

# News Notes

**Accessible Archives**, a leading publisher of electronic full-text searchable historical databases, has announced the availability of Part III of *The Liberator* and Part XII of African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century, two of its premier collections.

William Lloyd Garrison published the first issue of *The Liberator* on January 1, 1831, with the motto: "Our country is the world—our countrymen are mankind." A journalistic crusader advocating the immediate emancipation of all slaves, Garrison gained a national reputation for being one of the most radical of American abolitionists. The most influential newspaper in the antebellum antislavery crusade, *The Liberator* was published through December 1865.

The Accessible Archives full text online version of *The Liberator* is produced in seven parts. Parts I through III, covering January 1831 to December 1845, are available now, with the remaining four sections expected to be issued on an annual basis.

With the addition of Part XII of African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century at the end of 2007, the 12 parts of this collection will provide more than 120,000 articles. Newspapers included in this database are being made available in chronological order, with the addition of some 10,000 articles each year. The newspapers currently in the database are as follows: *Freedom's Journal*, 1827–1830 (New York, NY); *The Colored American*, 1837–1841 (New York, NY); *The North Star*, 1847–1851 (Rochester, NY); *Frederick Douglass Paper*, 1851–1859 (Rochester, NY, completed through 1855); *The National Era*, 1847–1860 (Washington, DC); *Provincial Freeman*, 1854–1857 (Toronto, Canada); and *The Christian Recorder*, 1861–1902 (Philadelphia, PA, through 1902; 1892 is unavailable).

Founded in 1990, Accessible Archives utilizes computer technology to provide vast quantities of archived historical information previously available only in microformat. Diverse primary source materials reflecting broad views across American history and culture have been assembled into comprehensive databases. Developed by dedicated instructors and students of Americana, these databases allow access to the rich store of materials from leading books and periodicals then current. For information, visit [www.accessible.com](http://www.accessible.com).

Three winning books and two honorable mentions have been selected to receive the inaugural **Arab American National Museum Book Award**. The winners, all published in 2006, are: Adult Nonfiction—*The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood* by Rashid Khalidi (Beacon Press); Adult Fiction—*In the Country of Men* by Hisham Matar (The Dial Press); Children or Young Adult—*One Green Apple* by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Ted Lewin (Clarion Books). The two honorable mentions were both in the adult nonfiction category—*The Arab Americans* by Randa A. Kayyali (Greenwood Press) and *"Evil" Arabs in American Popular Film: Orientalist Fear* by Tim Jon Semmerling (University

of Texas Press). The honored books and their authors received their awards at a gala at the Arab American National Museum (AANM) in Dearborn, Michigan, in September 2007.

The Arab American National Museum Book Award encourages the publication and excellence of books that preserve and advance the understanding, knowledge, and resources of the Arab-American community by celebrating the thoughts and lives of Arab Americans. The purpose of the award is to inspire authors, educate readers, and foster a respect and understanding of Arab-American culture. The winning titles were chosen by a committee of readers comprised of respected authors, university professors and artists, and from the AANM, Library & Resource Center Manager Angelita Espino and Manager of Education and Public Programming Celine Taminian.

The Arab American National Museum documents, preserves, celebrates, and educates the public on the history, life, culture, and contributions of Arab Americans. The AANM is a project of ACCESS, a Dearborn, Michigan-based nonprofit human services and cultural organization. Learn more at [www.arabamericanmuseum.org](http://www.arabamericanmuseum.org) and [www.accesscommunity.org](http://www.accesscommunity.org).

The **Barahona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents** at California State University San Marcos is pleased to announce three workshops for summer 2008.

From June 9 to 11, "Current Issues: Books in Spanish for Young Readers" will be offered. This workshop is an introduction to and analysis of current practices and problems in selecting and using books in Spanish for children and adolescents. Sample topics and activities include a discussion of reader appeal and literary quality, the Spanish-language publishing world, and language issues. The three-day workshop is conducted in English.

"Books and Reading Strategies for English-Language Learners in Grades K–8" will be offered June 23–25. This workshop will focus on the language and culture of English-language learners through the selection of appropriate multicultural literature and will use quality multicultural literature to teach reading strategies and foster literacy development. Topics and activities include: Thematic units, Preview/Review, DRTA (Directed Reading Thinking Activity), QAR (Question-Answer Relationships), Reciprocal Questioning, Reader's Theater, Choral Reading, Visualization, and Responding through the Arts. Methods for accelerating vocabulary development and motivating readers also will be demonstrated. This workshop is also conducted in English.

The final workshop, to be held July 14–16 and taught in Spanish, is "Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents/Los libros en español para niños y adolescentes." This workshop introduces quality fiction, nonfiction, and reference books in Spanish for children and adolescents, including different genres, subjects, and countries of publication. Spanish-speaking ability is not required

to attend.

Workshop sessions will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Students will be free to use the resources of the Center in the afternoons. The cost for each three-day workshop is \$115. Enrollment is limited; early registration is definitely recommended.

For further information, please call (760) 750-4070, e-mail Dr. Isabel Schon at [ischon@csusm.edu](mailto:ischon@csusm.edu), or write: Barahona Center for the Study of Books in Spanish for Children and Adolescents, California State University San Marcos, 333. S. Twin Oaks Valley Road, San Marcos, CA 92096-0001.

**Beltway Poetry Quarterly** is a co-sponsor of the Split This Rock Poetry Festival: Poems of Provocation and Witness, to take place March 20-23, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

*Beltway Poetry Quarterly* is coordinating a series of concurrent guided walking tours to take place on Saturday morning, March 22. The festival will also include readings, workshops, panel discussions, youth programming, film, and activism. A special issue of the journal, co-edited by Regie Cabico and Kim Roberts and available online beginning January 1, 2008, features the work of poets with strong ties to Washington, D.C., as well as going behind the scenes to feature poems by members of the festival coordinating committee.

Contributors to this special Winter issue of *Beltway Poetry Quarterly* include Naomi Ayala, Sarah Browning, Grace Cava-

lieri, Teri Ellen Cross, Joel Dias-Porter (also known as DJ Renegade), Brian Gilmore, Esther Iverem, E. Ethelbert Miller, Susan Tichy, Melissa Tuckey, and others. This issue is available at <http://washingtonart.com/beltway/contents.html>. Information about the Split This Rock Festival can be found at [www.SplitThisRock.org](http://www.SplitThisRock.org).

The **Broward County Library** announces its 21st Annual Conference on Children's Literature, to be held April 25, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The theme of this year's conference is "Poetry/Poesía: On the Wings of Words/Palabras Para Volar!" The keynote speakers are Jorge Argueta, Jean Marzollo, Jack Prelutsky, and Ray Dominguez, with musical entertainment by Bill Harley.

The conference is being held in conjunction with Children's BookFest, a weeklong celebration of Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros...Children's Day/Book Day and The Week of the Young Child. In keeping with the main theme, the speakers and workshops will focus on the art of children's poetry and its intrinsic empowering qualities. Hands-on activities and workshops will be geared for librarians and teachers to gain skills and knowledge in bringing poetry to the classroom and public library programs for children and teens. The conference is offered completely free of charge. Advanced registration is strongly suggested, as seating is

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limited. For information and to register, contact Vanessa Brilliant before April 14, at (954) 357-7305 or [vbrillant@browardlibrary.org](mailto:vbrillant@browardlibrary.org).

**Cinco Puntos Press** is thrilled to announce that *Crossing Bok Chitto*, written by Tim Tingle and illustrated by Jeanne Rorex Bridges, has been included on the Bluebonnet Master List of the Texas Library Association (TLA) for 2008-09. The Bluebonnet is a library-based literacy program sponsored by the TLA. Each year, a committee of Texas librarians picks 20 of their favorite books for children in grades three to six. The children then vote for their favorites, but to gain franchise, each child has to read five books from the Master List. In 2007, 170,000 children participated in the Bluebonnet voting, making the award program responsible for encouraging Texas children to read at least 850,000 books. For more information, on *Crossing Bok Chitto*, visit [www.cincopuntos.com](http://www.cincopuntos.com). To learn about the Texas Bluebonnet Awards and the rest of the titles on the 2008-09 Master List, visit [www.txla.org/groups/tba/index.html](http://www.txla.org/groups/tba/index.html).

In October 2007 **Facing History**, a Boston-based nonprofit organization devoted to education against prejudice, launched a new web site geared to secondary school students and community groups, "Be the Change: Upstanders for Human Rights."

The web site, at [www.facinghistory.org/BeTheChange](http://www.facinghistory.org/BeTheChange), presents the stories of five extraordinary men and women who have made a positive difference in the world. They are Arn Chorn Pond, a musician and survivor of the Cambodian genocide; Vanita Gupta, the Indian-born human rights lawyer advocating for unjustly imprisoned African Americans in rural East Texas; Nigerian woman AIDS activist Yinka Jegede-Ekpe; Martin O'Brien, an advocate for human rights and nonviolence in Northern Ireland; and Dr. Ernest Guevarra, who is working to improve health care among the poor of the Philippines. Created with the help of student interviewers, "Be the Change" looks at the influences, inspirations, and motivations that led the five upstanders to take action on behalf of others. By taking the journey through the web site, students connect with a growing global network of their peers who care about creating a more just world.

**Facts On File**, the award-winning publisher of print and online reference materials for the school and library market, announces the introduction of videos into four of its highly acclaimed history databases: *American History Online*, *Modern World History Online*, *American Women's History Online*, and *African-American History Online*.

The videos, a mixture of black-and-white and color, include many clips from old newsreel footage. They offer a full-screen option, links to related records, and explanatory captions, and they require no downloads. They appear in search results under an Images & Videos tab as well as under the new All Results tab. There is also a new Images and Videos section on the home page under the Browse section. Users can browse by topic, time period, or editor's highlights.

For more information about content and pricing, visit the pub-

lisher web site, [www.factsonfile.com](http://www.factsonfile.com).

On November 6, 2007, Latin & World Music label **iASO Records** celebrated its first releases. *The Bachata Roja* collection and Puerto Plata's *Mujer de Cabaret* (distributed by Ryko USA & Warner Digital) together reveal 60 years of the vibrant acoustic guitar tradition of the Dominican Republic. Repressed under Rafael Trujillo's regime and reviled by elite society, this roots music has never before been heard internationally.

*Bachata Roja* is the first ever compilation of classic Dominican *bachata*. Arising from the urban *bordellos* and the rural *campos*, *bachata* music grew to become wildly popular across all strata of society. From the early 1960s to the late 1980s, the defining sound of *bachata* was that of the Spanish acoustic guitar, whose florid phrasing seduced dancers, chastised faithless lovers, and softly serenaded coy mistresses of the night.

Puerto Plata's debut album *Mujer de Cabaret* is reminiscent of the golden age of Dominican guitar music. A contemporary of the Cuban greats of the 1930s and 1940s, Puerto Plata sings classic *son*, *bolero*, and *merengue* in a style that gives testament to a time gone but not forgotten, of serenades, carousing, and revelry.

For more information about iASO's current and forthcoming recordings, visit: [www.iasorecords.com](http://www.iasorecords.com) or contact Benjamin de Menil, (212) 372-7535; [ben@iasorecords.com](mailto:ben@iasorecords.com).

Eight new scientific journals from **Marquette Books** that focus on communication processes and effects will be available free of charge to scholars and the public beginning in 2008.

Publisher David Demers said he believes this is the first time a privately owned publishing house has made all of its journals open access. According to the Directory of Open Access Journals ([www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)), almost all open access journals are published by universities or nonprofit organizations, which in turn receive financial support from tax revenues or private donations.

A table of contents for each issue of the quarterly journals and Internet links to the journals' web site ([www.marquettejournals.org](http://www.marquettejournals.org)) will be e-mailed to more than 20,000 scholars, librarians, politicians, and journalists around the world.

To compensate for some of the loss of subscription revenue, Demers said the online portal through which scholars and the public will access the PDF content of MB journals will contain some advertising for MB's scholarly and trade books. The eight journals scheduled for publication in Winter 2008 are *Journal of Media Sociology*, *Journal of Global Mass Communication*, *Russian Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Health & Mass Communication*, *Journal of Media Law & Ethics*, *American Journal of Media Psychology*, *Journal of Communication Studies*, and *International Journal of Media and Foreign Affairs*.

More information about the journals can be found at [www.marquettejournals.org](http://www.marquettejournals.org).

**Scarecrow Press** announces that Stacy L. Creel, a well-known young adult librarian and educator, has been named the new editor of *VOYA* (*Voice of Youth Advocates*). Creel is currently a full-

time faculty member of the St. John's University Division of Library and Information Science in New York. She will retain her faculty position in conjunction with her new responsibilities as *VOYA* editor.

Creel has held positions in children's/young adult departments in Houston, New York, and Tallahassee public library systems. In addition, she is an active member of the American Library Association's Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), currently serving as co-chair of the YALSA pre-conference "Tweens & Reading" program for the 2008 annual conference, and member of YALSA's Printz Award Committee for 2008-2009.

*VOYA*, now in its 30th year, offers articles to promote young people's intellectual freedom and to encourage the continued development of young adult programs in libraries. The magazine also serves as a valuable collection-development resource through its nearly 1,500 published reviews of books and media for teens each year. *VOYA* is published by well-known library reference book publisher Scarecrow Press. Additional information can be found on the magazine's web site, [www.voya.com](http://www.voya.com).

The **Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM)** is pleased to announce its 53rd annual meeting, to be held May 30 to June 2, 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme for 2008 is "Encounter, Engagement and Exchange: How Native Populations of the Americas Transformed the World."

Founded in 1856, SALALM is the premier international professional association of Latin Americanist librarians and library collections, with personal and institutional members representing the foremost repositories of library material from the region in the United States, Europe, and Latin America. In the past year, SALALM has broadened its membership to include larger public library systems and is seeking to consult with smaller academic institutions that lack a Latin American specialist.

For more information and to obtain a registration packet, e-mail [salalm@tulane.edu](mailto:salalm@tulane.edu).

In November 2007 *Skipping Stones* magazine received the 2007 NAME Children's Publication Award from the National Association for Multicultural Education. Presented to the magazine's founder and executive editor, Arun N. Toké at the 17th annual NAME conference in Baltimore, Maryland, the award recognizes outstanding books or serials for children that present diversity issues. *Skipping Stones* won the same award in 1997 and is the only publication to be honored in this way twice.

The year 2008 marks the twentieth anniversary of *Skipping Stones*. To celebrate this milestone, the magazine has initiated a special contest for student poetry, short stories, nonfiction, and art pieces. For more information about the journal, the anniversary celebration, and the contests, visit [www.skippingstones.org](http://www.skippingstones.org).

A civic-minded group of Canadian eleventh graders recently journeyed to the Queenstown Get Ahead Project (QGAP) schools

in the Eastern Cape region of South Africa to help younger students learn geography, mapping, and computer skills. Using donated licenses of **Tom Snyder Productions'** Neighborhood MapMachine 2.0 software, students from both school districts learned lessons about mapping, collaboration, and community.

The community service project began earlier this year when the eleventh graders from the Branksome Hall School in Toronto, Ontario, asked Scholastic, the corporate parent of Tom Snyder Productions, to donate licenses of the Neighborhood MapMachine software to outfit the schools in Queenstown. They wanted to use the software to teach the students at the QGAP schools about geography and mapping. The eleventh graders learned about the program from the students in Branksome Hall's fourth grade class who use it as part of their "Finding Our Way" mapping inquiry unit.

For each of the past three years, the Branksome Hall School has organized trips to the QGAP schools. Participants have acted as teachers and mentors, running curriculum programs for students and professional development workshops for teachers. During this year's trip, the group installed Neighborhood MapMachine 2.0 on the schools' computers and helped the QGAP schools learn how to use it.

To learn more about this remarkable collaboration, visit the Tom Snyder Productions web site, [www.tomsnyder.com](http://www.tomsnyder.com).

**Women Make Movies** is happy to announce that *God Sleeps in Rwanda* by Kimberlee Acquaro and Stacy Sherman is the co-winner of this year's Best Documentary Emmy Award. After winning multiple audience and critic awards at film festivals across the country, after its nomination for the Best Documentary Short Subject Academy Award, and after its acclaimed broadcast on HBO/Cinemax's Reel Life Series, this powerful film has received the top honors from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. The other documentary winner is a Canadian film also about the Rwandan genocide, *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Journey of Roméo Dallaire*. The News and Documentary Emmys were presented in fall 2007 in New York City.

The 1994 Rwandan genocide left the country nearly 70 percent female, handing Rwanda's women an extraordinary burden and an unprecedented opportunity. An inspiring story of loss and redemption, *God Sleeps in Rwanda* captures the spirit of five courageous women as they rebuild their lives, redefining women's roles in Rwandan society and bringing hope to a wounded nation. 🌍