



SCL News

SCL News

IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section

Newsletter no. 59 December 2003

Editorial



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second of our biannual newsletters. It is with joy and excitement that I assume this appointment as the editor of SCL News. This newsletter will be used as a channel to update you on the latest developments and happenings in the wonderful world of children and young adult library services. Through the global reports featured, we will share the good practices and interesting projects organised by other libraries. This newsletter wouldn't have been possible without the heartfelt contributions from you librarians and authors all around the world. So keep those reports, photographs and email coming in.

Kiang-Koh Lai Lin

Editor of Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section

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The Chair speaks

Note from the Chair

Many librarians would say that they can't remember a time when the future for libraries has looked so bright. Library services for children have never been as important for children and their families all over the world as they are today. The need for improving education and standards of literacy, as well as lifelong learning and active contribution to the community, has an enormous impact on library services for children and young adults. All those give the framework in which IFLA Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults works today and puts the efforts to empower children's librarianship throughout the world. The key words that affect the Section's strategy are advocacy for children and networking for librarians.

A very successful IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Berlin is behind us, the next one in Buenos Aires in front of us. In the meantime, beside all other

projects, the Section is primarily focused on the editing, publishing and promotion of the Guidelines for Children's Library Services. It is very important to have a document helping to set standards, but the problem

with international standards or guidelines is that they should be applicable in every country, not too detailed to be appropriate for all, but not too general as that could make them useless. That is why the contribution from all the Section's members is more than welcome. So, share your ideas, visions and experience with the children's and young adults' librarians around the world, be a part of a network, keep visiting our web page, join us in our conference programme next year and advocate for the Section's work in your libraries and institutions.



Ivanka Stricevic

Chair of Libraries for Children and Young Adults
Section



(I) IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section 69th IFLA conference, Berlin, Germany Standing Committee Meetings Minutes: *some highlights*

Two standing committee meetings were conducted on 2nd and 8th Aug 03

Participants



Committee Members: Lars Aagaard, Ingrid Bon, Nic Diament, Kathy East, Annie Everall, Leikny Haga Indergaard, Susanne Krüger, Kiang-Koh Lai Lin, Elisabeth Lundgren, Olga Mäeots, Young Sook Song, Ivanka Stricevic, Letizia Tarantello, Verena Tibljas, Virginia Walter,

Observers: Ingi Abel Kader (Egypt), Nidaa Alghazal (Lebanon), Lioba Betten (Germany), Cecile Coulibaly (Cote d'Ivoire), Karima Frej (Morocco), Yasuyo Inoue (Japan), Sybille Jagusch (USA), Alfred Kagan (USA), Sudabeh Nozari (Iran), Sanja Pavlakovic (Croatia), Annemarie Plassmann (Germany), Sergio Romeno (Mexico), Sherine Said (Egypt), Nayea Takayama (Japan), Sylvia Tretjakova (Latvia), Karen Usher (UK)



1. Election of the Officers - Chair and Secretary of the Section

Ivanka Stricevic was elected as Chair and Ingrid Bon as Secretary.

2. Election of Treasurer and Information Officer

Nic Diament was re-appointed as Treasurer and Kiang-Koh Lai Lin was appointed as Information Coordinator.

3. Astrid Lindgren Award (2003; preparation for 2004)

The conclusion was to nominate "Books for All" as the widely recognised reading project, and Max Velthuis and Anne Fine as the authors. Susanne and Ingrid were invited to give inputs to Elisabeth



to submit the nominations.

The deadline for the proposals for 2004 is 1st February 2004. The working group (Elisabeth, Olga, Nic, Leikny, Ingrid and Ivanka), led by Elisabeth, would discuss the proposals, prepare the nominations until April 1 and inform the SC.

4. Guidelines for Children's Services

The Guidelines were discussed on SC special meeting. The text was found too long and detailed. Between two SC meetings Kathy and Lars prepared the shorter version. The SC members

agreed on that version and the schedule for further action was agreed

5. YA Guidelines – translations and new editions

Susanne prepared the German translation (500 copies) and took care of the printed version which was distributed during the Conference.

For the Buenos Aires Conference, the Spanish printed version had to be done as the Small

Section's project. The plan was to print 3000 copies.

Leikny would check with Gloria Rodriguez for the Spanish translation, and check for the Portuguese translation to be put on IFLANET.



IFLANET

Olga stressed the need for a second edition of the Russian translation. Finances must be discussed with IFLA.

The need of having a layout free of text was discussed to make future printing easier. Ivanka would try to provide the format for further translations.

6. Budget 2002-2003 – review and the proposals for project Money

The Section would put on the bid the small project – the Spanish edition of the Guidelines for Library Services for Young Adults.

The administrative fund which would be received until the end of the year for the next year will be



spent as usual – for the post costs and the distribution of materials.

7. Strategic Plan – Updates (2002-2004)

The Strategic Plan was discussed. As clarified by Kay Raseroka, the “Libraries for Lifelong Literacy” was the theme that would drive actions for IFLA. It would be introduced in the Strategic Plan for 2003-2004, as well as the recommendation from IFLA Social Responsibility Group to focus on

literacy as the key theme. (Ivanka had completed the Strategic Plan and posted in the IFLANET).

8. 2003 Conference Evaluation

The Conference had been very successful for the Section. The programmes attracted a large audience: 200 participants on the



Presentation "From Donkeys to Digital Libraries", 250 participants on the Open Session "Children's Libraries Networking for the Culture" and 160 on the Joint Workshop with FAIFE. The library visit was attractive, well-organised and useful for SC members. Beside two officials, four additional meetings of SC members were organised. 16 of 19 SC members were present at the Conference. 16 observers attended SC meetings and participated in the discussion. Lioba Betten, the director of the Section's project "Books for All" was honoured with an IFLA medal for her work on "Books for all".

9. Conference planning

• SC Midwinter meeting spring 2004

Nic proposed to have the meeting in Paris.

Elisabeth and Ivanka stressed the need of having a meeting as it was shown that previous meetings were very useful for the conference preparation and the work on projects.

• Main conference Buenos Aires 2004

The main theme would be "Library Tools for Education and Development". It would start on August 21 (official meetings)/August 23 (programme for the visitors) and end on August 27 (for the visitors)/August 29 (for the officers).

There would be more time for the official meetings.



The Section's working group (Kathy, Annie, Elisabeth, Ingrid, Lai Lin and Ivanka) came up with the proposal for the section's theme: "Empowering literacy from babies to teens". As the focus would be on various kinds of literacy (IT, visual, cultural, information...) the Section CHILD would come together with the School Libraries and Resource Centre section to have a joint four hour programme.

The proposal for the speakers (on behalf of Section CHILD) was:

- Argentinean illustrator to speak about early literacy and visual literacy (the alternative was a children's librarian/person from a library authority who could speak about what libraries were doing to inform/educate parents)
- Marian Koren to speak about the access and rights to information, literacy and education from the Convention point of view and the role of libraries in it
- Elisabeth Lundgren to speak about networking for educational support "Children's libraries as bridge builders".
- Viviana Quinones (Argentinean who worked in French) with the theme "Children's Books and Libraries: Africa and France, exchanges for education and development.

The final programme and the speakers would be discussed until the end of 2003.

The request to IFLA for special time for the promotion of the Guidelines for Children Library Services (English and Spanish edition) was needed.

- **Pre/post Conference – Oslo 2005**

Leikny was asked to be the link for the Oslo Conference. SC agreed to have the pre-conference in Oslo/Stavanger August 14-18. Leikny would give the proposal and work with the working group on it. Until February 2004

the theme of the pre-conference and the place (venue) must be fixed.

The proposal of having the model young adults' library at the Oslo Conference was discussed and accepted.

10. Re-organisation of the future conferences, evaluation and the new organisation of IFLA from 2007

According to IFLA plan to have shorter conferences, the time for the programmes at the BA Conference would be limited to two hours per section. The idea was to enable the sections to devote more effort to projects, publications, guidelines... to have an impact on those who would never attend the conference. It was up to the sections to organise a joint programme to extend the time and focus on their themes from various perspectives. There would not be a difference between open sessions and workshops, just programmes. The PC decided to increase the number of sections after the evaluation that will be conducted in 2007. It required the review of section's objectives and the means available to achieve them.

11. Membership status

The section had 124 members as of August 2003.



November 2003

Prepared by: Ingrid Bon and Ivanka Stricevic





(II) IFLA : LIBRARIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS SECTION

Strategic Plan, 2003-2004 (*October 2003*)

Mission

The Section's overall mission is to raise awareness of the importance of lifelong learning, lifelong literacy, children's reading and their rights to information.



Goals:

1. Encouraging the roles of the children's and young adults' librarians in the future

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (h) Developing library professionals; (i) Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices.

Actions

1.1 To finalise, edit and publish the "Guidelines for Children's Library Services" (English).	Until the end of 2003
1.2. Sharing the final version of the Guidelines with Public Libraries Section and Multicultural, asking for the remarks.	November 2003
1.3. To translate the Guidelines in Spanish, French, German and Russian.	2004 and future
1.4. To disseminate the Guidelines, encourage the international networking among professionals and to continue the education and training of children's and young adults' librarians.	Continually 2003-2004
1.5. To present and promote the Guidelines (through the SCL News; at the Buenos Aires 2004 Conference; at local and regional meetings)	Continually 2003-2004

2. Raising awareness of the importance of literacy and encouraging the role of children's and young adults' libraries and librarians in literacy promotion and training.

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (c) Promoting literacy and reading; (f) Promoting Resource Sharing; (h) Developing library professionals.



Actions

2.1 To develop a concept paper/statement on literacy training in children's and young adults' libraries (including the recommendation from IFLA Social Responsibility Group).	2004
2.2 To open a forum for the discussion on literacy issues, at the Buenos Aires 2004 Conference.	2004

3. Translating and publishing the Young Adult Guidelines in Spanish

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (h) Developing library professionals; (i) Promoting standards, guidelines and best practice.

Actions

3.1 To prepare 3000 copies of the Spanish translation of the YA Guidelines for the 2004 Conference	2004
3.2. To disseminate the YA Guidelines in Spanish to Spanish speaking countries and to encourage the international networking among the professionals	2004 and in future

4. Promoting excellence in children's literature and in reading projects/programmes by nominating them for the Astrid Lindgren Award

Professional priorities: (c) Promoting Literacy, reading and lifelong learning



Actions

4.1 To complete the nomination for the author or illustrator of children's books and the nomination for reading project or person promoting reading among children.	Until June 2004
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5. Networking with the professionals in children's and young adults' librarianship

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (f) Promoting resource sharing; (h) Developing library professionals; (j) Supporting the infrastructure of library associations

Actions

5.1. To update Section's web page and to open the space for presenting the "best practices" from Section members' countries	2004 and in future
5.2. To support the translations of the YA Guidelines in the various languages and to publish them on the web page	continually
5.3. To publish two issues of the SCL Newsletter a year	2003-2004
5.4. To update the Section's leaflet	2003

6. Co-operation with IGOs and NGOs in library, literature, literacy and reading promotion

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (c) Promoting literacy, reading and lifelong learning; (f) Promoting resource sharing; (h) Developing library professionals;

Actions

6.1. To co-operate with IRA (International Reading Association) and IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People)	2004 and in future
6.2. To support and promote the ICDL (International Children's Digital Library); to be	2003-2004 and in

included in the work of International team of ICDL	future
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7. The preparation and realisation of the Section's CHILD Buenos Aires Conference programme

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (c) Promoting literacy, reading and lifelong learning; (d) Providing unrestricted access to information; (h) Developing library professionals; (i) Promoting standards, guidelines and best practices; (j) Supporting the infrastructure of library associations.



Actions

7.1. To work together with School Libraries and Resource Centres' Section on the 2004 Conference programmes under the common theme "Empowering Literacy From Babies to Teens". The programme would cover topics such as literacy and libraries, reading and libraries, reading promotion, information literacy, visual literacy, the development of literacy materials, literacy in second or foreign languages, reading materials in indigenous languages, reports of relevant research, and reports of significant projects.	2003-2004
7.2. To disseminate the information on the Conference's programme and activities (by SCL News, web page, e-mail and post);	2004
7.3. Preparing the agenda of the session, meetings, visits of libraries and other conference activities.	2004

8. The early preparation of the Section's CHILD Oslo 2005 Conference programme

Professional priorities: (a) Supporting the role of libraries in society; (c) Promoting literacy, reading and lifelong learning; (h) Developing library professionals;



Actions

8.1. To work on preparation of the Pre-conference programme in Oslo 2005 (working group, theme, schedule, possible speakers)	2003-2004
8.2. To disseminate the information on the Pre-conference programme (by SCL News, web page, e-mail and post)	2004 and future
8.3. To work on the preparation of the "model young adults' library" for the Oslo Conference; looking for the partners and contributors	2004



(III) Visit to the Spandau Youth Library



SC members visited the Spandau Youth Library during the Berlin Conference on 6 Aug 03. The district of Spandau was chosen because of its new library, situated in the former post office, which offers ample space to present a few of the Berlin Children's and Youth Libraries projects. The visit was informative and engaging. The following article was contributed by Gisela Rheim from the Spandau Youth Library.

Working with *school classes and kindergarten groups* had a long tradition in many districts. Mainly children from 1st to 6th grade visited libraries regularly with their teachers. Subjects were for instance, basic instructions in library search, working with non-fiction books, presentation of books, creative writing workshops and introduction to a wide range of media. The programmes developed with the age of the children and took into consideration their diverse cultural backgrounds. "Library lessons" were very unlike regular school classes. Library visits are events intended to show that reading was the key to opening new worlds, that books are a gate to fantasy.

Some recent interesting activities, often organized in cooperation with other institutions, were as follows

- 1) Three years ago, the library began collaborating with the *Berlin S-Bahn*, a public train transport

system. Starting out with just one carriage, we now had a complete train dedicated to literature on one day per year, each time with a different topic. In 2002, it was Halloween, and the library presented a special programme around Halloween literary subjects together with actors and storytellers. Passengers on the train included librarians dressed like literature figures performing magic tricks, painting faces, telling stories and asking riddles.

- 2) For the past seven years some librarians had been spending the occasional night among bookshelves rather than in their beds. A *reading night* did not mean that children just had the possibility to read around the clock and do things on their own. Reading nights were structured events linked to a particular subject such as a fairy tale, a love or detective story or a special book. One of our highlights was the annual *media night*, when we used the World Wide Web idea of coming together by linking up with children not only in other libraries, but in different cities!
- 3) The *International Day of Children's Books* (April 2nd) is dedicated to presenting the life of children in a foreign country to little Berliners. All activities were in cooperation with LesArt, a special literature house for children, unique in Germany. Exhibitions, in combination with workshops for school classes, were at the centre of all activities.
- 4) This year, the library organized a *Berlin Reading Summer* for children aged 9 to 13 years. In each district, the library offered the same book titles in many copies. For reading a book and answering questions on its contents, children

won a prize. (By the way: we won a prize, too, which allowed us to buy all the books!) Creative Book Clubs and parties were the highlights.



5) Since 1994, again with the help of *LesArt*, several districts had been offering a summer programme called *Reading in the Park*. During the last week of summer vacation, librarians could be seen in local parks, sitting on blankets

and surrounded by loads of books, fervently hoping for good weather. This mobile library in the green was for those children and parents who had no previous contact with a library and who did not know which services we offered.

6) For the past nine years, the *New Society for Literature* had been organizing *Berlin Fairy Tale Days* in November. Libraries played an important role in this as they hosted storytelling events and concerts. Every year, the programme focused on a European region - this year on Italy and Greece.

This short survey on our reading promotion programme was to give you a first impression of the challenges the library faced in working with children in a multicultural city. If you would like further information, please contact Gisela Rhein, Grhein@t-online.de or Katrin Seewald, katrinseewald@web.de.





(IV) An introduction to The International Children’s Digital Library

The International Children's Digital Library



www.icdlbooks.org

The International Children’s Digital Library (ICDL) is a 5-year research project of the University of Maryland and the Internet Archive.



Purpose

The mission of the IC DL is to select, collect, digitize, and organize children’s materials in their original languages and to create appropriate technologies for access and use by children 3-13 years old.



A Design Partnership

Interdisciplinary researchers from library studies, computer science, education, art and psychology are working together with children to develop this new library. Together we brainstorm, sketch new ideas, implement prototypes and evaluate new technologies. Currently, the collection includes approximately 200 books donated by authors, publishers and national libraries, representing 27 cultures and written in 20 languages.



What Children Can Teach Us

Over the next 5 years we will evaluate our library interface by working with children in **New Zealand, South Africa, Germany, Japan** and the **United States** to explore the following questions:

1. How do children in different countries use the IC DL?
2. How do these children change in their thinking about books, libraries, technologies and other cultures?
3. How can we improve libraries and technologies in the future?





(V) Global report on good practices:

a. News from Italy



by Ms Letizia Tarantello

A portion of the Italian library services catered to children and young adults. There were five exclusive children and young adults libraries located in Genua, Imola, Roma, Bologna, Campi Bisenzio and recently Carpi.

A great children's library benefits not only the children and parents, but also the local community. Children acted as advocates and helpers when San Giovanni library in Pesaro moved to its new location in 2001. In recent years there had been an increase in attention on children and young adults.

The SalaBorsa library in Bologna was filled with activities for the young minds all year round. The librarians organised the activities usually with some help from the parents. A novel web based project was launched recently featuring children's illustration that served to increase intercultural awareness.

Italy's largest children's library, Internazionale E.De Amicis, featured internet-enabled IT facility that provided an immersive multimedia experience particularly useful when it came to learning a foreign language. There was also a family-oriented internet education programme. It gave tech savvy youngsters the opportunity to help their parents and grandparents with the computer and, in the process, foster a better relationship.

Most libraries activities were held in the summer, but some libraries did take the extra effort to slip in a few in the winter. Library activities were particularly useful when establishing connections with external associations, policy makers, civic and school administrators.

Children's libraries played a fundamental role in garnering the respect of the publishing market on new and historical collection in children's literature. The hottest children's books were presented an award by the Idest Society annually. While there was not any official data on the geographical distribution of children's libraries in Italy, general consensus pointed out that the north and central parts of Italy is amassed with public libraries while the southern parts have been left out in the cold.

National co-operation with "Nati per Leggere"

The Nati per Leggere (NPL) saw its beginnings as a partnership between the Italian Libraries Association, the Paediatrics Cultural Association and the Centre for children's wealth, with the aim of bolstering the emotional and cognitive development of a child. With the involvement of the local community, the NPL fought for children's rights against childhood violence and abuse. The NPL went on to clinch the award by the Ministry for Cultural Heritage for being the best reading programme in 2001.

Local co-operation

The following were examples of nationwide and regional collaborations:

- In Sardinia, the Cagliari Provincial Centrum conducted a survey on the books that young adults read.
- In Lazio, the Rome Provincial Centrum conducted regular thematic exhibitions, workshop and conferences.
- In Liguria, the Genua Provincial Centrum did a thematic exhibition on children's illustration.

b. News from Japan



by Mr Hiroshi Sakamoto

The International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), a branch of the National Diet Library (NDL), began service in May 2002.

Services of the ILCL

⇒ Basic roles

1. To collaborate with both local and overseas libraries in support of their activities. As such, the necessary supporting research and studies can be done on children's literature.
2. To offer child oriented services which help build their interest in reading. It is also a great place for children to interact with others from a different culture.

⇒ Union Catalogue

1. The digital archive as a repository for children's literature, digital images and other specialised information.

Five libraries currently contributed to the union catalogue, which consisted of 332,133 books and 6440 magazines. An additional 35,000 books from a university library were expected to be added to the collection this year.

⇒ Lending sets of books to school libraries

The ILCL provided interlibrary loans, copying and references. A new service that brought a special collection of books and reference materials was launched in November (2002). The series of books featured geographically oriented themes; "Learn about Korea" and "Learn about Northern Europe".

c. News from Korea



by Ms Young Sook Song

The committee of Library Services for Children and Young Adults under the Korea Library Association had just been established in July 2003. Sook Song served as chair of the committee. The Committee planned to develop training programmes for children's Librarians, which would be focused on improving management for children's reading promotion and storytelling hour in the public library etc as part of the children's services.

The Committee also select children's materials and compiles lists of recommendations of children's collection for libraries.

Recently, with home libraries and private libraries of smaller scales were on the increase in Korea, the committee hoped to lead and encourage these libraries to develop in a right way.

d. News from Netherlands



by Ms Ingrid Bon

Book-Fun

Interagency-project Book-fun was growing rapidly. In more than 100 communities/cities, there was a network literacy and reading promotion working with the programme “Book-fun”. Libraries, health centres, pre-schools, day-care centres, primary schools each took part with activities, materials, books for children between 0 and 6 years old, their parents and all the professional educators. Due to a financial impulse by the national government local city councils put a lot of effort in starting with the program.

Library of the 100 languages:

Children’s libraries were mostly a smaller copy of the library for adults. Smaller cabinets, smaller chairs and table: There was the children’s library! In the Italian city Reggio Emilia people regarded children as bearer of ideas. Children spoke with words but also with images, sounds, shapes; the 100 languages of children. NBLC wanted to develop a concept to decorate a children’s library that used the ideas and the ways of children.



27 libraries wanted to participate, 3 were nominated for €22.500 as a contribution to realize the new concept in a library. All the other libraries were partner in the project. They went to lectures, excursions and so on; they were the master class.

The Library of the 100 Languages was a part and a successor of Libraries in 2040. Stimulator and coordinator of the project was Rob Bruijnzeels who held a speech in IFLA -Glasgow 2002.

Al@din

Aladin was a nationwide network that gave everyone, everywhere the opportunity to put a question on the internet. A team of librarians provided the answer.

The project started on 24th March 2003 .

Interesting links:

www.nblc.nl (projecten, bibliotheek van 100 talen)

www.boekenpretfantasia.nl

<http://aladin.bibliotheek.nl/>

e. News from Russia



by Ms Olga Mäeots

“*You are not alone*”, a project by the All-Russian State Library for Foreign Literature, was launched last year. It prepared a special selection of books for children with disabilities and was due for publishing.

Such books were few and far between, yet they played an important role in motivating disabled children. There was a mounting need for the public to understand the plight and special needs of these children.

The first 8 books which appeared in spring 2003 were translations done on stories of other languages. These books were illustrated by disabled children, which made them all the more appealing to readers with similar disabilities.

This project was supported by charitable contributions from the Soros Foundation. The books were now circulating in libraries with special programmes to maximise their effectiveness. Several workshops had been held in conjunction with it.

Several publishers expressed interest in incorporating disabled children in their target audience scope. It was hoped that with such support, the project would sustain itself in the long run.

This project demonstrated the concerted efforts from the publishers, librarians, teachers, child care specialists and journalist. The success of the cooperation highlighted the possibility of developing the project in the future.

f. News from Norway



by Ms Leikny H. Indergaard

The reading campaign

The government had launched a strategy to encourage school children's interest in reading and thus improve their ability to read. All schools would have a strategy for reading at all levels, and there was a greater emphasis on co-operation with libraries to fulfil these goals. 100 million Norwegian kroner had been allocated for this work. The aim was to obtain a measurable improvement in the reading skills within five years. Contact: Norwegian Board of Education (www.lis.no). Advisor Ellen Sundt, e-mail: es@lis.no

The Cultural Rucksack

The government was investing considerable amounts of resources in a nationwide project that provided cultural exposure for school children. Through the cooperation of two governmental bodies, a national strategy had been initiated to expose all Norwegian school children to various forms of culture while in school.



The Cultural Rucksack required exceptional cooperation between schools and the cultural life around them. National, regional (several county libraries) and local efforts all went into making this happen. The Norwegian Archive and Museum Authority had been entrusted with the secretarial function for the Cultural Rucksack.

The Reading Campaign, a pivotal role in the Cultural Rucksack, had received 5 million Norwegian Kroner of funding. It was the concerted effort of the Norwegian Archive, Library and Museum Authority, Norwegian Board of Education and the Norwegian Council for Cultural Affairs.

These two large projects presented the unique possibilities for Norwegian public libraries to develop new approaches towards reading promotion and the

opportunity to work conjointly with the local education system.

“Into the text” The Norwegian Institute for Children's Books was heading the project “Into the Text” in 5 primary schools in the Southern part of Norway. The project assisted teachers in choosing suitable titles for each child, acquiring knowledge about modern literature for children/young adults and develop methods of promoting these literature to their pupils. The project had been running for three years with great results. “Into the Text” had substantially narrowed the gap between schools and the cultural sectors. Contact: The Norwegian Institute for Children's Books www.barnebokinstituttet.no, Information-coordinator Hanne Kiil, email: hannekiil@barnebokinstituttet.no

Free Choice! Recently inaugurated by the 8 participating public libraries, this brand new project hoped to use statistical methods to learn more about the reading habits and preferences of 11 to 18 year olds. Library usage by the targeted age group would be tracked to find out just what kind of books, music they borrow, etc. Contact: Bergen Public Library (www.bergen.folkebibl.no), Director Trine Kolderup Flaten, email: trine.kolderup-flaten@bergen.kommune.no.

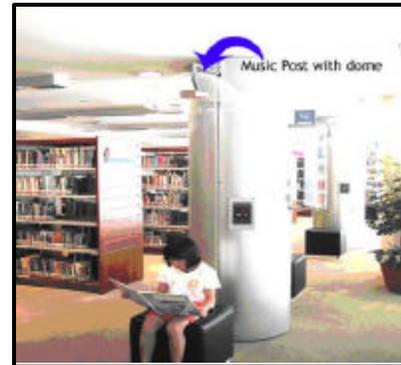
Reading Ombudsmen The Reading Ombudsmen was a project for people with mental disabilities and ran in three municipalities in the county of Telemark. Each municipal institution within the participating communities would appoint a reading ombudsman who would be responsible for reading and promoting literature within their community. It aimed to improve the quality of life and allow for diverse cultural experiences for those inflicted with mental disabilities. Contact: The County Library of Telemark

(www.tm.fylkesbibl.no/servicetilbud/leseombud.htm), Project Manager Astrid Holtskog, email: astrid.holtskog@telemark-f.kommune.no



Music Posts with Domes

Music was another drawing point. So with music posts, children and young adults could enjoy a selection of music, famous soundtracks as well as stories, nursery rhymes while flipping through a book. Music was delivered through the use of music domes instead of headphones which were more cost effective, convenient and hygienic.



Asian Children's Festival



The Asian Children's Festival was an annual event held to honour and celebrate children. The National Library Board (NLB) and its partners collaborated and organised a series of programmes to bring joy and knowledge to children, parents and professionals in the field of education. Renowned storytellers from all



over the world were brought in to participate in the Asian Storytelling Carnival.



Great Singapore Stories and MRT Read & Ride

NLB had developed the Great Singapore Stories (GSS) initiative to promote the art of storytelling with the objective of making storytelling a national pastime in the near future. NLB also invited organizations and individuals to share their stories on 18 Nov 03 at any place, anytime and with anyone.

Over 400 organisations and individuals with 50,000 participants participated in the GSS events. Storytelling activities were conducted at different corners of Singapore. 500 children and in six Mass Rapid Trains (MRT) cars attended the 'MRT Read n Ride' programme with storytellers telling stories on board the MRT. The





participants were thrilled by the storytellers and gave compliments on the novelty of storytelling on a train.

The train took them to a Central Hub Mall where the children converged for the highlight of the day: The Storytelling Extravaganza, a storytelling show that featured some of the best storytellers from Asia and the world.

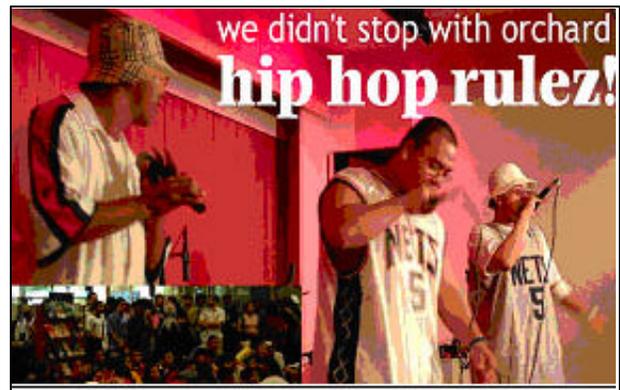
Creative Multimedia Competition

The first collaboration between NLB and Shanghai Children's Library was to promote cultural exchange and language learning between youths of China and Singapore, through the creative use of web technology. A total of 250 youths from both countries participated and 6 winners got attractive prizes including a cultural exchange programme between Singapore and Shanghai in December 02 and Jan 03. NLB would be working more closely with its Shanghai counterparts in future projects.

Rap ElemenZ

Celebrating rap and hip-hop culture, Rap ElemenZ was held in Mar 03 at library@orchard. It presented 300 teens with performances from local rap talents. Co-organized with a final-year Arts Management student from Lasalle SIA College of the Arts, the aim was to expose rap fans to the history and evolution of rap and hip-hop culture. It

was a success and another session was held in Apr 03 at library@esplanade, Singapore's first dedicated library for the performing arts that offered information and services in the areas of music, dance, theatre and cinema.



Significantly, this was one of the few libraries in the world that was co-located within a performing arts complex.

h. News from UK



by Ms Annie Everall

Start with the child

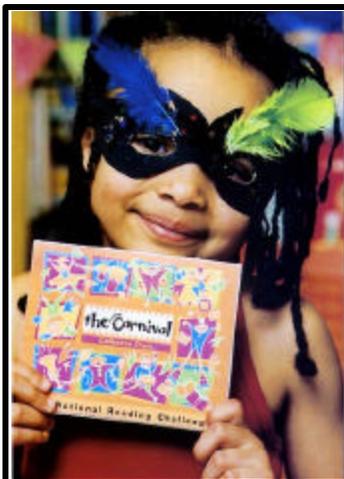
Start with the child offers a radical new perspective towards the future of libraries for children and young people. The programme argues that children's libraries need increased investment and must work in partnership with children themselves to deliver relevant information more efficiently in the future. The following were recommendations derived from the research used to assess the libraries' current performance.

- Libraries should use marketing strategies in activities involving young people. Research showed the increasing sophistication of young people as consumers.
- Projects - such as the Summer Reading Challenge and Out of School Hours Study Support, should be designated as core services financed by the government and delivered by all library authorities.
- IT must be used creatively to attract and deliver services to young library users.
- An increased working partnership was vital; between libraries, youth services and childcare providers, and between schools and further education libraries to support older students whose time would be increasingly spent in these establishments.

Visit www.cilip.org.uk/advocacy/startwiththechild/ for more information.

Framework for the future

Published by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in February 2003, the Framework for the Future



laid out the government's long term strategic vision for public libraries. It provided clear guidance and leadership to deliver a library service able to cater to the needs of a modern society. Principles of Framework for the Future:

- Evolution: building on traditional core skills
- Public value: focusing on areas where intervention would deliver the largest benefits to society.
- Distinctiveness: building on libraries' open, neutral and self-help culture.
- Local interpretation of national programmes: raising the profile of the service and adapting programmes to meet local needs.

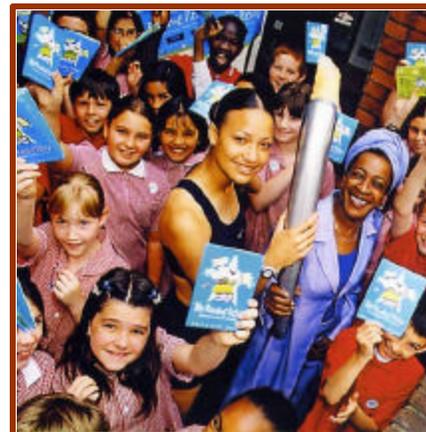
This modern mission would be achieved through delivering interlinked programmes of work on the following themes:

- Capacity to deliver transformation through innovative and effective management
- Books, reading and learning
- Digital citizenship
- Civic and community value

Visit www.culture.gov.uk for more information.

2003 National Summer Reading Challenge

The theme of the 2003 Summer Reading Challenge was The Reading Maze. Children taking part received a collector folder and were given incentives for each book they read. This year saw the launch of a new website for the reading challenge at www.readingmaze.org.uk.



i. News from USA



by Ms Virginia Walter

In June, 2003, the Supreme Court found the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) to be constitutional. As a result, all public libraries receiving any form of federal funding must use filtering software on their public access computers. Adults might request that the filter be unblocked for legitimate research purposes.

Weak economic conditions continued to affect funding of

public library services throughout the country. The most common consequences had been hiring freezes and reductions in materials budgets. Fortunately, basic services to children and young adults continued to be offered everywhere.

The American Library Association (ALA) and the Canadian Library Association (CLA) held a joint annual conference in Toronto, Canada, in June 2003. Fears of SARS, kept many librarians and commercial vendors at

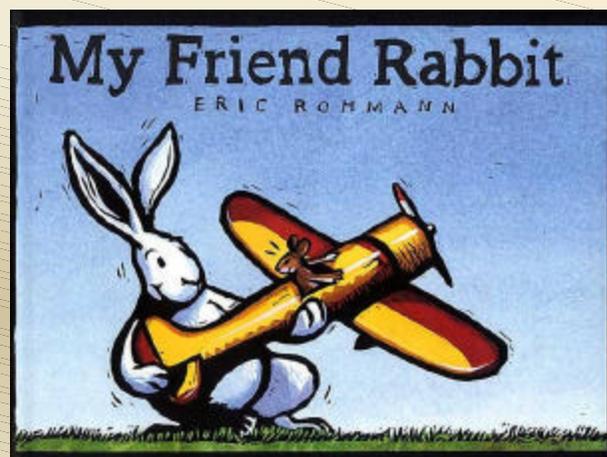
home, but those who attended were rewarded by a warm welcome and an engaging conference.

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and the Public Library Association (PLA), both divisions of ALA, had been engaged in a partnership for the last two years to evaluate a research-based curriculum for parent education that was designed by experts in early childhood literacy. Preliminary results indicated that public libraries could have a positive impact on the parents' and caregivers' understanding of the significant role they played in nurturing young children to become readers.

In another study, UCLA researchers Virginia Walter and Cindy Mediavilla looked at the outcomes of homework assistance programs in public libraries. They found that teenagers derived important developmental benefits from their involvement with these programs, whether they received homework help or provided it as volunteers or paid workers.



Rohmann's winning book is hilarious and thoughtful, adding just the right perspective on the dynamics between two buddies. Readers will adore seeing all the animals' irked and quizzical expressions, while a central vertical spread featuring the pile-up will have readers wonderfully in suspense about what's to come. Using brilliant coloured relief prints to give the antics a wacky yet vaguely fablesque feel, Rohmann's gentle book will leave kids knowingly giggling and utterly rapt.



In their hands is the power to bring immortality to a children's book. They are the people who recognise the timelessness of "Make Way for Ducklings" by Robert McClosekey, and the whimsical terror of "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak. They are the selection committee for the coveted Caldecott Award – that priceless gold emblem pressed



onto covers of one picture book a year – one story out of thousands selected annually as the best children's picture book. And this year, heading up that committee is a local (USA) woman, Kathy East, the assistant director of Wood County District Public Library. As chairperson of the Caldecott committee for 2003, East is leading a 15-member group as they page through countless children's books looking for the next classic. "It really is one of the highlights in my career," East said. "I appreciate my peers entrusting me with this important task. We're looking for the classics of tomorrow – today. The task is far more than flipping through the pages of playful illustrations. It means

reading every book mailed by the big publishers and diligently seeking out those that may deserve, but come from smaller publishing companies. So far this year, East has received at least 300 of the children's treasures on her doorstep. "It's like Christmas everyday," she said. "It really is very exciting. Every book is different. You have to start with a blank sheet with every book." To receive the Caldecott Award, named after the British illustrator Randolph Caldecott, the illustration must do a good share of the storytelling. "You don't want the words to give away too much of the story," East said. Reviewing the books is a thrill for East, who does not tire of the task. "You really

get the feeling there is something for every child," she

said of children's literature authors in the U.S. "It makes you celebrate their talents. It makes you proud that there are so many writers and they understand that different books speak to different children.



Kathy East

"You really get the feeling that there's something for every child"

Caldecott Award



(VI) Special announcements:

i) IFLA appoints new Secretary General

IFLA President Kay Raseroka announced the appointment of Mr. R. Ramachandran as the new Secretary General of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). He will assume the position on 1st April 2004, following the retirement of Ross Shimmon.

Mr. Ramachandran is currently Director of the National Library and Deputy CEO of the National Library Board of Singapore and Secretary General of CONSAL, the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians.



Announcing the appointment, Kay Raseroka said:

"I am delighted that we have secured a new Secretary General who brings such wide experience to the position. Rama's significant contribution to the outstanding library and high technology developments in Singapore and to the progress of CONSAL will be of great benefit to IFLA during his appointment."

ii) IFLA Medal for Lioba Betten

During the closing ceremony, Lioba Betten (Germany), Derek Law (Great Britain), Hans-Jürgen Schubert (Germany) and Børge Sørensen (Denmark) were each awarded an IFLA Medal of Honour. The IFLA medal ("piece of gold") is one of IFLA's highest appreciations given to individuals for their long term activities

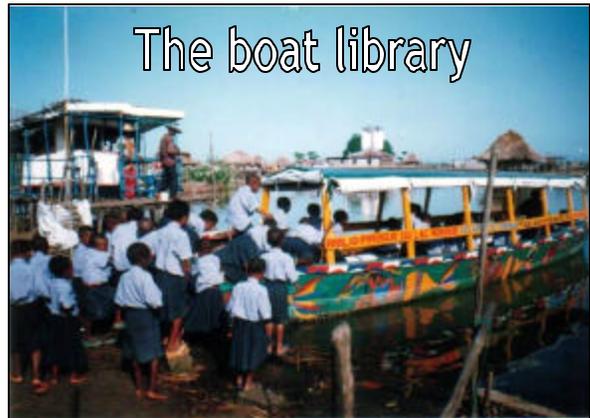


contributing to the international association.

Lioba Betten has been active in IFLA since 1981 at several levels. In 1989, the IFLA Section of Libraries for Children and Young Adults elected her as honorary director of the IFLA/UNESCO project, BOOKS FOR ALL.

Until 1991, she ran the project from her position at the International Youth Library in Munich. From 1992-2002, she privately dedicated herself full-time to the project. Due to her many international contacts at institutions and with individuals, her excellent professional qualifications, as well as her extraordinary organizational skills and tireless commitment, Lioba Betten was able to succeed in reaching the project's goal of collecting US \$ 500,000.-- and redistributing this money to 204 libraries in 54 developing nations.

Keeping true to principles of IFLA and UNESCO, Lioba Betten sought to obtain world-wide recognition for the



project through a wide variety of activities, while consistently stressing the urgent need for educational opportunities for every individual in this world.

For her great service and for her exceptional achievements of such cultural and educational importance to the children and youth of developing countries, Lioba Betten was awarded one of the IFLA Medals of Honour 2003.

**iii) IFLA Honours: Call for Nominations from
Ross Shimon, Secretary General**

The IFLA Governing has introduced a new system of Honours to recognise individuals who have rendered distinguished service to IFLA or to international librarianship.



The call for nominations for these honours, together with the criteria for the various categories is available on IFLANET at: <http://www.ifla.org/III/eb/hawards-call03.htm>

The closing date for the receipt of nominations for honours to be conferred at the World Library and Information Congress in Buenos Aires in August 2004 is Wednesday 28th January 2004. Late nominations will not be accepted.

**iv) Harry Campbell IFLA conference
attendance grant year 2004**
<http://www.ifla.org/III/grants/hccgrant.htm>

IFLA ALP is pleased to announce the availability of the Harry Campbell Travel Grant to support a delegate from developing countries, which have not had IFLA Conference participants in the last few years, to attend the 70th IFLA Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 22-27 August 2004. The grant will cover the travel. The cost of registration fee, accommodation and meals will be met by the delegat e.

Criteria for allocation

- Candidates must be a national of the listed countries: Belize, Bhutan, Cap Verde, Djibuti, Eritrea, Guyana, Liberia, Madagascar, Sao Tomé, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Tonga, Yemen, Dominica, St Lucia, Anguilla, Antigua and Baruda, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Montserrat and St Kitts & Nevis.
- General quality of application



- Professional background and experience: level of education, positions held and professional experience in general.
- Committed letter of application and a well presented CV.
- Priority will be given to younger professionals with a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of libraries.

If your institution can afford to sponsor you on the basis of this cost-sharing package, please apply by filling in the form given below. Only those delegates who are able to contribute their part of the cost should apply.

Applications, including professional curriculum vitae and information on present occupation should be submitted as soon as possible and should be received by the ALP Focal Point not later than 1 March, 2004.

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