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Kansas Report to MPLA

October 11, 2008

Submitted by Susan Moyer, KLA Representative to MPLA

The State Library of Kansas has initiated "One-Touch," a project to coordinate and facilitate annual reporting from public libraries. This was based on the work of an advisory task force, the goal of which was to streamline the data collection and reporting process. This resulted in the recommendation to combine several reports, a project which will officially begin on the first of January.

The State Library hosted the 2008 Kansas Notable Book Medal Awards ceremony at the state capitol building on September 2. Eleven of the fifteen authors appeared and received their medals from State Librarian Christie Brandau and Lt. Governor Mark Parkinson. In addition, the Kansas Center for the Book held a dessert reception and celebration on September 26 in Lawrence for the notable books authors.

The Kansas Center for the Book (KCFB) held a series of moderated brainstorming sessions during the summer, the results of which will be reviewed and discussed at a meeting of the Center's affiliates this fall. Next up for KCFB is the launch of the 2008 Kansas Reads to Preschoolers program in November featuring "Bear Feels Sick" by Karma Wilson followed by Kansas Reads. . . in January featuring "The Virgin of Small Plains" by Nancy Pickard.

Other recent and upcoming book and reading activities in the state include:

- Fifth Annual Gordon Parks Celebration of Culture and Diversity on October 1-4 sponsored by the Gordon Parks Center for Culture and Diversity, Fort Scott Community College
- Kansas Authors Club State Convention on October 3-5 in Dodge City
- William Allen White Children's Book Award Celebration on October 4 in Emporia
- Historian William Anderson on the Life and Works of Laura Ingalls Wilder on October 19 in Junction City
- Great Manhattan Mystery Conclave 5 from October 31 to November 2 in Manhattan

Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) has temporarily relocated to the lower level of the Memorial Union on the Emporia State University campus. The one-year displacement is for renovation of the electrical, heating, and air conditioning systems in the William A. White Library Building. The mailing address and phone numbers remain the same at 1200 Commercial, Box 25 and 620-341-5203 / 800-552-4770.