

**ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY  
CONSULTANT'S REPORT  
MARCH 2008**

**E NEWS FROM ISL**

To sign up for announcements and the weekly, electronic newsletter from the Illinois State Library, send an email to [pmcguckin@ilsos.net](mailto:pmcguckin@ilsos.net) and ask Pat McGuckin to sign you up for ISL Announce.

**LSTA GRANTS**

Apply now for the FY2009 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. This year's offerings include several new categories including opportunities to develop programming with "big ticket" equipment, research & development, digital imaging, joining a system's local automation consortium and adding serials to OCLC.

Information and applications may be found at:

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what\\_we\\_do/lsta2009.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/lsta2009.html).

- ★ **April 2<sup>ND</sup>** is the deadline for the required Letter of Intent to be submitted.
- ★ **May 12<sup>th</sup>** is the deadline for the application to be postmarked or hand delivered (by 4:30 pm) to the Illinois State Library.

LSTA grant opportunities are made possible with federal funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Illinois State Library.

The current LSTA grants (awarded for \$5,000 +) are posting information about their projects on **Web Junction Illinois** (WJIL). To get ideas and read about the exciting work being done by libraries across the state, take a look at

<http://webjunctionworks.org/il/blog/index.php/category/lsta-grant-update/>

It's amazing to read! You can comment on the posting if you are a registered user of WJIL. WJIL is a web site for Illinois library staff and boards and there is no fee to register.

**INSTITUTES:** *If you know of someone appropriate for either institute, please encourage them to attend:*

**Small Public Library Management Institute** (SPLMI) will be held June 1-6, 2008 at the University of Illinois Springfield. This year features advanced training for public library directors and therefore, attendance is for those who have attended a previous SPLMI. Highly endorsed by previous participants and public library boards across the state, this weeklong Institute is traditionally intended for directors of smaller public libraries and directors fairly new to the Illinois library community. Applications must be received on or before Friday, **March 21, 2008** by fax or mail.

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats\\_new/2008splmi.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/2008splmi.html)

**Institute for School and Public Librarians** (ISPL) will be held June 8-13, 2008 at Bradley University, Peoria. ISPL is most appropriate for school and public librarians who would like to develop their knowledge and skills to provide quality library services for the students or patrons served by their library. Applicants school or public library staff should be responsible for a variety of library duties including activities that focus on services to patrons/students. Application deadline is: **March 20, 2008** via fax.

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats\\_new/2008institute.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/2008institute.html)

### **SCHOLARSHIP - MLS DEGREE**

If you know of anyone interested in pursuing a Masters of Library & Information Science (MLS) degree, now is the time to apply for a scholarship from the Illinois State Library. Each year Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White awards up to fifteen \$7,500 scholarships to help pay for the education of students seeking their MLS degree. The deadline to apply is **May 1**.

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what\\_we\\_do/scholarships.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/what_we_do/scholarships.html)

### **ILLINOIS EMERGING WRITERS COMPETITION & GWENDOLYN BROOKS POETRY AWARD**

Named for the late award-winning poet and Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks, this writing competition, is open to Illinois residents age 18 and over. The purpose of the contest is to promote creative writing, encourage local writers, and provide a unique opportunity and outlet for recognizing new talent. Cash prizes will be awarded for the winning entries — \$500 for first place, \$300 for second place and \$100 for third place. The deadline for submission is 5:00 pm, **June 30**.

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/lda964.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lda964.pdf)

### **ILLINOIS VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT**

The Illinois Veterans History Project was launched by Secretary of State Jesse White to create a permanent record of the names and stories of Illinois war veterans and civilians who served our state and country during war, so that their contributions will not be forgotten. To participate in the Illinois Veterans' History Project, veterans or their family members can obtain an Illinois Patriots Information Form from the Secretary of State's office. The forms are available in driver services facilities and public libraries statewide, or on the Secretary of State's website at

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/ard1383.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/ard1383.pdf).

### **E-RICH SURVEY**

The Illinois State Library is seeking your valuable input regarding future E-RICH offerings. By facilitating E-Rich, the Illinois State Library strives to enrich the lives of Illinois citizens by promoting the availability of electronic resources and access to information in Illinois libraries. Please fill out this important survey, which should only take approximately five minutes to complete.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=NGOq8DCR1Y7jkpScPwMO7g\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=NGOq8DCR1Y7jkpScPwMO7g_3d_3d)

Contact Gwen Harrison, ISL Network Consultant, at 217-785-7334 if you have any questions.

### **ILLINOIS LIBRARY DAY**

Illinois Library Day is scheduled in Springfield for Thursday, April 10, 2008. A legislative breakfast will kick-off the day's events. See the web site for more information -

<http://www.illinoislibraryday.info/>

## ASK?AWAY FREE TRIAL

Ask?Away Illinois can expand reference services to your community and patrons 24/7. Act now to take advantage of a FREE trial demonstration period from Jan 15 - May 15, 2008. Your patrons and you will both benefit from 24/7 access to a reference cooperative for all your questions. There is no staffing required during the trial period. Transcripts and follow up options allow you to expand your patron reference services. Contact Natalie Tagge, [ntagge@ilsos.net](mailto:ntagge@ilsos.net), or log on to <http://www.askawayillinois.info> for more details.

## ESSAYS ABOUT LINCOLN

In November 1863, President Abraham Lincoln was invited to say “a few appropriate remarks” to dedicate a cemetery in rural Pennsylvania, the final resting place for more than 50,000 Americans who gave their lives during the Civil War. Facing a divided nation, Lincoln expressed in less than 300 words that from this terrible sacrifice “nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” Lincoln’s *Gettysburg Address* became one of our nation’s most revered speeches. Today, the nation is again divided and at war. Students in grades 5 – 12 are being encouraged to imagine themselves in Lincoln’s place. What would they say to your fellow citizens to unite the country? In 300 words or less, they are asked to express their ideals for a nation of freedom, democracy and equal opportunity. The deadline is **May 31**.

[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/lincolnsessay.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lincolnsessay.pdf)

## COMING SOON

March 20	Deadline to apply for the Institute for School and Public Librarians
March 21	Deadline to apply for the Small Public Library Management Institute
April 1 - 3	Synergy, Starved Rock, Utica
April 10	Illinois Library Day, Springfield
April 16	ILLINET Network Advisory Council
May 9	Illinois OCLC Users' Group Annual Meeting, ISL.
May 9	Reaching Forward Annual Conference of Library Assistants, Rosemont <a href="http://www.reachingforward.org/">http://www.reachingforward.org/</a>
May 31	Deadline for submissions to "Essays About Lincoln" contest, <a href="http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lincolnsessay.pdf">http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lincolnsessay.pdf</a>
June 1 - 6	Small Public Library Management Institute, University of Illinois at Springfield
June 8 -13	Institute for School & Public Librarians, Bradley University, Peoria
June 30	Deadline to enter Illinois Emerging Writers Competition, <a href="http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lda964.pdf">http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/lda964.pdf</a>