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