



# Communiqué

A newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana

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Left to right, Louisiana Voices Narrator Scotty Drake, Author Lee Feinswog and Reviewer Michael Wascom gather in the State Library's recording studio to work on recording "Hoop Daddy: Fathers, Sons and Basketball" as a talking book.

## Author Visits Louisiana Voices Studio

In August, local author and sports reporter Lee Feinswog visited the Louisiana Voices studio to meet the staff and volunteer team who turned Feinswog's latest book, *Hoop Daddy: Fathers, Sons and Basketball* into a talking book for the blind and physically handicapped. Using Louisiana Voices' digital recording equipment, seasoned narrator Scotty Drake, producer Russ Norwood and reviewer Michael Wascom dedicated nearly 70 volunteer hours over four months to complete the recording.

Feinswog said that the book was a deeply personal project for him. "I didn't have a message per se when I started it, all I wanted to do was

watch my son play college basketball and share in the things a father and son would get to do," said Feinswog. "I knew right away that there was something there about what fathers, sons and basketball mean to each other for those of us who have had our lives intertwined by the game."

The book is circulated in special format to patrons of The State Library of Louisiana's Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Louisiana Voices plans to record Feinswog's earlier book, "Tales from the LSU Sidelines: a captivating collection of Tiger football stories." Feinswog enjoys hearing from readers at [hoopdaddy@aol.com](mailto:hoopdaddy@aol.com).

## Two More Gulf Coast Library Facilities Reopen

Plaquemines and Terrebonne parish libraries were able to reopen library facilities in September. With help from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which has committed a 12.2 million dollar grant-supported, three-year initiative to rebuild libraries along the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and Mississippi, a temporary facility has opened in Port Sulphur in Plaquemines Parish and the Dulac community in Terrebonne Parish has received a new mobile library.

The Terrebonne Parish Library System celebrated its new mobile library with a grand opening September 1 at the Grand Caillou Recreation Center. Patrons, who were invited to step inside and check out the services and technologies, also enjoyed a festive atmosphere with jugglers, music, children's activities and even refreshments.

The people of Port Sulphur in Plaquemines Parish welcomed their new temporary branch library in September. A grand opening ceremony was held on September 6. In addition, the library system will receive a new bookmobile scheduled to be delivered in the early fall.

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# Viewpoint

The State Library of Louisiana is gearing up to celebrate the 5th Annual Louisiana Book Festival on Saturday November 3 in beautiful downtown Baton Rouge. The Capitol Area Park will come alive with music, food, arts, dance and all things Books. We expect more than 15,000 people to attend this year's festival, which means this year's book celebration will be our biggest and best ever.

The newly expanded festival will culminate with a complete performance by the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra beginning at 6 p.m. on the grounds of the State Capitol. The performance is entitled "The Sound of Books!" because every piece the orchestra plays will be music from films that originated as books, such as the Harry Potter theme, Schindler's List, and the Sound of Music. This will make for a fantastic end to a fantastic day.

Each year that we approach the planning stages of the Louisiana Book Festival we look closely at how other book festivals throughout the nation operate. This gives us a good idea of best practices that promote our goals: to promote reading and literacy among our citizens and especially our children, and to showcase the best of Louisiana's rich literary heritage.



Not only does our Louisiana Book Festival meet those goals, goals that clearly enhance the lives of Louisianans, but the festival is also a strong economic engine that is a wonderful example of public/private partnerships. Last year it was estimated that just under \$784,210 was injected into the economy as a result of the 2006 Louisiana Book Festival.

Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Secretary Angéle Davis have been our biggest supporters of the Louisiana Book Festival. It is under their leadership that we have been able to grow the festival into the national event that it is today.

If you have not made plans yet to attend, I encourage you to do so—there really is something for everyone. And as always, we encourage those interested in helping to make the event a continued success to volunteer!

State Librarian

## Genealogy Conference Held in Southwest Louisiana

"Branching Out in Genealogy," a conference sponsored by Libraries Southwest, the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, and Friends of the Library (Calcasieu Parish), will begin at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, October 27, in the Lake Charles Civic Center. Nationally recognized genealogists John Sellers, Bennett Greenspan and Richard Hooverson will speak on "History's Role in Your Genealogical Pursuit," "The Use of DNA in One's Genealogical Research," and "Tricks of the Trade: Tried and True Research Techniques," respectively.

Registration is \$25.00 and includes a Friday evening reception at the Genealogy Library and lunch on Saturday.

## Tangipahoa Parish Inaugurates Celebration for National/Family History Month

The Tangipahoa Parish Library System hosted a brief celebration for National/Family History Month in October. After a welcome by Christopher Kuechmann, Tangipahoa Parish Library Director, Ms. Antoinette Harrell, a local genealogist, spoke about the importance of family history.

Thirteen governors, including Governor Kathleen Blanco, have now endorsed National/Family History Month. At the event, Amite Mayor Dr. Reggie Goldsby, Tangipahoa Parish President Gordon Burgess and City of Hammond Mayor Maison Foster read special proclamations. Hammond City Council President Kathy Montecino and Kentwood Councilman Mike Hall also spoke.

## Rapides Parish Breaks Ground

The Rapides Parish Library held groundbreaking ceremonies for the Glenmora and Hineston library branches September 11. Glenmora's new branch was named the J. W. Mc-

Donald Memorial Branch Library, and is located at 1075 Hwy. 497. The new Hineston Branch Library is located at 1810 Hwy. 121.



## People & Places

### State Library of Louisiana

**Rod Mills**, who was Director of the Center for The Book, left the State Library September 14 to take the position of Sales Manager of LSU Press.

**Sheronne Primus** has joined the State Library as the business manager. Primus transferred from Social Services to assume our business manager position.

### Around the State

**Betty Toussand** will retire in November with 28 years of service to Calcasieu Parish Public Library. Twenty-two of those years were spent as the Branch Manager of the Epps Memorial Library in Lake Charles.

A new and expanded building in **Calcasieu Parish** for Epps Memorial Library is currently under construction and is due to open early in 2008. Felicia Oliver, currently Manager of the Carnegie Memorial Library, will be hired as the new Epps Memorial Library manager.

**Libraries Southwest** will host their annual author's program at Pat's of Henderson in Lake Charles on October 25. Marguerite Hudson, author of "Whiskey Chitto Woman," will be the featured author.

Pamela Thibodeaux and Curt Iles are the featured Louisiana authors in **Calcasieu Parish Public Libraries**

### Remembrances

**Thomas K. Bigler** of Franklin passed away in September. He was a former library associate at several libraries, including Audubon Regional Library, St. Mary Parish Library and Terrebonne Parish Library.

Long time reference staff **Pat Brenner**, of the Lincoln Parish Library, passed away after an extended battle with cancer.

in October. Thibodeaux will speak at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, October 13, at Central Library. Iles will give a program at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, October 20, at Central Library.

## National Endowment for the Arts Awards Big Read Grant To Houma Regional Arts Council to Celebrate the Novel To Kill A Mockingbird

*Region 3 Parishes participate in national program to promote literary reading.*

The NEA presents the Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The National Endowment for the Arts named the Houma Regional Arts Council as one of 117 organizations to receive grants to support Big Read programs between September and December 2007. The Big Read, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest, encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss a single book. The organizations selected received

grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to promote and carry out community-based programs. The Big Read is taking place in all parishes of Region 3, including Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John and Terrebonne.

For a complete list of communities participating in the Big Read, a list of the Big Read novels, program application guidelines, or more information on the program, please visit [www.neabigread.org](http://www.neabigread.org).

## St. Tammany Parish Library Launches Internet Media Channel

In September, the St. Tammany Parish Library began offering to the public free podcast programming on the Internet.

A podcast is a digital media file, or a series of such files, that is distributed over the Internet. With the podcast series, the Library hopes to entertain and inform the public about services and programs that the St. Tammany Parish Library has to offer.

Produced and hosted by STPL staffer Benny Bruce, the podcasts include targeted programming for children, teens and adults. Anyone with a computer and an Internet connection can access and subscribe to these programs free of charge. The first episode is currently posted on the St. Tammany Parish Library website [www.sttammany.lib.la.us](http://www.sttammany.lib.la.us).

Bruce and STPL Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Deffner are encour-

aging local teens, artists, writers and musicians to get involved in contributing content to the shows on a wide variety of subjects.

In the future, the St. Tammany Parish Library plans to expand this project to also include video webcasts, making it a virtual online media channel completely dedicated to total coverage of the St. Tammany Parish Library and the community it serves.





# LOUISIANA BOOK FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 3 **2007** BATON ROUGE



CELEBRATING  
READERS, WRITERS & THEIR BOOKS!

10 am - 7:30 pm  
State Library of Louisiana, Louisiana State Capitol and Nearby Locations - Baton Rouge

The award-winning Louisiana Book Festival offers children and adult booklovers unique opportunities to interact with exceptional poets and writers and to enjoy a fun and inspiring array of book-related exhibitions, demonstrations, activities and performances.

It all takes place in the heart of Baton Rouge at the State Library, the State Capitol, the State Museum and in tents on neighboring streets.

ADMISSION IS FREE  
AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

### The Authors and Autographs

More than 100 distinguished poets and writers of fiction and nonfiction will talk about their books, and then autograph them shortly following their presentations.

### Books! Books! And More!

Books by every featured author and an assortment of Louisiana Book Festival collectible merchandise will be available for purchase.

### Cooking Demonstrations

Chefs and cookbook authors will discuss and demonstrate the art and craft of cooking.

### FREE Book Appraisals

Joseph J. Desalvo, JR., owner of the Faulkner House in New Orleans will give free book appraisals à la Antiques Road Show.

### FREE Advice on Book Repair

Renee De Ville of de Ville Book & Paper Conservation will offer professional advice on the care and repair of works on paper.

### Bookbinding and Papermaking Demonstrations

Leslie Koptcho and the Print Workshop of the LSU School of Art will demonstrate papermaking and bookbinding.

### EXHIBITIONS

Booksellers, publishers and other organizations whose missions are driven by books or reading will offer merchandise and services from booth and table displays.

### REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC

Family friendly food and beverages will be available for purchase in the House Dining Room in the Capitol and at other locations. The Spanish Town Road Café & Stage will provide café seating and musical entertainment throughout the day.

## SPECIAL EVENTS Friday, November 2, 2007

### LBF Writing WordShops

9 a.m. - 4 p.m., State Library or State Museum,  
Fee: \$35 - \$70, depending on WordShop

### Call Him Ishmael:

How to Create Characters So Real  
They're Dangerous  
Faculty: Julie Smith

### Six Secrets to Writing Bestselling Genre Fiction

Faculty: C. S. Harris

### Last Night's Dream:

A Living Source for Writers  
Faculty: Rodger Kamenetz

### Creating & Publishing

Poetry for Children  
Faculty: Brod Bagert

### THE AUTHORS' PARTY

7 p.m. - 9 p.m. - Friday, November 2, 2007  
The State Library of Louisiana

Mark your calendar for the 2007 Louisiana Book Festival Authors' Party. The Louisiana Library Foundation will honor the poets, writers and sponsors who make the Louisiana Book Festival possible. They've all been invited as special guests and we invite you to join them. Admission is \$40 per person. Enjoy exquisite buffet dining, wine and beverages, exceptional music and great company! For additional information or to make your reservations, call 225-219-9503 in Baton Rouge or toll free at 888-487-2700.

### THE BATON ROUGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Sound of Books!  
David Torn, Conductor  
6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. -  
Saturday, November 3  
The 2007 Louisiana Book Festival will conclude with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra performing a FREE outdoor concert in front of the State Capitol building. The program will feature popular music selections from films that originated as books.

### THE YOUNG READERS PAVILLION

Believing that the love of books and reading begins in childhood and that children are more inclined to read and learn when exposed early on to age-appropriate and fun activities relating to words and books, the Young Readers Pavilion is an integral part of the annual Louisiana Book Festival. It is the place where families enjoy the festival together.

The Young Readers Pavilion comprises four tents featuring storytelling, writing enrichment projects, book-related crafts and face painting. Clifford the Big Red Dog, Franklin the Turtle and other costumed characters will be roaming the pavilion as well.

### LOUISIANA YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD CEREMONIES

The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award Ceremony will be held in the State Library Seminar Center at 11 a.m. for Candace Fleming, author of "Gator Gumbo: A Spicy Hot Tale," which is the 2007 Award Winner for Grades 3-5.

### MID CITY DANCE PROJECT

Since 1994, the Mid City Dance Project, Inc. has educated underserved children in East Baton Rouge Parish who participate in beginning ballet and dance, and has provided opportunities for these students to perform in community productions.

This year, the company has agreed to a special performance at the 2007 Louisiana Book Festival. They will perform "Giraffes Can't Dance," an original dance based on the children's book by Giles Andreae.



## Summer Reading in the Libraries Big Success

This year's Summer Reading Program was a huge success, with more young readers participating than ever before. Eighty-four thousand young people participated and nearly 1.4 million children's books were circulated in June and July, an increase of 13% over 2006.

The libraries offered more than 7,000 programs, which were attended by more than 244,000 children and teens.

"Book a Trip" was the 2007 theme and many libraries designed programs about traveling to a different continent each week. Children up to age 12 learned about various countries and cultures by reading and by participating in programs. One library reported that by the end of the summer the children could say hello in ten different languages.

Storytellers, puppeteers, musicians and other performing artists brought various cultures to life for the youngsters who flocked to the libraries each week. Some of the more creative programs included Chinese dragon dances, Mexican fi-



estas, "Amazing Race" games, Irish bagpipes, dinosaur digs, pony rides and pasta-making workshops. Some libraries offered stuffed animals for the children to borrow to accompany them on their family trips. These "Traveling Teddies" and "Pack-a-Pups" were very popular and motivated the children to read.



As usual, local businesses and community organizations also helped out in the effort by providing reading incentives, such as buttons, stickers, t-shirts, globe pencil sharpeners, fortune cookies with book-related fortunes and coupons for pizza and other treats.

The Teen Reading Program gained more readers as well. The public libraries' programs attracted nearly 18,000 teens, a 47% increase over the attendance in 2006. Library programs not only motivate youth to read but they also offer them constructive, positive activities. This summer libraries provided opportunities for adolescents to volunteer, to read to young children in the "Book Buddies" program, and to participate in challenging and enjoyable activities including Medieval Festivals, Harry

*Communiqué* is a monthly publication of the State Library of Louisiana to provide information to Louisiana libraries and people with an interest in libraries. Inquiries, subscription information or requests on obtaining large print or audiocassette versions should be directed to the Communications Section.

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The State Library of Louisiana is one of our state's greatest resources for research information, government documents, genealogical data, books in Braille, audiobooks and more.

The State Library's mission is to build an informed, literate and democratic society by ensuring access to informational, cultural and recreational resources, especially those resources unique to Louisiana.

Potter parties, scavenger hunts, poetry slams, plus workshops about jewelry-making, photography, and art workshops, to name just a few.







## Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award Program for 2008 Enters Ninth Year

The State Library's Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award program is now entering its ninth year. This program has been successful in encouraging children to read high quality books for enjoyment. Last year, more than 19,000 students read and voted for titles on the 2007 ballots. Fall is a great time to contact your local schools to encourage them to have their students read the books and vote for their favorites.

Each year committees of school and

public librarians select recent books to be on the two ballots: 15 titles appropriate for students in grades 3-5 and 15 titles appropriate for students in grades 6-8. Students may read or listen to three or more of the books on the ballot and vote for their favorites. Tallies of the student votes are due to the State Library of Louisiana from the schools by February 1, 2008.

Detailed information about the program is available on the State Library web site [www.state.lib.la.us](http://www.state.lib.la.us). Click on Center for the Book, then LA Young Readers' Choice. The site includes a time line, Power Point presentations and Study Guides for the titles.

Materials to promote the 2008 program are available to libraries and schools free of charge. Promotional materials include posters, bookmarks, ballot notepads, seals for the award-winner books and small labels to put on the 2008 nominees. An online order form is available on the web site. Your assistance in getting the word out about this terrific program is greatly appreciated.

The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award is a reading enrichment program of the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana underwritten by Capital One with additional support from Perma-Bound Books.

### LOUISIANA YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD BALLOT 2008

GRADES 6 · 8

**Basketball (Or Something Like It)**

by Nora Raleigh Baskin.

**Black Storm Comin'**

by Diane Lee Wilson.

**Blood Red Horse**

by K. M. Grant.

**Bodies from the Ash:**

**Life and Death in Ancient Pompeii**

by James M. Deem.

**Click Here:**

**To Find Out How I Survived Seventh Grade**

by Denise Vega.

**Code Orange**

by Caroline Cooney

**The Cottonmouth Club**

by Lance Marcum.

**Double Identity**

by Margaret Peterson Haddix

**Flush**

by Carl Hiaasen.

**Jazz A B Z:**

**An A to Z Collection of Jazz Portraits**

by Wynton Marsalis. Illustrated by Paul Rogers.

**The Lightning Thief**

by Rick Riordan.

**The Pig Scrolls**

by Paul Shipton.

**The Sacrifice**

by Kathleen Benner Duple.

**Sixth-Grade Glommers, Norks, and Me**

by Lisa Papademetriou.

**Stumptown Kid**

by Carol Gorman and Ron Findley

See Page 8 for Ballot 2008 Grades 3-5



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LOUISIANA YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD BALLOT 2008  
GRADES 3-5

**A Bear Named Trouble**

by Marion Dane Bauer

**A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray**

by Ann M. Martin

**The Ghost's Grave**

by Peg Kehret

**A Kick in the Head:**

**An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms**

by Paul B. Janeczko. Illustrated by Chris Raschka

**Lucy Rose: Big on Plans**

by Katy Kelly. Illustrated by Adam Rex

**Lunch Money**

by Andrew Clements. Illustrated by Brian Selznick

**Magyk (Septimus Heap Series Book One)**

by Angie Sage. Illustrated by Mark Zug

**Mr. Williams**

by Karen Barbour

**The Next-Door Dogs**

by Colby Rodowsky. Illustrated by Amy June Bates

**Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude**

by Kevin O'Malley. Illustrated by Kevin O'Malley,  
Carol Heyer and Scott Goto.

**Precious and the Boo Hag**

by Patricia C. McKissack and Onawumi Jean Moss.  
Illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker

**Pteranodon: The Life Story of a Pterosaur**

by Ruth Ashby

**Reaching for the Moon**

by Buzz Aldrin. Illustrated by Wendell Minor

**The School is Not White!**

**A True Story of the Civil Rights Movement**

by Doreen Rappaport. Illustrated by Curtis James

**Show Way**

by Jacqueline Woodson. Illustrated by Hudson Talbott