Consultant Reports
MHLS Director's Association
Meeting of Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Merribeth Advocate, Assistant Director

1. **Annual Reports:** At the DA meeting I will update you to status of this, changes from last year, and deadlines.

2. **OverDrive Interface Change Coming:**
    o   Between now and the end of April, our MHLS Digital Download center http://mhls.lib.overdrive.com/ will be redesigned & upgraded by OverDrive to their Next Generation Digital Library platform. We do not have an exact date for this right now, but will have notification about 2 weeks in advance of the upgrade. We will let you know when to expect the upgrade as soon as we know.
    o   OverDrive will post a graphic that links to a video on our MHLS Digital Download center prior to the upgrade to provide an introduction to the new design for patrons.Patrons are finding that the upgrade dramatically improves the ease of use of the interface. It will include the addition of OverDrive Read™ which simplifies eBook reading – readers can access the same book on different devices (so can go from reading on their tablet at home to reading the same book on their phone on the go for example), don't need to download or install software, and can read on their computer offline.

3. **Statewide Early Literacy Training for Public Library Staff:** The New York State Library is developing a coordinated statewide early literacy training plan for public library staff. The first step in this initiative, a webinar with Saroj Ghoting* (http://www.earlylit.net) is titled Helping Every Child Enter School Ready to Read - Understanding Early Literacy as a Foundation for School Success and will provide an introduction to early literacy library services for public librarians and library staff as well as a professional development opportunity. The webinar will be shown three times: March 13 & 28, and April 23. There will be a group viewing in the MHLS Auditorium on March 28 to increase the opportunity of networking with others who do the same work.

4. **Online ILL Form:** The MHLS Interlibrary Loan Department is responsible for helping member library staff fill patron requests for items that are not in Millennium/Sierra or the 26 regional catalogs in SEAL. There is a new online form for sending requests to the ILL Department linked at http://midhudson.org/department/interlibrary/main.htm

5. **Summer Reader Online Record Software:** Since 2010, the New York State Library has offered statewide access to Summer Reader, an online summer reader registration tool developed by Evanced Solutions, to every MHLS member library as a component of "Summer Reading at New York Libraries." Summer Reader is a web-based online summer reading registration system that allows children, teens and adults to track their reading, log books read, monitor the prizes they've won, write reviews, and more. More information at http://mhlsbooks.wordpress.com/summer-reader-online-record-software/

6. **Hudson Book Festival:** The fifth annual Hudson Children's Book Festival will be held on May 4th from 10 am to 4 pm. It is the largest book festival in New York State. Info at http://hudsonchildrensbookfestival.com/

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability

1. **2013 NYLA Budget Priority:** The NYLA Legislative Committee decided to take the advice of the professional lobbyist hired by the New York Association of Library Systems (NYALS) that we stick with the **grassroots priority of advocating for full formula restoration, to $102 million which is just over $20 million more than the Governor has budgeted ($81.6 million).** This will be the talking point handed out for Advocacy Day and is what is included in the messaging through NYLA's Online Advocacy Center: http://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=58&MenuKey=advocacy

   To continue to follow their advice… _In the background_, **the Legislative Committee will be talking to Senate Finance** and - to counter what we know will mostly likely be a denial of a request for $20 million - we will make a "soft ask" of $10 million to be put into their budget proposal. The thinking behind this is that since the $102 million is unlikely, but asking for a match of the education aid increase (4.4%) would be starting too low in the inevitable negotiations, we will work to jump start restoration to full formula funding with the soft ask of $10 million on the Senate side which should result in negotiations with the Assembly that could ultimately result in more than we would get by asking them to match the education aid increase the Governor proposed. This way we can potentially get closer to full restoration than we would otherwise (all or nothing or nothing and 4.4% or less) and start working collaboratively with the legislature and Governor to get a multi-year plan towards full restoration.

   I think we are in the best negotiating position we've had since 2007. For the first time in six years we are "out from behind the eight ball." It was exciting at the Legislative Committee to be moving forward rather than hunkering down for a fight that, if lost, is devastating to so many in the NY library community. The committee was clear – libraries should not play the victim card, but we do need to explain how increases in demand for library services are putting a strain on local library budgets when those budgets have to make up for shortfalls in state funding.   "**Don't call it a comeback...**" ;-)

2. **NYLA Advocacy Day, Tuesday, March 5th:**
   - **Appointment Schedule** is available at midhudson.org. Please note it is subject to change so make sure you have the most up-to-date version on March 5th.
   - Thank you to all who are driving up as well as those taking the bus. If you are driving, check to see if your legislator is coming to **the reception to have their photo taken** – it is a great way to get one-on-one time with them. If they have RSVP'd to the reception I have marked their names with an * on the schedule.
   - **Talking Points: What is most critical for people attending to share is how important their library and the System is to the community. Real stories about life changing service and access is what**

library advocates need to deliver. Leave the boring numbers stuff to System staff!

3. **Virtual Advocacy: We know not everyone can take the time to come to Albany but we know just about everyone – all 66 directors, 600+ trustees and hundreds of library Friends could carve out:**
   o **10 minutes on March 5th or within that week to call your legislators and encourage your trustees and Friends to do the same.**
   o **If you have 15 minutes to spare, use that extra 5 minutes to send a letter through the NYLA Online Advocacy Center if you haven't already!** http://bit.ly/131HRFf
   o **If you have 20 minutes to spare use *that* extra 5 minutes to use Facebook and Twitter to draw patron and legislator attention to the NYLA Budget Priority of full formula funding! Twitter Bomb! I'll have the hashtag for you at the meeting!**

4. **Tax Cap Filing Deadline: Libraries with July 1-June 30 fiscal years that have a public vote on their budget, and a separate board of trustees, should file their tax cap form with the NYS Office of the State Comptroller by**
   March 1. If you haven't, do it as soon as you can:
   https://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/realprop/index.htm
   o **If you can't find your log-in information call:** 518.473.0006

5. **Coming very soon: *Intent to Apply for the NYS Construction Grant Action Memo* – watch for it this month.**

6. **Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DCMA) & Libraries: I received a question recently about whether or not libraries need to register with the US Copyright Office as the "*Agent to Receive Notification of Claims of Infringement*."**
   o ***Background:* "**On October 12, 1998, Congress passed the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). The law became effective in October 2000 and it has been incorporated into the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the U. S. Code). This landmark legislation updated U.S. copyright law to meet the demands of the Digital Age and to conform U.S. law to the requirements of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and treaties that the U.S. signed in 1996. Despite the work of libraries and other partners, dedicated to preserving the traditional balance in copyright law between protecting information and affording access to it, the DMCA tilts strongly in favor of copyright holders." –American Library Association [http://www.ala.org/advocacy/copyright/dmca]
   o **Why is Rebekkah telling us about this? Libraries can be defined as "Online Service Providers" (OSP). The law:**
     ▪ "Exempts any OSP or carrier of digital information (including libraries) from copyright liability because of the content of a transmission made by a user of the provider's or carrier's system (e.g., the user of a library computer system)"
     ▪ "Establishes a mechanism for a provider to avoid copyright infringement liability due to the storage of infringing information on an OSP's own computer system, or the use of "information location tools" and hyperlinks, if the provider acts "expeditiously to remove or disable access to" infringing material identified in a formal notice by the copyright

holder." Part of that mechanism is registration with the US Copyright Office: http://www.copyright.gov/onlinesp/

- o **Bottom Line (sort of!): "***For libraries, the initial issue is simple: does the institution qualify as a service provider? The statutory definition is very expansive, encompassing any provider of Internet access or online network services. Broadly interpreted, most library institutions could qualify. However, with qualification comes potential burdens, including creating a website agent, registering that individual with the Copyright Office, satisfying the other conditions of the OSP rules, and responding rapidly to notifications of infringement. Because the Copyright Office registry may make notification by concerned copyright owners fast and effective, registered OSPs may find themselves embroiled in many online copyright disputes over everything from motion pictures to individual pictures and poems. Although these works may be accessible from any computer connected to the Internet, in reality those works may have little direct bearing to works actually accessed by a particular library's patrons.* **Nevertheless, if notified, the library-OSP may feel compelled to comply with the rigors of the statutory scheme. In short, for many, the burden of compliance will not be worth the benefits of limited liability."**
  [Source: *Primer on the Digital Millennium: What the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Copyright Term Extension Act Mean for the Library Community*, by Arnold P. Lutzker, Esq., Lutzker & Lutzker LLP via the American Library Association http://bit.ly/XKQv61**]**

Robert Drake, Information Technology Coordinator

1. **Google Analytics for Hosted Websites:** In the past, I could not give library's individual access to their website statistics. I am now able to do this. For libraries hosted with MHLS, if you indicate which email account you'd like to give access, I can set this up.

2. **Mailchimp Subscribe Forms for Hosted Websites:** I am able to add Mailchimp subscribe forms to MHLS hosted websites. If you use this service, I'll need your Mailchimp login credentials setup the API necessary to do this. For those not familiar with Mailchimp, it's similar to Contact Contact.

3. **E-Rate:**
   - o March 14th is the final day you can file Form 471. See my previous reports for instructions on this form and preparing a bid matrix if necessary. Make sure to retain all bids for at least five years (with a recommendation of indefinitely) in case there is a future audit. Once form 471 is submitted keep an eye out for questions received from USAC regarding your application. These should be responded with within two weeks of receipt.
   - o Please let MHLS know whether or not you are approved and how much funding you ultimately receive. We would like to keep track of how much funding member libraries receives for this and future funding years.

4. **Sam Wireless Printing:**
   - o I am still working with Comprise to get quotes. If any library is interested in this product, please contact me. Some very general information about this product can be found here:

http://www.comprisetechnologies.com/?page_id=38 Note that a print release station is necessary.
- o I'm also currently looking at alternate Wireless Printing providers. West Hurley (Thank you) pointed me toward PrinterOn. I should have more information in future reports.

5. **DNS Offsite:** MHLS formerly hosted the DNS for approximately 60 domains. The DNS for these names have been moved to various outside vendors to further insulate libraries from issues affecting MHLS such as power loss.

6. **Sierra Training**
- o Please prioritize the use of the techsupport@midhudson.org email. The phone is maintained for emergencies and general usage however with IT and automation staff regularly offsite for Sierra training, I'd ask that you maintain this for more emergency type issues.
- o Following our Sierra visit at your library, if there are additional computers you would like to install the read only client, email Eric or I and we can provide file access.

Eric McCarthy, Automation Coordinator

1. **Sierra Update:** We are now working through all library site visits.
- o New documentation has been loaded on the Resource Sharing page of midhudson.org. Please refer to this page for future updates and procedural documentation.
- o If you haven't sent updated initials, you will use your current Millennium initials to access the Sierra test database.
- o Not all permissions and functions are usable in the Sierra testing environment.
- o **The Sierra testing environment uses a license**. If you receive an "all ports in use", then close Sierra and that will free up a license.

2. **OPAC:** We will be implementing the NoveList OPAC enhancement. If public access OPACs are locked down to prevent browsing sites other than the catalog, you will need to add the following entries to your white list directory:
- o ebscohost.com
- o contentcafe2.btol.com
- o goodreads.com
- o s.gr-assets.com
- o nextreads.com

7. **Sierra Users Group:** May 9th at 10:00am is reserved for a Sierra user group meeting to discuss changes and common problems across the system.