

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

12/18/2015

*This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.*

*Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov) and may be edited for content and length if used.*

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**NEWS FROM THE DIVISION**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR AND MORE FROM LAM**

All of us at the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums wish you an educational and productive 2016 as well as the best of the winter holiday(s) of choice for you and your families.

2016 promises to be an exciting year for us as we move into the Fr. Andrew P. Kashevaroff building this Spring. If you're in Juneau after we're open we hope you'll stop by and say hello!

Because of how Christmas and New Year's fall this year, there will be no *Bulletin* on either Friday 12/25 or Friday 1/1. The next Bulletin will be 1/9/2016.

## **LIBRARY VISTAS MAKING A DIFFERENCE, LEARNING NEW THINGS ON PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND**

Three of the VISTA volunteers hired through the State Library's Libraries Build Community project have been making a difference, according to this new article published in the Prince of Wales Island Post:

Bolling, Cathy. *VISTA Volunteers Help Through Libraries*. Prince of Wales Island Post, v. 1, no. 15, December 16, 2015.

The article notes the success of the VISTA volunteers in attracting grants, including one that enabled a four week jobseeker class and another that facilitated the development of a lapsit program. The learning has gone both ways, with some of the VISTAs learning skills like mushroom foraging and sourdough baking.

## **LESS THAN A MONTH TO APPLY FOR LIBRARY GRADUATE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP!**

The Alaska Library Association (AkLA) has established a scholarship program to support the education of librarians for Alaska's libraries, including school libraries. The stated purpose is to provide financial assistance to worthy students pursuing graduate studies in Library Science and to encourage graduates to return to Alaska to work in professional library positions. Preference is given to qualified applicants meeting the federal requirements of Alaska Native ethnicity.

Three scholarships of \$4,000 each may be awarded: one for a Master's Degree candidate, one for School Library Media Certification (the B. Jo Morse Scholarship), and a third from either category.

To be eligible for the scholarship, an applicant must be an Alaskan resident who:

possesses a Bachelor's Degree or higher from an accredited college or university;

is eligible for acceptance, or is currently enrolled, in a graduate program in Library and Information Science leading to a Master's Degree or School Library Media Certification, from a university program accredited by the American Library Association;

is or will be a student during the academic year, semester, or academic quarter for which the scholarship is received; and

makes a commitment to work in an Alaskan library for a minimum of one year after graduation as a paid employee or volunteer, or for two semesters for one semester's financial assistance.

### **Completed applications must be received by January 15<sup>th</sup>.**

If you are interested in applying, copies of the guidelines and application forms are available online at <http://akla.org/scholarships/application-and-reference-forms/>. If you have questions about graduate library studies or would like paper copies of the scholarship application, contact:

AkLA Scholarship Committee  
Alaska State Library  
P.O. Box 110571, Juneau, AK 99811-0571  
(907) 465-2916 or 1-888-820-4525  
[akla.scholarship@alaska.gov](mailto:akla.scholarship@alaska.gov)

## **CONTEST: 2016 TEEN VIDEO CHALLENGE**

The Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) launches the *2016 Teen Video Challenge*, a national video competition for teens to get involved with reading and their public library's summer reading program. CSLP is a consortium consisting of public libraries and state library agencies throughout the United States, its territories, and the Cayman Islands. The members of this consortium work together to provide high-quality summer reading materials for public libraries to use in their summer programs with children, teens, and adults.

Teens across the country are invited to create a 30 to 90 second video with their unique interpretation of the 2016 teen slogan *Get in the Game –Read* in combination with reading and libraries. The idea is to involve teens in summer reading, before and during the summer months, by being part of the process. This is an opportunity for teens to showcase their creativity and have their ideas heard before a national audience.

Each CSLP member state that chooses to participate in the *2016 Teen Video Challenge* will organize and implement their own competition to arrive at their state winner. The winning video from each participating state will be named one of the CSLP 2016 Teen Videos to promote summer reading nationwide.

\$150 will be awarded to the creators of the winning state video and their associated public library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP, Upstart, and CSLP partners. Winners will be announced by CSLP in April 2016.

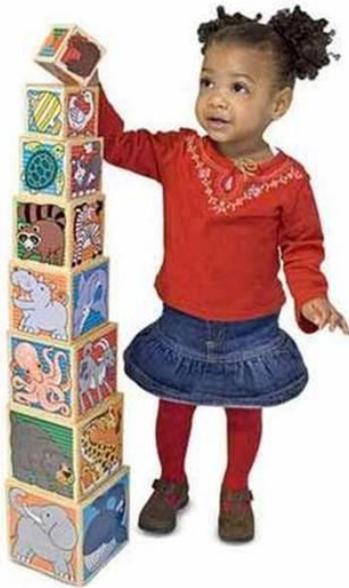
To find out how to enter Alaska's Teen Video Challenge, please visit <http://library.alaska.gov/srp/home.html>

## **ALASKA STATE LIBRARY INTERNSHIP PROJECT**

The Alaska State Library Internship Project will bring four interns who have recently or are near completion of their Master's degree in Library or Information Science to work in an Alaskan public library for two months in the summer of 2016. The goal of the project is to provide assistance to public libraries in Alaska who lack staff expertise to sustain long-term projects that would benefit their libraries and communities. Provide internship and professional development opportunities for MLIS students and lead to an increase in the number of MLIS students applying for jobs in Alaska.

## **EARLY LITERACY MINIGRANTS OF UP TO \$1000 AWARDED TO 26 ALASKAN LIBRARIES**

Early Literacy Minigrants of up to \$1000 have been awarded by the Alaska State Library to 26 libraries across the state. These grants will be used to purchase toys, manipulatives, furniture and carpets for early literacy spaces in the libraries. The items will create centers of play, an essential practice of early learning.



## **SAFE HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIPS FROM OUR PARENT AGENCY IT SECTION**

Our department IT staff gave us permission to share this set of shopping tips that was sent around our offices this week. We hope you find them as helpful as we did:

When purchasing online this holiday season—and all year long—keep these tips in mind to help minimize your risk:

**1. Be cautious what devices you use to shop online.** Mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets, make shopping convenient at anytime and place, but they frequently lack the security precautions of a regular computer. If you use a mobile device to shop, make extra sure you are taking all the precautions listed below.

**2. Do not use public computers or public wireless for your online shopping.** Public computers and wireless networks may contain malicious software that steals your information when you place your order, which can lead to identity theft.

*[Editor's Note: We at Libraries, Archives and Museums would change the above to "Use caution when using public computers and wireless networks for your online shopping. Avoid shopping or other financial transactions on unsecured wireless networks or unfamiliar wireless networks.]*

**3. Secure your computer and mobile devices.** Be sure to keep the operating system, software, and/or apps updated/patched on all of your computers and mobile devices. Use up-to-date antivirus protection and make sure it is receiving updates.

**4. Use strong passwords.** The use of strong, unique passwords is one of the simplest and most important steps to take in securing your devices, computers, and online accounts. If you need to create an account with the merchant, be sure to use a strong, unique password. Always use more than ten characters, with

numbers, special characters, and upper and lower case letters. Use a unique password for every unique site. The August Newsletter contains more information about the dangers of password reuse and is available at: <http://msisac.cisecurity.org/newsletters/2015-08.cfm>

**5. Know your online shopping merchants.** Limit your online shopping to merchants you know and trust. If you have questions about a merchant, check with the Better Business Bureau or the Federal Trade Commission. Confirm the online seller's physical address, where available, and phone number in case you have questions or problems. Do not create an online account with a merchant you don't trust.

**6. Pay online with one credit card.** A safer way to shop on the Internet is to pay with a credit card rather than debit card. Debit cards do not have the same consumer protections as credit cards. Credit cards are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act and may limit your liability if your information was used improperly. By using one credit card, with a lower balance, for all of your online shopping you also limit the potential for financial fraud to affect all of your accounts. Always check your statements regularly and carefully, though.

**7. Look for "https" when making an online purchase.** The "s" in "https" stands for "secure" and indicates that communication with the webpage is encrypted. This helps to ensure your information is transmitted safely to the merchant and no one can spy on it.

**8. Do not respond to pop-ups.** When a window pops up promising you cash or gift cards for answering a question or taking a survey, close it by pressing Control + F4 for Windows and Command + W for Macs.

**9. Be careful opening emails, attachments, and clicking on links.** Be cautious about all emails you receive, even those purportedly from your favorite retailers. The emails could be spoofed and contain malware.

**10. Do not auto-save your personal information.** When purchasing online, you may be given the option to save your personal information online for future use. Consider if the convenience is really worth the risk. The convenience of not having to reenter the information is insignificant compared to the significant amount of time you'll spend trying to repair the loss of your stolen personal information.

**11. Use common sense to avoid scams.** Don't give out your personal or financial information via email or text. Information on many current scams can be found on the website of the Internet Crime Complaint Center: <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx> and the Federal Trade Commission: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts>.

**12. Review privacy policies.** Review the privacy policy for the website/merchant you are visiting. Know what information the merchant is collecting about you, how it will be stored, how it will be used, and if it will be shared with others.

### **What to do if you encounter problems with an online shopping site?**

Contact the seller or the site operator directly to resolve any issues. You may also contact the following:

- Your state's Attorney General's Office or Consumer Protection Agency
- The Better Business Bureau - [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org)
- The Federal Trade Commission - <http://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov>

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WEBINAR: DISCOVERY: A BETTER MODEL FOR POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS 1/5/2016

A free webinar from Sierra Learn that may be useful to staff and visitors alike:

Discovery: A Better Model for Political Discussions. A Free Webinar Tuesday, January 5, 2016 - Noon to 1 pm Mountain Time (10-11 am Alaska Time)

<http://www.sieralearn.com/programs/discovery-a-better-model-for-political-discussions/>

Recent political campaigns destroyed lasting friendships, frayed family ties, and alienated neighbors and co-workers. Social media became a battleground of nasty diatribes, insults, and slurs. Is there a better way to talk about ideological differences? The Discovery Model is about listening and sharing with no intention to convince or win a debate. The point? To learn and grow while strengthening workplace, personal, and online relationships.

Think of this as one way to prepare for the 2016 political season. Hope some of you will decide to show this at your libraries. It will be recorded and archived for free viewing.

#### AGENDA

- Introduction: The Elephant and the Five Wise Blind Seers
- The Key Idea: Are Conversations Battles to Win or Lose?
- The Rules Of The Game: Agreements About Civility
- Start with Commonality and Foundation Ideas
- Precision in Language and Concepts
- Verifying and Evaluating Information
- Avoiding Common Critical Thinking Mistakes

#### OUTCOMES

- Build and maintain relationships during divisive political times.
- Attract people who want to discuss issues instead of debating them.
- Create safe public environments for difficult conversations.

Questions? Concerns?

Pat Wagner

[pat@pattern.com](mailto:pat@pattern.com)

303-778-0880

<http://tinyurl.com/SieraGoslings>

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Linda Thibodeau, State Librarian and Director

Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
PO 110571, Juneau, AK 99811-0571 - Tel: 465-2911 - Fax: 465-2151 - [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov)