KENTUCKY PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS – AT LAST!

In October of 2000 Kentucky Library Association President Judith Burdine announced that the focus of her presidential year would be the development of public library standards. After a preliminary review of standards from 33 states, KDLA staff recommended that the following key areas be studied:

- Governance and Administration
- Personnel
- Access
- Collections
- Services and Cooperation
- Facilities
- Technology
- Marketing/Public Relations

Committees composed of library directors and staff, trustees, State Advisory Council members and KDLA library consultants were appointed to develop standards for Kentucky public libraries in these eight categories. The hard work and dedication of many individuals has resulted in this first edition of *Kentucky Public Library Standards*.

Standards provide a guide to excellence. They define the kind of public library services that should be available to all Kentuckians. Stressing ongoing planning and evaluation, standards provide baseline data and establish a strong foundation from which to develop local goals to address local needs. They are an essential assessment tool to use in evaluating the library’s effectiveness and a guide to assist in planning for improved services. The utilization of standards can maximize the library’s role in the community by focusing resources. The ultimate outcome is heightened visibility and support for the library. Having objective data by which to compare the public library’s performance can be a powerful resource for demonstrating the need for additional funds.

This manual is a self-evaluation tool. Each standard is presented as a statement, allowing the library to easily determine whether it meets or does not meet the criteria. From there, an individual library may choose specific areas to target for improvement. These standards are strictly voluntary – libraries will not be penalized for failing to meet specific standards.

*Kentucky Public Library Standards* is intended to be an evolving document. As libraries in Kentucky succeed in meeting current standards, the bar will be raised to bring the Commonwealth’s libraries in line with national norms. Also, as technology and other issues affecting libraries change and grow, these standards will likewise change and grow.

Ultimately, the use of voluntary public library standards will result in improved library service for the citizens of Kentucky.
LOW INTEREST LOANS

The Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) offers a program to assist counties and special districts by providing low-interest short-term loans. The KACo Advance Revenue Program (KARP) provides funds that can be used to cover cash flow deficits between the beginning of the fiscal year and the receipt of taxes, to prepay bills, and to earn extra income. One of the great things about KARP is that a library district can borrow funds and reinvest them at a higher rate. In fact, KARP will even reinvest funds on behalf of the district. The interest earned is the library’s to keep! Also, the KARP program offers a “participation premium,” which is paid to the library district in early July.

Participation is extremely simple and requires little paperwork on the part of the library. The library must send a copy of the library’s proposed 2002-03 budget, this current year’s budget, and copies of the library’s most current audits for two years. Funds become available July 2 and must be repaid January 3, 2003.

The Daviess County Public Library has participated for a number of years. Last year, this library netted over $6,600, in addition to a participation premium of $1,943. Other past participants include Henderson, Logan, Owsley, and Pulaski Public Library Districts. For more information, call Jenni Philpot-Clark at 1-800-754-7442.

WIDENING CIRCLES

Widening Circles, the biennial conference for Kentucky’s public librarians serving children and teens, will be held on September 25, 26, and 27 at General Butler State Resort Park in Carrollton. Registration materials will be mailed to all libraries in the summer.

FREE COMPUTERS

In support of its commitment to socially responsible corporate citizenship, following the completion of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Gateway will donate up to 4,500 computers. These systems were supplied to the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for use during 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

Grant consideration is limited to eligible organizations recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit entity, with priority given to schools and community centers whose programs help enhance access to technology for traditionally under-served communities.

Any organization interested in being considered must complete an online application -- faxed or written applications will not be accepted. The deadline for applications is May 31, 2002.

For additional information about Gateway's Olympics PCs Donation Program and to make an online application, please visit: www.gateway.com/olympics/donations.shtml.

Kentucky Public Library Newsletter is published bi-monthly by Field Services Division of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and your regional librarian. Correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Marjorie Flowers, Green River/Pennyrile Regional Office, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301. Phone 270.687.7316; Fax 270.687.7351; e-mail: marjorie.flowers@kdla.net.

Serving Kentucky’s Need to Know

An agency of the Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet
ONLINE MLS OPTION

The Master of Science in Library and Information Studies at Florida State University has been added to the Academic Common Market (ACM) inventory for Kentucky residents. This will allow Kentucky students to take the FSU online program at Florida’s in-state rates. This program is accredited by the American Library Association.

Any student who wishes to participate must first be accepted into the program by FSU and then be certified as a Kentucky resident by Kentucky’s ACM coordinator.

Following is a path to information about the program. Go to www.electroniccampus.org/. From this page, select “for programs” on the left. From here, select “Search Academic Common Market/Electronic Access Program Offerings,” which will take you to a list of programs. Scroll down to find the Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies program offered by Florida State University.

FALL CLASSES THROUGH LCC

Lexington Community College (LCC) will be offering eight classes for public library certification via the Internet in the Fall 2002 semester. For detailed information about these classes, follow these instructions:

- Go to LCC's home page at www.uky.edu/LCC/ and click on Distance Learning.
- Click on Schedule on the distance learning page.
- Click on schedule in “See schedule for class dates and locations.”
- The title of the page is Enhanced Class Schedule Search. In the first drop down box select Fall 2002. In the second box scroll down and select the department which is LIT Library. Click on Submit Query.

The list of classes appears and more details are available by clicking on the class.

ARE YOU ON THE LIST?

One of a librarian’s most useful resources is that of his or her colleagues. The kylibdir electronic mailing list is a unique tool for tapping into the expertise of others. This forum is designed to provide the directors of Kentucky’s public libraries with a forum to discuss library-related issues of common interest.

This list is a closed list which means that only subscribers can post and that participants must request membership rather than being subscribed automatically. The list is housed at the Kenton County Public Library.

To subscribe, send an e-mail to petidomo@kenton.lib.ky.us. In the message body, type subscribe kylibdir. A message will then be sent with instructions for participating in the kylibdir electronic mailing list. For questions, contact the listowner at enoll@kenton.lib.ky.us.

GRANTS AVAILABLE

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives announces two categories of grants for children’s and youth services planned for federal fiscal year 2002-03. Monies will be available for School and Public Library Partnership Grants and for Early Childhood Grants. Application deadlines have not been set, but they are projected for summer 2002.

Each of these grants has been funded at $10,000 in the past. This year for the first time they will be offered in variable amounts between $2,000 and $10,000. KDLA hopes its promotion of smaller, more easily managed projects will encourage increasing numbers of libraries to apply.

KDLA urges public libraries to begin assessing community needs and seeking project partners immediately. This is especially true for libraries planning to apply for the School and Public Library Partnership Grant since time is short before schools close for the summer. A priority of LSTA is school partnership projects, and KDLA is actively seeking applicants.
MANAGEMENT RESOURCES AT KDLA

Are your community leaders investigating management issues and turning to you for information? Are human resource coordinators asking you for training materials? Are you facing a challenge at the library for which you need management information? Not sure where to turn for help? Let the State Library help with its online resource lists and collection of management resources.

The management resource lists are located on the State Library’s web site at www.kdla.net/statelib/SLS_GSCResources.htm. The library’s reference staff has prepared resource lists on the following management topics:

- Assessing Organizational Performance
- Developing High Performing Teams
- Dynamics of Strategic Planning
- Fundamental Budgeting Skills
- Leadership
- Leading Organizational Transition
- Managing Organizational Change
- Project Management
- And many more . . .

Each list includes management information in a variety of formats, including books, videotapes, Internet web sites, periodicals, and microforms. All items on the lists are available from the State Library’s collection through its Interlibrary Loan Services.

If you need additional help, contact a reference librarian by calling (502) 564-8300, ext. 342. Information requests can also be submitted by using the “Ask A Librarian” email reference service at www.kdla.net/statelib/asklib.htm.

Nancy Houseal
State Library Services
(502)564-8300, ext. 232
nancy.houseal@kdla.net

CATALOGING TIPS

You may have noticed in new books that the LCCN (Library of Congress Control Number) has a new look. Since 1898, the LCCN has had the same structure. On Jan.1, 2001 that structure changed to reflect a four-digit year. This will apply to all LCCNs assigned in 2001 and forward. LCCNs that were assigned from 1898 to 2000 will not be changed to reflect the four digit year.

Examples: LCCN from 1898-2000 91-894321
LCCN from 2001- 2001-45944

By using all four digits to represent the year, it will be easy to determine the century in which the LCCN was assigned. To make sure that the LCCNs assigned in 1998-2000 did not overlap with numbers assigned in 1898-1900, the Library of Congress assigned beginning numbers that had not been used in 1898, 1899 or 1900.

Please feel free to call us with any questions. We are always glad to help!

Myra Prewitt
Technical Services
502-564-8300 ext. 227
myra.prewitt@kdla.net

NEWS FROM KLIC

Here is a short note to remind everyone that the Kentucky Library Information Center (KLIC) reference service is still alive and well in Louisville. I am still available to lend assistance for reference service and interlibrary loan of journal articles. I have at my disposal at the University of Louisville over 250 online databases, and hundreds of full text online journal subscriptions. Let me put them to work for you and your patrons. Call me at 1-800-537-3261, or e-mail me at jerry.miller@kdla.net.
PLANNING FOR EVENTS AHEAD

Don't forget the following special events and dates for library related activities:

**May 1**  Technology Utilization in Children’s Services workshop in Owensboro.

**May 2**  Technology Utilization in Children’s Services workshop in Georgetown.

**May 3**  Technology Utilization in Children’s Services workshop in Manchester.

**May 14**  Intermediate HTML 4 class @ Lexington Public Library in Lexington.

**May 15**  Intermediate HTML 4 class @ Shawnee Branch in Louisville.

**May 17**  Basic Networking workshop @ Iroquois Branch in Louisville

**May 17**  Kentucky SOLINET Users Group meeting at MSU in Morehead.

**May 20**  Library Volunteerism: Recruiting and Managing Volunteers workshop @ Rowan County Public Library in Morehead.

**May 21**  Library Volunteerism: Volunteer Recruiting and Managing Volunteers workshop @ Somerset Community College in Somerset.

**May 21**  Basic Networking workshop @ Elizabethtown Technical College in Elizabethtown.

**May 22**  Basic Networking workshop @ Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute in Bowling Green.

**May 22**  Library Volunteerism: Volunteer Recruiting and Managing Volunteers workshop @ George Coon Public Library in Princeton.

**May 23**  Basic Networking workshop @ Somerset Technical College in Somerset.

**June 4**  Advanced Networking workshop @ Rowan Technical College in Morehead.

**June 5**  Advanced Networking workshop @ Lexington Public Library in Lexington.

**June 6**  Advanced Networking workshop @ Southwest Branch Library in Louisville.

**June 7**  Library Web-Page Design workshop @ Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute in Bowling Green.

**June 11**  Advanced HTML 4 workshop @ Lexington Public Library in Lexington.

**June 12**  Advanced HTML 4 workshop @ Southwest Branch Library in Louisville.

**June 13-19**  American Library Association Annual Conference in Atlanta.

**July 15**  Kentucky Public Library Trustee Institute in Prestonsburg.

**July 16**  Kentucky Public Library Trustee Institute in Jamestown.

**July 18**  Kentucky Public Library Trustee Institute in Cadiz.

**July 19**  Kentucky Public Library Trustee Institute in Carrollton.

**June 24**  Library Security workshop in Lexington.

**July 30**  MS Publisher 2000 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.

For information regarding workshop opportunities, please check KDLAs web page at [www.kdla.net/events/ce.htm](http://www.kdla.net/events/ce.htm).
FREE HEALTH INFORMATION

Public librarians across the country are facing an increasing number of requests for health information from their patrons. Reference librarians are receiving inquiries about alternative medicine, selecting a physician, wellness issues, or particular diseases or conditions. Patrons are also seeking free, quality, electronic health information written in lay terminology.

The National Library of Medicine would like to help you respond to this demand. The National Library of Medicine, a government agency, is the world’s largest medical library located on the campus of the National Institutes of Health.

The National Library of Medicine developed MEDLINEplus, a consumer health resource that is accessible to all. MEDLINEplus offers authoritative, up-to-date, and totally private health information. Health topics, drug information, a medical encyclopedia, MEDLINE searches, clinical trials, and current news are just some of the features included at www.medlineplus.gov/.

The National Library of Medicine encourages public libraries to join the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Membership is free and offers public libraries the following advantages:

- Training workshops to search the National Library of Medicine’s databases.
- Participate in funding opportunities for your library.
- Participate in interlibrary loan services available to the network.
- Receive special mailings of National Library of Medicine’s posters, brochures, and other informational materials.
- Enroll on the Greater Midwest Region’s electronic discussion list, if requested.
- Receive a certificate, which recognizes the institution as a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Find more information at http://nnlm.gov/ or contact your Regional Medical Library at 1-800-338-7657.

MORE GRANTS

The U.S. Department of Education’s Teaching American History grant program is designed to raise student achievement by improving teachers’ knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of American history. This annual grant is awarded “to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) to design, implement, and demonstrate effective, research-based professional development programs.”

How can public libraries benefit from this program? To be eligible for a Teaching American History grant, LEAs must work in partnership with one or more of the following entities:

- Institutions of higher learning
- Non-profit history or humanities organizations
- Libraries or museums

This year, approximately $100 million will be awarded to fund 200-250 new projects for up to three years.

Murial Watkins, a consultant to libraries and educational institutions, is available to help libraries interested in creating a proposal for this competitive grant. She can be reached at 202-237-1225.

The application deadline for the Teaching American History Grant will be June 3, 2002. For information about this program, go to the Teaching American History web page at www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/TAH/tahgrant.html.

A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.

---Henry Ward Beecher
All across the Commonwealth public libraries and librarians are doing remarkable things that deserve the recognition of their colleagues. This column highlights some of these. Additional items for inclusion are welcome. Please e-mail items of interest to marjorie.flowers@kdla.net.

The Bell County Public Libraries have seen a boon in donations recently. The owner of a local meat packing plant came to the library requesting business information. He was so pleased with the prompt and friendly service he received, that he made a donation to the library of $1,000. A local bank donated funding for this year’s Young Critics Reading Club at Middlesboro. Finally, the local chapter of the Bell County Business and Professional Women’s Club donated $3,000 to renovate the children’s area of the library which includes a mural, new wood flooring, a rug and other goodies and materials.

The Clay County Public Library hosted a Book Discussion Forum in April with special guest, Silas House, author of Clay’s Quilt.

The Breckinridge County Public Library hosted its "Love My Library Luncheon" for county officials in February.

The Ohio County Public Library received approximately $3,000 worth of children’s books from the KIDS Now Project of the Kentucky Early Childhood Education Council.

Grayson County Public Library’s new Cybermobile, equipped with computers and Internet access is running into success all over the county. One 83 -year-old e-mails her daughter in North Carolina. A 60-something couple in the market for a new car researched information on dealerships and models. A parochial school with no Internet and very little in the way of a library has begun teaching its students how to do electronic research.

Lina Tidal, director of the Harry M. Caudill Memorial Library in Letcher County made the cover of Parade Magazine. She was featured in the ongoing series entitled “What People Earn.”

The Hardin County Public Library held the Grand Opening of the new library building in April.

Newly hired public library staff in the Lincoln Trail Region recently took an all-day tour of KDLA. They had an opportunity to visit various divisions and to see first-hand how KDLA provides services to public libraries.

In partnership with a local school, the Daviess County Public Library sponsored a series of four programs called “Colors of Owensboro.” Each program featured a speaker, food, crafts, music, and other activities for all ages. Total attendance was over 1,500.

The Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library hosted a reception for the Best Sellers Club, which has about 60 members, during National Library Week. Members purchase best sellers through the library’s book jobber, read them, and then donate them to the library’s collection.

SURVEY SAYS LIBRARIES KEY INFORMATION SOURCES

A new survey from Libraries for the Future (LFF) confirms that in the wake of September 11, the nation’s libraries are key providers of information about Islam, Afghanistan, and terrorism-related topics. “Without a doubt, the role of public libraries as information providers and common gathering places has been further demonstrated in the wake of September 11,” says Diantha Schull, president of LFF. Library directors reported that since the attacks, "many people visited the library for the first time." Half of those polled reported that library usage and requests for information had increased; more than one-third reported increasing public programming following the terrorist attacks.
LIBRARY TRIVIA CORNER

The following movies were based on literature:

In the Bedroom – based on “Killings,” a short story by Andre Dubus.
Clueless – based on Emma by Jane Austin.
Field of Dreams – based on Shoeless Joe by W.P. Kinsella.
Stand by Me – based on The Body by Stephen King.
A Christmas Story – based on In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash by Jean Shepherd.
O, Brother Where Art Thou? – based on Odyssey by Homer.
Ten Things I Hate About You – based on The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare.