

## Library Amendment to Immigration Bill Offered

Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) (pictured) proposed a library amendment to the immigration bill that the Senate is considering this week. The amendment, #1223, would make public libraries eligible for funding for English-language instruction and civics education and would also add Susan Hildreth, the director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), to the Task Force on New Americans. The American Library Association (ALA) is asking its members to call their senators in support of Reed's amendment.

According to the *Congressional Record*, Reed said that the amendment "recognizes the longstanding role that libraries have played in helping new Americans learn English, American civics, and integrate into our local communities. It ensures that they continue to have a voice in these critical efforts.... This amendment expands on the recent partnership between U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and IMLS." He also cited IMLS statistics that claim that more than 55 percent of new Americans use a public library at least once a week.

The bill itself, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, seeks to strike a balance between creating a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants and addressing concerns about border protection. It does so in part through the linking of the authority to confer new, more protected statuses on undocumented immigrants to the creation and implementation of stringent border controls, for instance, registered provisional immigrant (RPI) status and the subsequent conversion of such registered provisional immigrants to lawful permanent resident status.

Among the criteria for RPI status are English-language skills, which makes Reed's amendment particularly relevant.

### REED BACKS WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

Reed (the 2002 *Library Journal* Politician of the Year) is a staunch supporter of libraries' role in achieving civic goals. He also recently introduced, with Sen. Thad Cochran (R-

MS), the Workforce Investments Through Local Libraries (WILL) Act, which would recognize public libraries as allowable "One-Stop" partners, add library representation on workforce investment boards, and authorize new demonstration and pilot projects to establish employment resources in public libraries.

Reed spoke about the need for WILL at an event at the Cranston Public Library's Central branch on June 14, along with Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training (DLT) director Charles J. Fogarty, Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS) chief library officer Howard Boksenbaum, and Cranston Public Library director Edward Garcia (a 2010 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker).

"The WILL Act strengthens the connection between our public libraries and the 'One-Stop' system to better serve job seekers with more targeted services," said Reed. "The WILL Act would give library users better access to workforce activities



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## Interview

### Matthew C. Winner

Teacher librarian, blogger, and gamer Matthew C. Winner, media specialist at Longfellow Elementary School in Columbia, MD, is Maryland's 2012 Outstanding User of Technology Educator, a 2013 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker, a White House "Champion of Change," and winner of ISTE's SIGMS (Special Interest Group for Media Specialists) annual Technology Innovation Award.



#### Tell us about your push for game-based learning.

I started using the Nintendo Wii in our library two years ago, when our school purchased two as part of our positive behavior incentive system. I realized there were an endless number of math applications with which the students could connect and that the Wii could be an instructional tool. Our Wii Family Competition was designed to encourage family cooperation and togetherness. I modeled the event after a Wii Math Night thrown by Meghan Heam. Meg and I are writing a book for ISTE on using the Wii in the general math classroom.

#### Can you tell us about your other online learning activities?

At the end of the 2011–12 school year, I embraced Skype in the Classroom. At the start of this year, I launched a "Be a Connector" project, which allowed others from around the world to connect classrooms to celebrate Dot Day. I built a GoogleDoc to host "Want Ads" of those seeking to connect with teachers' Dot Day schedules. The project had 40-plus members from nearly every continent.

#### What is next for you?

[I want] to start an [education] podcast version of my Busy Librarian blog, a weekly chat with someone in education (different each week) in which we carry on a conversation about [education] trends, swap stories, and inspire others.

and information related to training and employment opportunities, including résumé development and job bank searches," said Reed. "We need to maximize our resources and draw upon the strength of community assets like public libraries to ensure our workforce development efforts are effective and efficient." According to IMLS, 30 million Americans used a library computer to address their career and employment needs in 2009. Sadly, GovTrack gives WILL a zero percent chance of being enacted.

### ALA Promises Expanded School Library Advocacy

The American Library Association (ALA) on June 17 revealed its much-anticipated strategic plan for school library advocacy, based on findings from its School Library Task Force's (SLTF) midwinter 2013 report. The plan calls for the forming of a new implementation task force to oversee advocacy, with committees for students, parents, administrators, and national policymakers; a short-term "think tank" to conceptualize creative advocacy content that engages the public; and a coordinating group to oversee the campaign and liaison with vendors.

The multifaceted campaign will build on the work of the SLTF; an implementation task force has already begun working on strategic messaging and advocacy work for the next year, according to ALA. First on the implementation task force's agenda is the short-term "think tank" to develop key messages and strategies, before it divides into subcommittees to tailor the messages and actions to various constituencies.

ALA also confirms that its school library campaign will be jump-started by beginning the national push for signatures on the Declaration for the Right to Libraries with school li-

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braries, which will forward the signed declarations to public and academic libraries in their communities and statewide. The vision is to establish a window of one to two weeks in the fall for school libraries across the country to host signing ceremonies, which can be leveraged for strong national media coverage and public support, ALA said.

The school library advocacy efforts will also include building partnerships with national organizations and targeting specific constituencies (such as school administrators, classroom teachers, parents, and school boards). Increased advocacy with national legislators will be guided by ALA's Washington Office.

Several vendors have offered to support ALA advocacy efforts for school libraries; ALA promised it will engage those vendors and enlist others to become a part of the school library campaign.

## Brooklyn's First Carnegie Branch Gets a Reprieve

The Brooklyn Public Library's (BPL) first Carnegie library, the Pacific Branch, has been spared from sale and demolition after all—but perhaps only briefly. Council Member Letitia James, who represents the area where a new library to replace the branch would have been located, secured an agreement to decouple the sale of Pacific from a mixed-use plan. But the library's response does not rule out a sale in the future.

### THE ORIGINAL PLAN: TRADING IN

As *Hotline* reported in April, BPL originally intended to sell both the Pacific branch and the Brooklyn Heights branch, each located on a valuable plot in a gentrified neighborhood. The goal was not only to escape major necessary repairs in these outdated buildings but also to raise tens

of millions of dollars toward a capital backlog of some \$300 million.

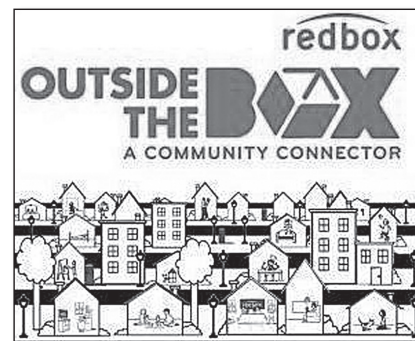
Both plans, however pragmatic at a time when BPL gets only \$15 million annually in capital funding, generated significant criticism from neighbors wanting to preserve the historic Pacific branch, which opened in 1904, and worried that the library would make an unwise deal with a private developer to develop the Brooklyn Heights site.

While the Brooklyn Heights site would incorporate a new library, the closing of Pacific was to have been a trade, wherein the money raised by the sale would have been used to fit out a new 16,500 square foot branch in the base of BAM South, a 32-story tower adjacent to the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM).

Both Council Member Steve Levin, who represents the Pacific branch, and Council Member James, who rep-

## OCLC, Redbox Launch Library Entertainment Initiative

Movie and game rental business Redbox and OCLC will launch a pilot program this summer that will sponsor arts festivals, concerts, outdoor movies, and other free public entertainment events in partnership with local libraries. "Outside the Box" will begin with five libraries: Billings Public Library, MT; West Town Branch of the Chicago Public Library; Richland Library, Columbia, SC; Chattahoochee Valley Libraries, Columbus, GA; and Cuyahoga County Public Library, OH. Pilot libraries were selected based on criteria that include geographic and ethnic diversity, median household income, and local leadership.



Through the program, the libraries help their communities select and organize the local entertainment initiatives while Redbox will provide event resources as well as local marketing support. OCLC and the consulting group Project for Public Spaces will lend dedicated project management expertise. Participating communities will have access to unique materials to support these events, including outdoor movie screens, blankets, tents, tables and seating, stages, or licensed access to movies or games, according to an announcement.

While OCLC has a long history of partnering with foundations and public institutions, this program marks the organization's first private sector partnership, Cathy De Rosa, OCLC VP for global marketing and the Americas, said in an announcement.

"'Outside the Box' will demonstrate that libraries, through public-private partnerships, are a powerful platform for community engagement," she said.

"Public libraries were chosen as a launching pad for 'Outside the Box' because they are trusted institutions in local neighborhoods," Chrystie Hill, community relations director for OCLC, said in the announcement. "Like Redbox, libraries are committed to providing access to popular content and programs, to engaging and building communities, and contributing to local development."

"Entertainment provides a way for people to connect with each other and the world around them," said Kiera Hynninen, senior VP of marketing for Redbox. "We know that when people are more socially interconnected, communities thrive. Through 'Outside the Box,' Redbox will support neighbors in finding more ways to connect with each other, and we hope this will have a lasting impact, well beyond the program."

resents the BAM South site, expressed opposition to the sale.

James secured the agreement to decouple the sale of Pacific, as part of the council approval of the BAM South plan, which includes mixed-income apartments and other cultural space. But while James's press release stated that "BPL Pacific Branch Spared from Sale, Demolition," the resolution leaves some wiggle room.

"The administration has committed to working with elected officials and community stakeholders to formulate a plan for service through an open process," stated James. "A potential future change regarding the status of the library would require City Council approval."

"While we initially planned to fund

the fit-out costs through the sale of the existing Pacific Street Branch, an aging facility two blocks away that fails to meet modern library needs in many ways, it has become clear that the neighborhood highly values that branch and its historic building," BPL responded in a statement. "BPL is committed to working with elected officials and community stakeholders to develop an appropriate plan for the Pacific Street building through an open community process."

Such a plan "could include maintaining some or all of the Pacific Street building and continuing to provide library service and programming for children in the community." But the library, as noted in the *New York Times*, won't rule out sell-

ing the branch at some point.

As one resident commented, "The BPL statement, if looked at carefully, doesn't really say anything new—and is chock-full of escape clauses."

"Citizens Defending Libraries wants to see the Pacific Branch saved as a historic building and to continue as a library," stated Carolyn McIntyre, a cofounder of the new group, which has held rallies and launched a petition to stop the sale of library buildings. "So long as that happens we were not, per se, opposed to a new library in the BAM South building."

BPL's plans, together with New York Public Library's scheme to renovate its flagship library, was under scrutiny on June 27, when Manhattan assembly member Micah Kellner was to have held a public hearing "[t]o examine the practice of selling public library buildings to private developers and the impact that sale has on the library and the services it provides."

The fate of the Pacific branch, however, may rely significantly on Council Member Brad Lander, who, after a change in boundary lines, will have that library in his district.

"I very much want to save the Pacific Street branch, and I hope that the BAM South agreement helps in that effort," Lander told *Hotline*. "I'm certainly relieved that nothing will move forward before the end of the Bloomberg administration, as I hope that the next mayor will be a much better steward of our public libraries than this one has been."

"But I also really hope that we will use this crisis not just to focus on one building but on the much broader challenges facing our Brooklyn Public Library system," Lander continued.

## IMLS: Libraries Key to Early Learning

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Cam-

## People

**Beth Bernhardt** was promoted to Assistant Dean for Collection Management and Scholarly Communications for the University Libraries at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. She was previously Electronic Resources Librarian.

**Alan Harkness** was named Director of the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries, Columbus, GA, effective July 1. He is currently the Assistant State Librarian for Library Development at the Georgia Public Library Service, Atlanta.

**Lynn R. Hidek** retired as Assistant Director and Children's Librarian at the Henry Carter Hull Library, Clinton, CT. She had been with the library for 27 years.

**Sian Hunter** was promoted to Editor in Chief of the University Press of Florida. She was formerly Senior Acquisitions Editor.

**Sheila Mikkelson** was named Director of the William Jeanes Memorial Library and Nicholas and Athena Karabots Center for Learning, Lafayette Hill, PA. She previously held the same position at Delaware City Library.

**Maria Mucino** was named Branch Manager at the Guadalupe branch of Maricopa County Library District, AZ. She was previously a librarian at the Mesa Public Library, AZ.

**Judith Platt**, Director of Free Expression Advocacy for the Association of American Publishers, was presented the Freedom To Read Foundation's 2013 Roll of Honor Award. She was honored for her contributions to such projects as Banned Books Week and the Campaign for Reader Privacy.

**Ira Silverberg** left his position as Director of Literature Programs for the National Endowment of the Arts to return to New York. **Amy Stolls**, Literature Program Officer, will serve as Acting Director until a replacement can be found.

The **Dallas Public Library** has promoted **Jasmine Africawala**, previously Manager of Literacy Programs, to Community Engagement Administrator, and **Melissa Dease**, formerly Manager of the Downtown Branch of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, to Youth Services Administrator.

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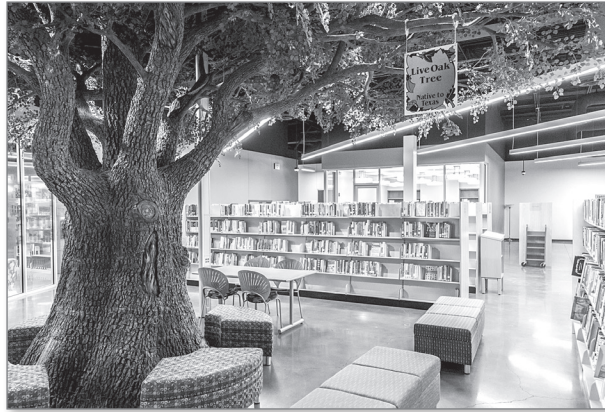
paigned for Grade-Level Reading unveiled a new report on the role of museums and libraries in early learning (ow.ly1mkP5H) and issued a call to action for policymakers, schools, funders, and parents to include these institutions in comprehensive early-learning strategies. *Growing Young Minds: How Museums and Libraries Create Lifelong Learners* cites dozens of examples and ten case studies and highlights ten key ways libraries and museums support children's early education and summer learning.

According to the report, libraries and museums support learning through increasing the number of high-quality early learning experiences, engaging and supporting families as their child's first teachers, bolstering development of executive function and "deeper learning" through literacy and STEM-based activities, creating seamless links across early learning and the early grades, positioning children for meeting expectations of the Common Core State Standards, addressing the summer slide, linking new digital technologies to learning, improving family health and nutrition, leveraging community partnerships, and adding capacity to early-learning networks.

The report also outlined areas and questions that deserve further impact study and specific recommendations for improving early learning outcomes and increasing school readiness through federal, state, and community efforts.

Federal policymakers, for example, should include museum/library grants in funding priorities, support research to identify best practices for early learning in museums and libraries, and invest in professional development for museum and library staff.

Communities, the report recommends, should include museums and libraries in initiatives designed to in-



The new 33,000 square foot **Centennial Library** (pictured), Midland County Public Libraries, TX (see *Hotline* 8/6/12), opened its doors in April. Designed by professional services firm Dewberry, the new \$8.1 million facility was transformed from a stand-alone retail facility; there was no tax impact on the citizens of Midland County. With a construction price tag of nearly \$3.5 million, the library was designed for flexibility and vibrancy. The incorporation of four steel trees and a simulated landscape allowed the preservation of the former building envelope while expressing the county's natural environment. Dedicated children's and teen spaces feature an interactive work wall and an interactive floor among the building's numerous high-tech amenities. The library also includes a media lab, movable walls and partitions, and a variety of seating options.

The **Randolph Township Free Public Library**, NJ, which completed a \$2.2 million

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renovation just two years ago that also included work on the adjacent community center, is looking for more upgrades, according to the *Randolph Reporter*. Relocated in 1985 to space that had previously been part of a hotel in operation in the first half of the 20th century, the 14,100 square foot library still needed work. The installation of a new entrance,

new siding, and a new roof were addressed in the 2011 effort, along with the removal of debris from the long-collapsed hotel that had caused sink holes to appear. What has now been proposed is the building of a 2,000 square foot meeting room at a cost of \$468,000. The funds will come from money already set aside for that work, per the *Reporter*.

Four years and several hurricanes later, the **Stapleton branch** library, Staten Island, NY, part of the New York Public Library, reopened in early June. The renovated 12,000 square foot building is more than twice the size of its predecessor, according to the *City Room*. The original 4,800 square foot 1907 Carnegie building grew by 7,000 square feet and now houses additional reading spaces, computer areas, a community room, and lounge seating. Andrew Berman Architects is behind the design; the project cost \$15.2 million.

Photo courtesy of Midland County Public Libraries.

crease family engagement in school readiness, examine ways to help vulnerable, underserved families access museum and library services, and launch public information campaigns.

For districts and schools, the report calls for joint professional development for teachers and museum and library staff and the establishment of partnerships between schools and lo-

cal museums and libraries that support building content knowledge.

## HathiTrust Doubles DPLA Collection

The HathiTrust Digital Library will become the Digital Public Library of America's (DPLA) single largest content hub, the two institutions

announced on June 18.

The metadata records associated with some 3,384,638 volumes held by the HathiTrust (about one-third of the trust's 11 million total holdings) will be accessible on the web at [dp.la](http://dp.la) and through the DPLA application programming interface (API). (The digitized volumes themselves will continue to reside in HathiTrust.)

HathiTrust executive director John Wilkin (soon to be stepping down from that position) told *Hotline*, "staff from DPLA and HathiTrust have been collaborating on large-scale metadata specifications and transfer. DPLA has already done a test import of some

HathiTrust data, and it is currently in its development environment for evaluation. We anticipate making this content available through the DPLA website and API in the next four to six weeks."

Wilkin stressed that HathiTrust will continue to enhance its own discovery and access platform but said that DPLA puts HathiTrust's collection before a broader audience, alongside innovative search and use tools, including time lines, maps, and a growing number of apps.

DPLA will be working to add a special interface for books to supplement its map and time line browsing

interfaces, but the HathiTrust content will be available through the current site as soon as the data is loaded.

Of the existing apps, Dan Cohen, DPLA's executive director, told *Hotline*, "DPLA suspects that StackLife, an innovative tool from Harvard's Library Innovation Lab for browsing, searching, and reading books made available via the DPLA, will take particular advantage of the new material from HathiTrust."

## "Unleash the Book," Challenges HarperCollins

HarperCollins on June 6 issued the BookSmash Challenge, a four-month-long contest ending on September 5, designed to motivate would-be developers "to create new digital products that 'break the binding' and reimagine the book." To help innovators build the software that "goes beyond the traditional ways we read and discover books," HarperCollins is providing application programming interfaces (APIs) to access books (text, metadata, covers, etc.) from authors both new and old, including Eloisa James, Kim Harrison, James Rollins, and C.S. Lewis, among at least a dozen others.

Submissions can be software programs or apps for iOS, Android, BlackBerry, Windows Phone, PC, Mac, or web/mobile platforms. The Grand Prize is \$15,000; Runner-up, \$8,000; and Popular Choice, \$2,000. A HarperCollins Recognition Award (noncash) will honor large organizations. "We're hoping developers will think big," said HarperCollins VP of innovation Ana Maria Alessi. "To give them ideas... we've created the 'Idea Bank,' which helps them access great work that's been done around books already—and hopefully encourages them to go even further." The OpenBook API page has links to APIs for sites like Goodreads, Foursquare, etc.

### News in Brief

For its Nineteenth Century Collections Online program, which digitizes primary sources, Gale launched four new archives: *Europe and Africa: Commerce, Christianity, Civilization, and Conquest*; *Photography: The World Through the Lens*; *Science, Technology and Medicine, 1780–1925*; and *Women: Transnational Networks*.

The Library of Congress (LC) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) have selected ten candidates for the National Digital Stewardship Residency program, a nine-month program designed to allow graduate students to gain experience in digital preservation. The students chosen are Julia Blasé, University of Denver; Heidi Dowding, Wayne State University, Detroit; Maureen Harlow, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Jaime McCurry, Long Island University, NY; Lee Nilsson, Eastern Washington University, Cheney; Margo Padilla, San José State University, CA; Emily Reynolds, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Molly Schwartz, University of Maryland, College Park; Erica Titkemeyer, New York University; and Lauren Work, University of Washington, Seattle.

Additionally, LC has transitioned to online-only cataloging documentation. Publications that once sold through its Cataloging Distribution Service are now available as free downloadable PDF files.

Findaway World, an audiobook company, launched the Playaway Backpack program, designed to help library patrons develop literacy skills. Backpacks include audio and print versions of titles to use in tandem.

Yale University library, New Haven, CT, selected Serials Solutions' Summon as its discovery index service. It is the sixth Ivy League university to do so.

EBSCO Information Services has integrated titles from EBSCO ebooks with Ingram's OASIS, an online database for searching, selecting, and ordering titles. OASIS users in academic libraries will have access to more than 400,000 ebooks from EBSCO.

Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero awarded 30 grants totaling \$2.9 million to historical records projects. The funds will be used to publish the papers of key American figures and archive various collections.

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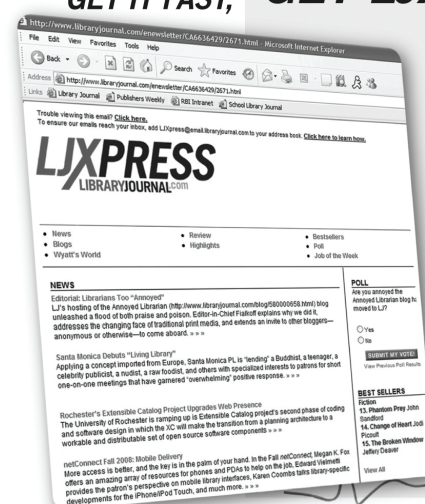
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