

More than 19,000 students across the state in grades 3-5 and 6-8 have chosen two books as winners of the 2007 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award. *Gator Gumbo: A Spicy-Hot Tale*, written by Candace Fleming and illustrated by Sally Anne Lambert, was the top choice of third, fourth and fifth graders. *So B. It: A Novel*, authored by Sarah Weeks, received the most votes from youngsters in grades 6, 7 and 8.

The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award, now in its eighth year, is a reading enrichment program of the State Library of Louisiana underwritten by Capital One. It is a model collaborative reading program involving students, teachers and public librarians in all regions of the state. Students in grades three through eight are encouraged to read the high-quality books that are on carefully selected ballots: one for grades 3-5 and another for grades 6-8. Using specially prepared study guides, teachers incorporate the books into the curriculum. Voting day is an exciting time in many

## State Library Announces 2007 LA Young Readers' Choice Awards Students Choose Their Favorites

schools and libraries throughout Louisiana as the students cast their votes, sometimes using the voting booths supplied by the Secretary of State's Election Division.

A committee of school and public librarians chooses the 15 recent children's titles for each age group that comprise the annual LYRCA ballots. The lists offer a well-balanced array of excellent, enjoyable books in various genres, including fiction, nonfiction, folklore and poetry.

**Gator Gumbo: A Spicy-Hot Tale** (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004) received 4,058 of 15,417 votes

from the elementary division. In this Cajun twist on the Little Red Hen story Monsieur Gator is getting too old to catch a tasty swamp critter. Possum, Otter and Skunk tease and taunt him. But Gator has the last say when he tricks them

into being the main ingredient in the gumbo that he is making: "Slurp! Slip! Plop! Them animals go into the pot." This rollicking tale set in the swamps of Louisiana was written by Candace Fleming, who lives in Mount Prospect, Illinois. The humorous illustrations are by Sally

Anne Lambert, who lives in a farmhouse in Cumbria, England.

**So B. It: A Novel** by Sarah Weeks (HarperCollins Children's Book Group, 2004), the award-winning book for the middle school division, received 565 of the 3,817 votes from students in grades six through eight. This novel is about twelve-year-old Heidi, who goes on a journey from Reno to New York to learn the truth about her family. Sarah Weeks, author of the popular "Guy" series, was born in Michigan and now resides in New York City.



**The Champ: The Story of Muhammad Ali** by Tonya Bolden and illustrated by R. Gregory Christie (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 2004) and **Dragon Rider** by Cornelia Funke and translated by Anthea Bell (Scholastic Incorporated, 2004)



placed second in this year's voting and are the 2007 Honor Books.

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# Viewpoint

**A**t the Third Annual Cultural Economy Summit (see article on page 5), the State Library of Louisiana held a break out session where we gathered ideas, thoughts and suggestions from the 30 or so attendees.

It was gratifying to see such a wide variety of participants. The combination of people from several other fields of interest in addition to the many library professionals made for a good discussion.

Our goal for the session was to address the roles that libraries play in our cultural economy and what non-traditional roles have been played or could be played.

I was not surprised at the results. Most participants noted that while libraries still hold a traditional place in our culture, providing traditional services, it is clear that we are moving ahead with new technologies and the opportunities that these technologies provide.

Louisiana was one of the first states to provide free Internet access in its public libraries. We continue to lead in this area with better, faster Internet access and the exceptional databases that we provide to the state's citizens. The State Library staff, along our public library directors and boards, are actively seeking ways to be on the cutting edge of these new technologies and trends.

Several participants at the Summit noted that we must improve how we market these new services, as well as our traditional services. We spend so much time doing good that we forget to tell everyone of the good we have done.

The State Library is here to help you in any way that we can. Paulita Chartier is our new Communications Director and she is available to assist you and your staff in planning promotional campaigns and crafting your message.

We are also in the process of hiring a grant writer whose two-fold job will be to seek out private funds to enhance what the State Library does and to assist you in seeking and applying for appropriate grants. The State Library is able to provide these two positions through some internal staff reorganizations and reallocations of duties.

With all of that said, it is an exciting time to be a librarian. And it's good to know that we play an important role in building Louisiana's cultural economy.

Rebecca Hamilton,  
State Librarian

## Pratt Smoot Day Library Services for the Blind Commemorated

**S**ervices for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the State Library of Louisiana is celebrating Pratt Smoot Day during the month of March with an informational display in the front lobby. The display highlights the history of library services for people with visual, physical or other disabilities.

Up until the early part of the last century, the blind in Louisiana had few options if they wished to visit a library to check out reading material. That began to change in 1930, when identical bills were introduced in Congress by Representative Ruth Pratt (H.R. 11365) and Senator Reed Smoot (S. 4030). Both bills provided alternative format library materials, such as recorded books and Braille books, through an appropriation to be expended under the direction of the Librarian of Congress.

The Pratt-Smoot Act became law on March 3, 1931. The Librarian of Congress was authorized to arrange with other libraries "to serve as local or regional centers for the circulation of such books, under such conditions and regulations as he may prescribe." When a Joint Resolution was passed appropriating \$100,000 for fiscal year 1932 to carry out the provisions of the act to provide books for blind adults, the program that would become the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS/BPH) was established.

The Library's display will remain on public view during regular hours (8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday to Friday) until March 31, 2007.

For more information, contact the Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the State Library of Louisiana at (225) 342-4943, (800) 543-4702 or [sbph@state.lib.la.us](mailto:sbph@state.lib.la.us)





# Gulf Coast Public Library Recovery Project

## Cameron Parish Becomes First Library System to Receive Facilities



*Katie Mhire and Karlee Nunez show Sheila Mhire how to use the new computers.*

Through the Gulf Coast Public Library Recovery Project, Cameron Parish Library became the first library system to get fully functioning temporary library facilities to replace those that were destroyed in the hurricanes.

On February 26, Cameron celebrated the Grand Re-openings of the main library and Grand Chenier branch of the Cameron Parish Library system. Three of Cameron's libraries were completely destroyed by Hurricane Rita, including the main library and Grand Chenier branches as well as Johnson Bayou branch, which will be getting a bookmobile at a later date.

"I am so proud of what you all have done here," said Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian. "By holding and keeping safe a community's knowledge, history, and future, a public library serves as a guardian of a community's heart and soul. Cameron Parish, you have shown your strong heart in what you've done here."

Charlotte Trosclair, Cameron Parish Library Director, thanked SOLINET. "Because of SOLINET's hard work we are able to be the very first library to open in the Gulf Coast Public Library Project and for that we are very grateful."

The Library Project is funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The grant, administered by SOLINET, funds the three-year project that provides temporary facilities, computers and Internet access to Louisiana and Mississippi libraries that were damaged or destroyed during

Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

Several state dignitaries spoke at the opening of the main library, including Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu, State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton, US Representative Charles Boustany, Jr., State Senator Gerald Theunissen, Cameron Police Jury President Darrell Farque and Cameron Library Board President Cyndi Sellers.

Trosclair pointed out that getting the libraries opened was truly a community effort. "This was not possible by

myself," she said. "So many people are the backbone of what I do, including my library staff, the Library Board, the Police Jury and especially George LeBoeuf from Maintenance, who went way above and beyond the call of duty."



*Cameron Parish children cut the ribbon to reopen the Grand Cheniere branch.*



*Cameron Parish patrons explore the new temporary library.*



*Dignitaries cut the ribbon to reopen the Cameron Parish Library. Pictured, left to right are Courtney Hearon, from Sen. David Vitter's office, Sen. Gerald Theunissen, Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu, Cameron Parish Library Director Charlotte Trosclair, Congressman Charles Boustany, Jr., State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton, and SOLINET Project Director Mary Ellen Santiago.*



# Job Openings

**Library Director**  
**Desoto Parish Library**  
**109 Crosby Street**  
**Mansfield, Louisiana 71052**

Date position available: March 15, 2007. We are seeking a highly motivated, confident and energetic individual whose responsibilities will include: plan for and administer the operation of DeSoto Parish Library, organize and provide leadership for customer services at all locations, design and implement public relations and marketing plans for the library, employ, schedule, and supervise all employees and volunteers, create, coordinate, and direct programming at all locations, prepare annual budget and carefully oversee the expenditures of same, coordinate activities of Friends of the Library and Library Foundation, work with and report to the Library Board and the DeSoto Parish Police Jury. Qualifications: Required: Master's Degree from an ALA accredited School of Library Science, administrative and supervisory experience, excel in written and oral communication skills with staff and public, proven organizational and management skills. Desirable: technical expertise for website development, working knowledge of library automation systems, grant writing experience. Description Of The Organization: Founded in 1941, the DeSoto Parish Library has the potential to serve 126,383 residents. Resources include the main library and three branch libraries, two of which are newly constructed, as well as a collection of 100,000+ items. Plans for renovation of the main library are due to be advertised for public bid mid-February. The library system is funded by a ¼ of 1% local sales tax and a local 3 mil tax for capital improvement. DeSoto Parish Library's main library is located in historically rich Mansfield. Mansfield was established in 1843 and became the parish seat of government in 1847. Mansfield is located about 30 miles south of Shreveport/Bossier. Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Benefits: Annual benefits include 20 days of paid vacation, 10 days of paid holidays, and 12 days of sick leave. The Library pays 80% of insurance costs for the employee and dependents. The Library also supports continuing education and attendance at conferences. Application: Search will remain open until the position is filled. Send a letter of application, resume and names and addresses of three references to the Library Board President: Mrs. Judy Burford, P. O. Box 145, Gloster, LA 71030, [hallbjbhb@aol.com](mailto:hallbjbhb@aol.com)

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**Reference Librarian**  
**Ascension Parish Library**

Qualification: A master's degree in library and information science from an ALA accredited library school required. Reference services experience preferred. Responsibilities: Responsible for coordinating and supervising reference and technology activities, etc. at the branch level. Involves implementing promotional, publicity, special, technological and/or informational projects at the branch level. Salary: \$33,800 +, dependent upon experience. Position Available: January 3, 2007 Application Deadline: Until filled. APPLY: Send letter of application, resume, and three references to Angelle Deshautelles, Library Director, Ascension Parish Library, 708 South Irma Blvd., Gonzales, LA 70737.

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**Library Specialist II, First Assistant**  
**West Shreveport Branch Library**  
**Shreve Memorial Library**

Vacancy Number: 07-WS-1, Full-Time, SUMMARY: Under general supervision, this position is responsible for a variety of public service and technical duties in various phases of library operations, including the exercising of judgment and discretion in performing library routines with technical advice available when needed; determines duties and methods necessary to accomplish objectives; performs related and other work as required. Required Training And Experience: attainment of a B.A. or B.S. from an accredited university/college. Required Knowledge, Abilities And Skills: Good knowledge of: (1) standard library principles, practices and procedures; (2) electronic and printed materials, resources and databases, ability to: (1) relate and communicate effectively with other employees; (2) make decisions based on established policies and practices as well as common sense; (3) use resourcefulness, tact and courtesy in dealing with library patrons; (4) understand complex oral & written instructions; (5) type and use a computer. General Duties: serves as First Assistant; may serve as acting Branch Manager during Manager's absence, participates in the operation of the branch library, trains and supervises subordinate personnel, provides reference/readers' advisory assistance; assists patrons in the selection of materials and the use of the other library facilities and services; answers routine questions; takes interlibrary loan requests, assists patrons with computer applications. In charge of magazine collection. Charges, discharges and renews books and other library materials; assesses and collects fines; registers new patrons and updates registration records. Shelves books; straightens book on shelves; reads

shelves for proper order of books; searches for lost books and materials. Assists in preparation of reports and maintenance of records, including counting money. Performs other duties as required. Present Schedule [subject to change as needed]: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Application Deadline: applications accepted until position is filled Starting Date: two weeks after selection. Salary: \$2028/month + benefits. Contact: A Shreve Memorial Library application must be submitted to be considered for a position; applications are available at all SML locations. Send applications to Jennie Paxton, Human Resources Coordinator, Shreve Memorial Library, P.O. Box 21523, Shreveport, LA 71120-1523. Contact Charla Streetman (635-0883) or Bandana Mukherjee (226-4974) if you have questions regarding the position. A criminal background check and a drug screening are part of the pre-hire process. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or non-job related disability. Our facilities are non-smoking.

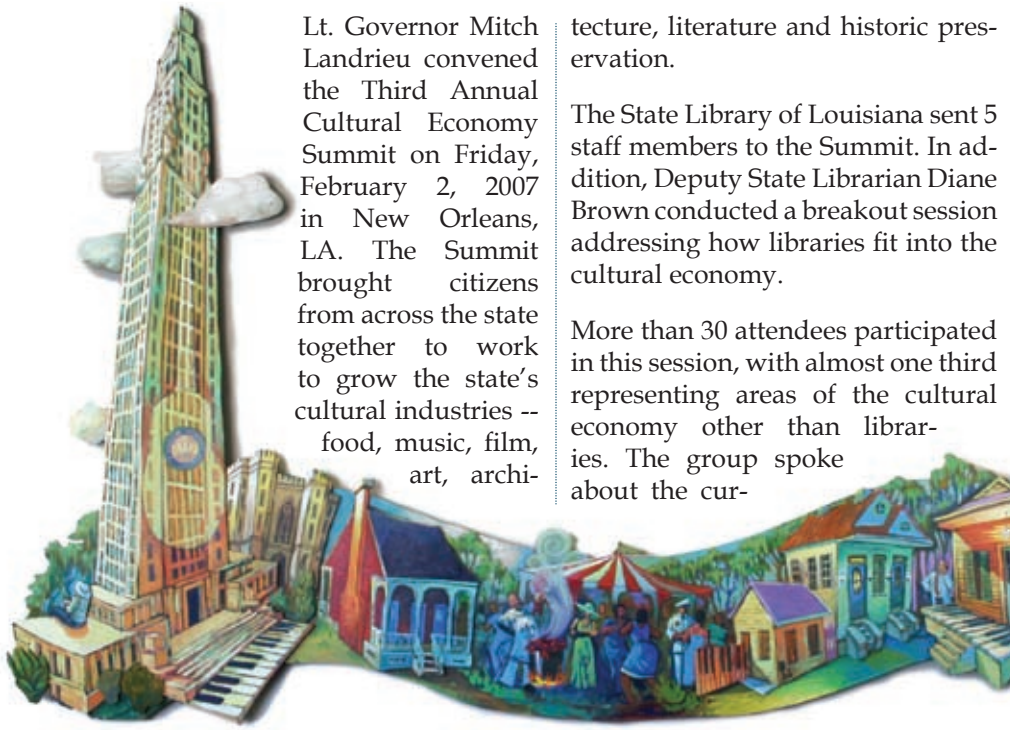
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**Adult Services Librarian**  
**Iberville Parish Library**

Qualifications: required: M.L.I.S. degree --or-- library experience and working toward degree, administrative and managerial experience, hands-on experience in an automated public library environment desired, experience using The Library Corporation's (TLC) software preferred, ability to communicate effectively in writing and speech with co-workers and the public. Responsibilities: develop relevant Adult materials' collections for high school students through senior citizens via online orders and work with booksellers, work with Director, staff members and the entire community to maintain, grow and publicize library programs & services, provide ongoing instruction to staff of all eight Iberville libraries on how best to answer the information needs of adult library patrons, including the use of print and computer resources, responsible for working with other departments to manage the work duties of volunteers and student workers, perform other duties as needed. Salary & Benefits: salary dependent upon skills and experience. Competitive benefits package includes ample vacation, holidays, and sick leave. The Library currently pays 100% of employee's medical insurance. Continuing education and attendance at conferences is supported. Application: Search will remain open until position is filled. Send letter of application, resume, and names and addresses of at least three references to: Dannie Ball, Library Director Iberville Parish Library P.O. Box 736 Plaquemine, LA 70765-0736, email: [dball@state.lib.la.us](mailto:dball@state.lib.la.us), phone: (225) 687-2520 cell: (225) 776-4620 FAX: (225) 687-9719.





## Cultural Economy Summit III



Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu convened the Third Annual Cultural Economy Summit on Friday, February 2, 2007 in New Orleans, LA. The Summit brought citizens from across the state together to work to grow the state's cultural industries -- food, music, film, art, archi-

itecture, literature and historic preservation.

The State Library of Louisiana sent 5 staff members to the Summit. In addition, Deputy State Librarian Diane Brown conducted a breakout session addressing how libraries fit into the cultural economy.

More than 30 attendees participated in this session, with almost one third representing areas of the cultural economy other than libraries. The group spoke about the cur-

rent roles libraries play as well as potential roles that would serve the cultural economy.

Attendees agreed that libraries already provide a vital repository of information in many fields, as well as promoting the arts, preserving history and serving as a starting place for those seeking direction on furthering their interest, be it business, the arts or education.

Finally, the group recognized the need for libraries to market their services more fully, in particular that two groups need to be targeted. First, those who currently use the library but are still unaware of the vast resources available. And second, those who are non-users, generally buying their books on their own and not realizing first hand the resources that a modern library offers.

## Maplewood Library Reopens

Calcasieu Parish Public Library hosted a ribbon-cutting and grand reopening of the Maplewood Branch Library, 91 Center Circle, at noon on Monday, January 22. Maplewood Library was closed when Hurricane Rita damaged the roof and water entered the building. Many books and materials were damaged beyond repair and have been replaced. Architect Randy Goodloe and Contractor Sam Watkins collaborated on the renovation.

The hours of the Maplewood Branch are: 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Fridays.

Esther Pennington is Manager of the Sulphur Regional Library and the Maplewood Branch. The reopened library is staffed by Beverly Castleberry and Tammy Laughlin, with additional support from the Sulphur Regional Library staff.



*Cutting the ribbon are, left to right, Nancy Tower, Sulphur City Council, Laura Richardson, Library Board of Trustees, Chris Duncan, Sulphur City Council, Mike Danahay, Police Juror for District 15, Llabetta Young, Library Board of Trustees, Ron LeLeux, Mayor of the City of Sulphur, Jeffrey Rippel, Calcasieu Parish Public Library Director, Dolores Hicks, President, Library Board of Trustees, Esther Pennington, Manager of Sulphur Regional Library and Maplewood Branch, and Stuart Moss, Sulphur City Council.*



## State Library of Louisiana Mailing Lists: A Wealth Of Information

**D**o the latest features from EBSCO befuddle you? Wondering where to get the latest ILL Statistics? What are the appropriate Firewall settings for you libraries network? Confounded by E-Rate? A wealth of information is there for the taking when you subscribe to a State Library of Louisiana mailing list. Subscription information is listed below:

### APPDS:

Agencies Providing Services to Louisianians with Disabilities (apds) is a listserv for agencies serving groups or individuals with disabilities. Announcements such as grant opportunities, workshops, conferences and public awareness events are frequently posted.

Subscribe information:

<http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mail-man/listinfo/appds>

### Databases:

This mailing list is a must for anyone that needs to have up to the minute information on the Louisiana Library Connection Databases. Stay current with upgrades to content and interfaces. Anyone working in reference services or with the public in general should be subscribed to this list. Included are reports from

vendors regarding new products, upgrades, enhancements, status reports and updates from administrators. Subscription information:

<http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mail-man/listinfo/databases>

### E-rate:

This list is an excellent source of information on E-rate workshops, guidelines and deadlines.

Subscription information:

<http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mail-man/listinfo/erate>

### LoanSHARK:

This list covers the LoanSHARK interlibrary loan system with announcements regarding updates, upgrades and statistics.

Subscription information:

<http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mail-man/listinfo/loanshark>

### Techs:

The informational list is for technology announcements as they pertain to Louisiana public libraries. This list is a must for system administrators and library technology professionals. Subscription information:

<http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mail-man/listinfo/techs>

*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.

## Friends of the Rapides Library Book Sales

Friends of the Rapides Library will have three book sales during March. Most of the books for sale are donations to the Library or withdrawn. All are "gently used."

Friends of the Glenmora Library will have their very popular Spring Sidewalk Sale on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM. A large selection

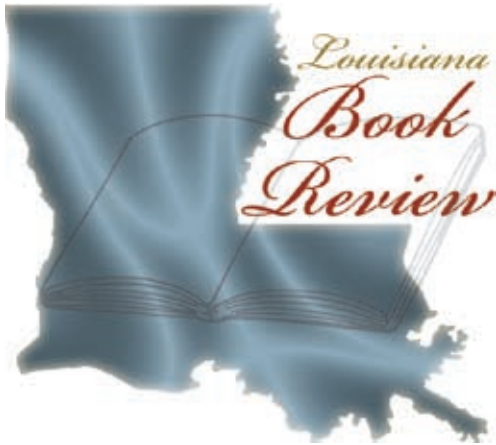
of books will be for sale at reasonable prices as well as homemade cookies, cakes, candies, and crafts. The sale will take place in front of the Glenmora Branch Library. For more information about this book sale please call the Glenmora Branch at 748-4848.

Friends of the Rapides Library will have a book sale at Main Library on

March 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be approximately 1000 books for 50 cents to \$1.00. For more information about this Friends Book Sale, please call Sharin McMonagle at 445-6436, ext. 229.

Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization and all proceeds from sales will be used for library projects.





## Printmaking In New Orleans

Jessie J. Poesch, Editor

University Press of Mississippi

July 2006

ISBN: 1-57806-768-8

Pages: 256

Books In Print Price: \$50.00 (Hardcover)

**P**rintmaking in New Orleans is a well-researched and illustrated history of New Orleans printmaking from the colonial times to the twentieth century. Few other resources offer such a wealth of information on such a specialized topic. Edited by Jesse Poesch, *Printmaking in New Orleans* was a collaboration of authors and artists who participated in a symposium organized by the North American Print Conference, which was co-sponsored by the Louisiana State Museum, the New Orleans Museum of Art and the Historic New Orleans Collection.

*Printmaking in New Orleans* allows readers to trace the cultural and commercial history of New Orleans through interesting narrative and detailed imagery of maps, engravings, lithographs, commercial illustrations, sheet music, Mardi Gras invitations, bank notes, portraiture and more. The many color and black and white illustrations are bright, crisp and of high resolution, offering readers a visual feast.

The narrative is just as interesting, taking the reader from early printmaking in New Orleans to artists

of the twentieth century. Readers can enjoy chapters on *Publicizing a New Land: Visual Propaganda for Attracting Colonists to Eighteenth-Century Louisiana*, *Walking the Streets of New Orleans: Printed Maps and Street Scenes*, *A Pelican's-Eye View: Urban Growth of New Orleans Through Bird's-Eye Views*, *A New Plane: Pre-Civil War Lithography in New Orleans*, *Playing New Orleans: The City's Neighborhoods and Sheet Music*, and more. Some of the artists represented include Marie Adrien Persac (painter), Jules Lion (lithographer), Morris Henry Hobbs (etcher), Clarence John Laughlin (photographer) and Caroline Durieux (Louisiana's master printmaker of the twentieth century). Though a different author wrote each chapter, the chapters come together to create a unique and interesting study of printmaking in New Orleans.

For persons interested in graphic arts in New Orleans or those needing a reference resource for the same, *Printmaking in New Orleans* is a must for the library patron and the library shelf.

*Charlene Bonnette is a Reference Librarian in the Louisiana Section of the State Library of Louisiana.*

## SLOL Goes Wireless

The State Library of Louisiana now offers free wireless Internet. If you have a laptop or PDA device that is capable of receiving a wireless signal, you can go to the Library's "hot-spot" in the Serials Reading room on the first floor and access the Internet completely free of charge.

To start using the Library's wireless network, patrons will need a password, which can be obtained from one of the librarians at the Reference

Desk. A library card is not required in order to use the wireless.

Patrons will need their own laptop or other device that is equipped with a wireless card and antivirus software. Library staff will give brief instruction on how to log on, and also how to take advantage of the Library's free databases and online catalog.

Those wishing to use e-mail must have their own web-based accounts

through an e-mail provider such as Hotmail or Yahoo.

There is no time limit on the use of any library equipment, including the length of wireless access sessions. The Library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.



WIRELESS INTERNET  
AT THE STATE LIBRARY



Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism  
P. O. Box 131  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821 - 0131

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## 2007 La Young Readers' Choice Awards *(continued)*



placed second in this year's voting and are the 2007 Honor Books.

"Studies indicate that children who read for pleasure are more likely to excel at reading and succeed in school," noted State Librarian Rebecca Hamilton. "Teachers, librarians and parents recognize that the Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award program

is an excellent way to encourage students to read by enabling them to participate in selecting the winning book."

Information about the program is available on the State Library website at [www.state.lib.la.us](http://www.state.lib.la.us) by clicking on Center for the Book, then on Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award. The list of nominees for 2008 are now available on the State Library website.

Previous winners of the award are *Alligator Sue* by Sharon Arms Doucet (2006 Grades 3-5); *Skeleton Key* by Anthony Horowitz (2006 Grades 6-8); *Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School* by Mark Teague (2005. Grades 3-5); *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman (2005 Grades 6-8); *Petite Rouge: A Cajun Red Riding Hood* by Mike Artell (2004); *My Dog, My Hero* by Betsy Byars, Laurie Myers and Betsy Duffey (2003); *Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman (2002); *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling (2001); and *Verdi* by Janell Cannon (2000).