

**CA Mandates Open Access for Tax-Funded Research**

California has become the first state to mandate open access (OA) for the products of some taxpayer-funded research. On September 29, Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law the California Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act, coauthored by Assemblyman Brian Nestande (R-Palm Desert) and Assemblyman Mike Gatto (D-Los Angeles). AB 609, as the bill is known, ensures that those who stand to benefit most from state-funded research will have access to current research results free of charge. Beginning January 1, 2015, the products of more than \$200 million in annual research paid for by California taxpayers will be freely available—with some restrictions: AB 609 applies only to research funded by the Department of Public Health.

The legislation requires researchers whose work is supported by a fully or partially state-funded grant and has been accepted for publication by a peer-reviewed journal to submit an electronic version of the resulting article to a publicly accessible database. Suggested options include the University of California’s (UC) eScholarship Repository at the California Digital Library (CDL), PubMed Central, or the

California Digital Open Source Library (CDOSL). The article would then be made publicly accessible through the California State Library no later than 12 months from its publication date. All work will be listed and linked to in an online bibliography.

The bill was first introduced in February 2013 and passed the house assembly in June 2013. In the process, however, it underwent some significant changes that did not please everyone.

The original legislation called for publishers to be granted an embargo on articles of no longer than six months. Eventually the permissible embargo was extended to a period of up to a year. This reflects the maximum 12-month embargo that publishers are allowed under the 2008 National Institute of Health Public Access Policy. The new bill’s drafters felt that a shorter state embargo period could result in a potential conflict with California researchers’ eligibility for federal grants, according to Assemblyman Nestande’s chief of staff Nanette Farag.

In addition, an earlier version of the legislation would have applied the OA mandate to all state-funded research.

OA in the United States has often depended on concessions to gain acceptance. In 2013, the ten-campus UC system instituted an OA policy requiring

**Interview**

**Jim Ziolkowski**



Jim Ziolkowski left his position with General Electric to become founder, president, and CEO of buildOn, whose mission is to break the cycle of poverty, illiteracy, and low expectations among today’s youth. The means are through youth-oriented after-school programs in U.S. high schools and the creation of schools in developing countries.

**Why did you leave a corporate job and dedicate your life to buildOn?**

I was backpacking around the world and witnessed the severe poverty people live with. In Nepal, I came upon a village celebrating the opening of its first school and was overwhelmed by the immense pride and joy these villagers expressed—the value they placed on education.

**Why is buildOn involved with inner-city youth and after-school programs?**

We have extreme poverty in the [United States]. Urban youth don’t necessarily want to escape their surroundings; they want to transform them. Everyone wants the power and ability to change life for the better, and that is what buildOn tries to do—give people the tools to take charge of their lives.

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that its faculty members deposit a copy of their work in the university's eScholarship archive and grant the university a nonexclusive license to make it freely available. However, the policy contains an opt-out clause for work appearing in journals that insist on exclusive rights. The clause has been criticized for allowing the publishers of larger or more prestigious journals to demand that authors opt out. It is, however, little used, according to Catherine Mitchell, director of CDL's Access & Publishing division at UC.

Even with its concessions, AB 609 is considered to be a success for OA initiatives. Illinois may be the next state to pass state-level OA policy. The Illinois Open Access to Articles Act (SB 1900), introduced into the State Senate by Sen. Daniel Biss (D-Evanston) in February 2013, would apply to work from Illinois state universities and colleges. If the legislation passes, it would need to be presented to the Illinois State Senate by January 1, 2015.

In the meantime, California hopes to leverage its strong research initiative to be a leader in OA policy. "There is a great deal of enthusiasm about the passage of AB 609," CDL's Mitchell told *Hotline*. "We have an opportunity to lead the way here and let other states watch what happens. Hopefully we'll have good news for everyone."

## Philadelphia's Maker Jawn Gets IMLS Grant

In a move that will help the Free Library of Philadelphia (FLP) expand science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM)-based Maker space programming to multigenerational audiences, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on October 23 awarded a \$500,000 National Leadership Grant to FLP in support of the library's Maker Jawn initiative.

Launched in FLP's Kensington branch in spring 2013, Maker Jawn

thus far has focused on developing and hosting STEAM-based Maker programming targeted at teens and middle schoolers. During the past 18 months, grant funding from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and other sources has enabled FLP to expand these programs to several other locations, primarily in North Philadelphia.

As the project's website explains, *jawn* is an all-purpose substitute noun that originated in the old-school Philly hip-hop scene and has since cemented itself as a unique part of the city's dialect. The eclectic word represents the program well. Activities have ranged from introductory sewing classes to video production to complex group tech projects.

For example, with the help of a grant from the Digital Media and Learning Research Hub, FLP in the summer of 2013 partnered with the University of Pennsylvania (U. Penn) Graduate School of Education and PennDesign to develop Connected Messages, a project that involved kids and teens working together to create a series of six physical murals that are connected to the Internet through an Electric Imp. Each mural has its own web page, where visitors can listen to recordings that participants made to explain their contribution to the mural, or interact with the physical murals by turning LED lights on or off.

Prior to Maker Jawn, FLP already offered its Literacy Enrichment After-school Program (LEAP), which for 25 years has provided K-12 homework help and subject-specific tutoring, along with activities designed to promote traditional literacy, digital literacy, and literacy in science, technology, and cultural arts. Yet while there is a degree of overlap in the educational missions of these two programs, Theresa Ramos, program development coordinator for FLP, said that these efforts were distinct and

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
*Library Journal & School Library Journal*

**VP, Group Publisher** Ian Singer  
**Editorial Director** Rebecca T. Miller  
**Editor** Lisa Peet

**Contributing Editors**  
Liz Attack, Kate DiGirolomo, Matt Enis,  
Bette-Lee Fox, Meredith Schwartz,  
Carolyn Sun, Bob Warburton

**Art Production Designer**  
Josephine Marc-Anthony  
**Creative Director** Mark Tuchman

**TO CONTACT HOTLINE:**  
**Editorial**

Phone: (646) 380-0700  
Fax: (646) 380-0756/0757  
E-mail: [LJHotline@mediasourceinc.com](mailto:LJHotline@mediasourceinc.com)  
123 William St., Suite 802,  
New York, NY 10038

**Advertising**  
Roy Futterman or your LJ rep  
Phone: (646) 380-0718  
[rfutterman@mediasourceinc.com](mailto:rfutterman@mediasourceinc.com)

**Classified**  
Howard Katz, Classified Manager  
Phone: (646) 380-0730

**Production**  
JoAnn Powell, Production Manager  
Phone: (646) 380-0741

**Subscriptions**  
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LIBRARY HOTLINE (ISSN 0740-736X) (RPUSA 123397467) is published weekly (every Monday except on the two Mondays nearest to the year-end holidays) by Library Journals, LLC, 123 William St., Suite 802, New York, NY 10038. Randy Asmo, Chief Executive Officer; Ian Singer, VP, Group Publisher. Library Hotline is a registered trademark of Library Journals, LLC. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA. SUBSCRIPTION: \$119.99 per year, Canada \$159.99, Other (incl Air) \$159.99, Single Copy (U.S.) \$5.95, and Single Copy (all other) \$10.00. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Library Hotline, PO Box 460483, Escondido, CA 92046-9803 Telephone 800-588-1030 Outside US 1-760-317-2332.

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explained that Maker Jawn aims to foster exploration and community-based learning environments.

The mix of high-tech and low-tech programming is no accident. Ramos noted that when Maker Jawn recently had the opportunity to work with U. Penn professor Yasmin B. Kafai on an

e-textiles project, most participants didn't know how to sew. Many young people and adults now have gaps in skills such as sewing or cooking, she explained (separately, FLP recently debuted a Culinary Literacy Center).

Currently, the Maker Jawn initiative receives significant staffing sup-

port from Philadelphia's University of the Arts, U. Penn, and Temple University. As part of a preexisting program, these local universities pay the salaries of more than 15 work-study and graduate student "mentors" who have now been tapped to help create and facilitate Maker Jawn events. To ensure the program's long-term sustainability, FLP created a non-grant-dependent city employee position to oversee the students. Separately, a group of interns from U. Penn's Graduate School of Education are observing the program and documenting engagement and results.

If the program is to be a long-term success, it will be owing to the community that Maker Jawn helps build, Ramos said, not the result of a few 3-D printers or other equipment.

"The important thing about this is not an individual coming into the library and making something," Ramos said. "Maker spaces, I think, are where you come for community and you're with people who share the same interests."

The grant to expand Maker Jawn programming to adults is another step toward building the program into the community that FLP envisions. Ramos said that the funding will allow the library to begin exploring "whether it's adults, families, parents with preschool children, is there a way of having that space that's really transforming library services?"

## Ex-Detroit Library Exec Cromer Gets Ten Years

Former Detroit Public Library (DPL) chief administrative and technology officer Timothy Cromer was sentenced on September 16 to ten years in federal prison. He had been charged with taking more than \$1.4 million in bribes and kickbacks from library contractors.

Cromer first came under scrutiny in October 2010, when DPL commis-

### How Puppets Power Literacy at Nashville Public Library

The 15-foot box truck from Nashville Public Library (NPL) pulling up to the Mt. View Elementary School looks a lot like the hundreds of others that make deliveries in Nashville every day. But this truck is carrying something special in its cargo bed: puppets, and the truck drivers are professional performing artists and puppeteers who form NPL's Wishing Chair Productions troupe.

On the surface, Wishing Chair performances can seem like mere fun and games. However, the puppetry is part of NPL's strategy to nurture the city's kids into confident, eager young readers.

NPL's early childhood literacy outreach team, called Bringing Books to Life (BBTL), works closely with Wishing Chair's traveling

puppeteers. BBTL staff go into schools slated for performances weeks prior, coordinating with teachers and librarians to ensure the students have a series of positive experiences with books and stories leading up to the day of the show.

"When the students have been reading the book before we come, they are thrilled to know something about it already," said Morgan Matens, a member of Wishing Chair. By the time the children see the puppet show, the story is already like an old friend.

Puppets appeal to children on a sensory and imaginative level. A puppet show can still—in this age of mobile devices, flashing screens, and digitized gadgets—captivate a room of toddlers for a good 30 minutes.

Moreover, when children fall in love with puppet shows, they want more stories, and they begin to want to learn to read. Hearing stories in different ways—and getting opportunities to retell them creatively—builds children's narrative skills, which is a vital part of early literacy.

Nashville is home to one of the fastest-growing foreign-born populations in the United States. Nearly 30 percent of Metro Nashville Public School students come from homes where English is not the predominant language. By offering a variety of storytelling opportunities, the BBTL puppet strategy can help this student population work on their English-language literacy.

NPL and its tradition of puppetry are unique. In 1938, a teenager named Tom Tichenor showed up at the library with some homemade marionettes and asked if he could perform the story of "Puss in Boots." The librarian at the time said yes, and the rest is history.

After a productive stint working on Broadway and in television in New York, Tichenor returned to Nashville and continued writing, building, and performing puppet shows at the library. Tichenor died in 1992, but his legacy lives on through the Wishing Chair group.



NPL's Wishing Chair Productions truck.

Photo courtesy of NPL.

sioners terminated an \$835,000 contract for network upgrades and staff IT support with Cubemation LLC, owing to budget concerns. Although project funds had been depleted in the course of the contract's eight months without the work being completed, Cubemation sued DPL in May 2011 for more than \$184,000, and Cromer admitted to having advanced the company \$125,000 that had not been deducted from the contract amount. The board requested an audit in May 2012, and then, in a November raid, FBI agents removed papers from offices of the DPL main branch and Cromer's West Bloomfield home.

It was revealed that in 2008 Cromer had authorized a no-bid technology contract with Cubemation for nearly \$3 million without DPL board approval and from 2008 to 2010 signed off on IT services and website work without the board's oversight. Cubemation's

The **New Jersey State Library**, Trenton, acquired a copy of the battleship *New Jersey* oral history collection. The archive consists of 320 video and audio interviews of U.S. Navy crew members, U.S. Marine Corps personnel, and other veterans and civilians who helped construct or maintain the ship.

**LibraryReads**, which provides a monthly list of books recommended by librarians, announced that librarians can now nominate titles through **NetGalley**. Selections will also be promoted to NetGalley's larger community.

The **Library of Congress's Preservation Reformatting Division** renewed its agreement with **Backstage Library Works** to move forward on a microfilming project. Monographs, serials, and other printed works in need of preparation and microfilm-

ing will be processed at the latter's preservation facility.

**West Virginia University Libraries**, Morgantown, received the literary manuscripts of author Pearl S. Buck (1892–1973). This is part of a partnership with **West Virginia Wesleyan College**, Buckhannon, and the **Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Foundation** to preserve the Nobel Prize winner's legacy.

The **Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis** launched an improved version of its digital library of economic, financial, and banking materials. It has also broadened availability of its content through the **Digital Public Library of America**.

The **Organization of Watauga Libraries (OWL)**, TN, signed a seven-year agreement with **SirsiDynix**. OWL is a ten-member consortium.

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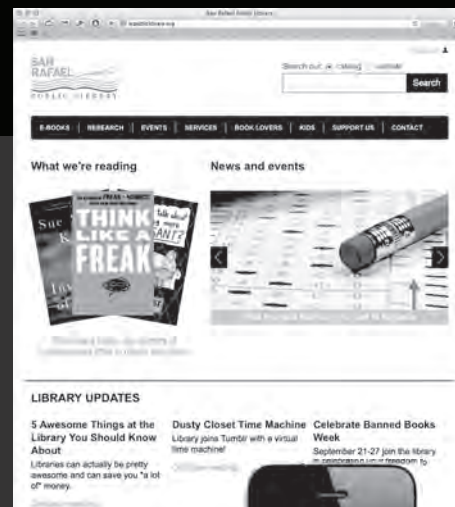
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owner, Ricardo Hearn, would eventually bill the library \$2.8 million while kicking back approximately \$800,000 to Cromer; as a bonus, Cubemation also created a website for Cromer's ex-wife's fashion design company.

In addition, in 2007 Cromer helped technology contractor James Henley create a business, Core Consulting and Professional Services, in order to bid on an upgrade of DPL's computer network infrastructure. Cromer secured a \$712,000 contract for Core Consulting, with costs eventually increasing to \$1.8 million due to various change orders and extensions—\$625,000 of which Henley kicked back to Cromer in a series of payments during 2007 and 2008. Cromer terminated the contract in 2008 but continued to approve Henley's invoices and received another \$125,000 in kickbacks.

Cromer, who was placed on a paid leave of absence at the end of 2012, was

fired in February 2013; at the time his salary was \$145,323. He appeared before U.S. Attorney Barbara L. McQuade the following May and was charged in a 21-count indictment with accepting more than \$1.4 million in bribes and kickbacks. In April 2014, he admitted to receiving a bribe from Henley and conspiring to commit bribery with Hearn. Henley and Hearn had previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery, and in January 2013 Henley was indicted on six counts of bribery and failure to file taxes.

While such an abuse of funds would have been difficult for any library to sustain, DPL was already suffering from budget problems. In 2011, because of an \$11 million shortfall from a drop in property taxes, the system was forced to close four of its 23 branches, with hours reduced across the system.

Although Cromer earned a bachelor's degree in management from

Wayne State University Business School in 2013, when he began working at DPL as director of information systems in 2003 he had only a GED. Detroit's Local 4 News quotes him as admitting that he wasn't ready for the job and doesn't understand how he got it in the first place.

## 86,000 Books Shipped to Liberia

Liberian children will be receiving brand new books and educational materials before Christmas, said Wendy Saul, president and executive director of the International Book Bank (IBB), a global literacy nonprofit based in Baltimore that donates new books to charities in developing countries. In its latest efforts, IBB raised \$20,000 to ship a container of approximately 86,000 books to Liberia; it left the port of Baltimore on October 31.

The container is bound for the We Care Foundation, an NGO based in Monrovia, Liberia, which "trains [Liberian] teachers, writers, and publishers, and produces engaging and relevant children[s] books for the schools and the reading public," states the We Care website. (The We Care Foundation was founded by Liberian national Michael Weah, its executive director, who opened Monrovia's first and only public library.)

IBB has partnered with We Care before, including shipping books to stock We Care's Library. However, since the Ebola virus broke out last March, schools and the We Care Library have been closed, and the training that both IBB and We Care have been doing is at a standstill, said Saul.

"Every kid in...Liberia is out of school," she told *Hotline*. "We know what will happen when kids are out of school for two months in the summer. Imagine what will happen in ten to 12 months."

## People

**Amber Holly** was promoted to Youth Services Manager at Jacksonville Public Library, FL. She was previously a Youth Services Librarian III.

**Emily Lo**, Mayor of Saratoga, CA, was elected Chair of the Santa Clara County Library District, CA, Joint Powers Authority Governing Board. She succeeds **Jason Baker**, Council Member for the City of Campbell.

**Kristine Macalalad** was named Children's Librarian at the Butte County Library's Chico Branch, CA. She was previously Patient Education Librarian at the University of California's Barnett-Briggs Medical Library, San Francisco.

**Kate Nevins** announced her retirement as Executive Director at LYRASIS, effective June 30, 2015. She has been in the position since the organization's creation in 2009.

**Neil L. Rudenstine** retired as Chair of the New York Public Library. He has been in the position since 2011.

Schlow Centre Region Library, State College, PA, made the following hires: **Brady Clemens**, formerly Director of Juniata County Library, Mifflintown, PA, was named District Library Consultant; and **Lisa Rives Collens**, formerly District Library Consultant, was promoted to Head of Patron Services.

## In Memoriam

**Leslie Armour**, Research Professor at Dominican University College, Ont., Canada, and a longtime *Library Journal* reviewer, died on November 1. He was 83 years old.

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Some students who received books from the International Book Bank have improved two to three grade levels.

The container of books is part of a larger mission—to offer children educational and reading material during the next few months in the form of approximately 10,000 “homeschool packages” that the We Care Foundation will be hand delivering to Liberian schoolchildren throughout Monrovia and its outlying areas. The care packages will contain not just books but also Ebola-prevention fliers, bumper stickers, copybooks, and pencils, which will help with home lessons and give the “younger ones the opportunity to ‘draw their experiences,’ a method of psychosocial counseling used in dealing with traumatized kids,” said Weah.

The fliers and bumper stickers also provide valuable health information dispensed in a simple, comprehensible format. Liberia is a country with an extremely low adult literacy rate—58 percent, according to a Liberian Ministry of Education 2010 census—with an even lower literacy rate among the young, said Saul.

Saul, a professor and children’s literacy expert at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, has been invested in various threads of literacy work in Liberia since 2007, when a program called “Critical Thinking Liberia”

first brought her to the country.

The effects of Ebola are more than just life or death, stated Saul. What is also at stake here, with all the schools closed, is a longer-term Ebola crisis—losing literacy.

## Library Excises Referendum Signs from Branches

Acting on a complaint from a Mecklenburg County (NC) commissioner, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (CML) officials last week removed signs providing information about a referendum on a proposed sales tax increase, which would have benefited the library, from all 14 branches serving as early voting locations. The referendum was defeated November 4 by a 3–2 margin.

Commissioner Bill James told *Hotline* that the signs violated a state law prohibiting advocacy by a public-

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ly funded institution and also constituted illegal electioneering within 50 feet of a polling place.

CML's CEO, Lenoir C. "Lee" Keesler, told *Hotline* the signs were merely flyers and posters but said libraries acted swiftly to remove the offending materials.

James first learned about them after individuals registered complaints on his Facebook page. He emailed Keesler to request that all signs be removed from close proximity to the early voting areas, including hallways where long lines of people would sometimes form as they waited to cast

their ballots. The commissioner also forwarded the complaints to Michael Dickerson, the county's director of elections. Dickerson agreed that the signs should be moved farther from the polling stations.

The referendum was a hot-button political issue for Mecklenburg County voters this election season. If the measure had passed, the county sales tax would have risen by one-quarter of 1¢, from 7.25¢ to 7.5¢.

Keesler said CML would have gained an additional \$1.75 million in sales tax revenue, five percent of the projected \$35 million it would have added to Mecklenburg County's coffers. Eighty percent of that amount had been earmarked for teacher salaries. Central Piedmont Community College would have received a 7.5 percent share, with the same amount allocated for the county's nonprofit Arts and Science Council.

James, a Republican, came out strongly against the referendum. In arguing his case, James said there were no guarantees the increased sales tax revenue would have been divided up as advertised.

CML branches accounted for 14 of Mecklenburg County's 21 early voting sites. Early voting began on October 23 and ended November 1. Mecklenburg County includes the city of Charlotte, which has a population of about 800,000 and sits in a metro area of some 2.33 million residents.

Early voting drew a strong turnout in North Carolina this fall. The Associated Press, citing its own data, reported that some 16.7 million people in 31 states cast advance ballots, with North Carolina one of several to exceed its totals from 2010.

The numbers for Mecklenburg County were also eye-opening. Dickerson told the *Charlotte Observer* that 91,600 residents voted early, with an additional 5,000 mail-in absentee ballots cast.

## Branching Out



On September 29, the new **Hudson County Community College Library** (rendering), Jersey City, opened in Journal Square. The six-story facility incorporates 112,000 square feet and cost \$35 million; it was designed by NK Architects. The nearly two-year project features 33 classrooms, including nine computer labs; three-story lecture halls; a two-story lobby; a gallery space; a rooftop terrace; a 9/11 memorial; and a Starbucks, according to NJ.com. The library proper encompasses 35,000 square feet on the first two floors of the multiuse structure; its predecessor was a mere 6,200 square feet. The building also includes a Maker space and a collection of 45,000 items.

Westchester Square, Bronx, NY, is looking to revitalize, according to the *Bronx Times*. Part of that plan includes a new branch of the **New York Public Library** (NYPL), a modern glass structure on the site of an annex to the

landmark Huntington Free Library. The 12,000 square foot library will cost approximately \$13 million and will launch in 2016. Snøhetta is the firm behind the design. At press time, NYPL and the Huntington were negotiating the purchase price, though all indications were that the effort, which has been on the drawing board for six years, was moving ahead.

The main branch of the **Jersey City Public Library** is looking at

a two-phase renovation to its 115-year-old building. Phase 1 will include the installation of a new elevator shaft and sprinkler system. Asbestos abatement will follow, along with electrical upgrades and the addition of energy-efficient fixtures, according to NJ.com. At some point, aluminum windows that had been added in the 1950s will be replaced with "historically correct" windows. The window project will be partially financed by \$354,000 from the Hudson County Open Space Trust Fund, with matching money from the city.

The Atlanta-Fulton Public Library broke ground in late October for the new **Metropolitan Library**, in the southwest portion of the city, per the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. The 25,000 square foot facility will replace the Stewart-Lakewood library and is one of eight new libraries approved in a 2008 bond measure.

Rendering courtesy of NK Architects

Send information on groundbreakings and ongoing and completed building projects to [blfox@mediasourceinc.com](mailto:blfox@mediasourceinc.com)