

SPOTLIGHT *on* COMPETENCIES

The Library Education Committee is committed to helping libraries incorporate competencies into their training and staff development efforts. Each month we will highlight one of the OLC competencies by providing a short definition, a few related skills or behaviors, and resources for more information. As always, we want to know how your library uses competencies. Please send your stories to cathy.wilkymacky@cincinnati.library.org.

COMPETENCY: Adult Services Readers' Advisory

Definition: The understanding of the importance of connecting customers to popular and recreational reading and the ability to assist customers with popular and recreational reading choices.

Select Skills and Behaviors:

- Effectively uses online and print readers' advisory sources.
- Elicits information from the reader and bases recommendations on the reader's interests and desires.
- Has a working knowledge of popular authors and titles.
- Keeps up-to-date on what is being read by customers.

Training Resources:

Online

- *Novelist* – OPLIN database (offers training materials under *Resources for Readers' Advisory Staff*).
- *OLC Online Training: Ohio Reference Excellence, Module Two – Readers' Advisory* (www.olc.org/ore/2readers.htm).
- *Readers' Advisory 101* – an ALA-RUSA six-week online course (www.ala.org/rusa).

Books

- *Genreflecting: A Guide to Popular Reading Interests*, 6th ed. Diana Tixier Herald. Libraries Unlimited, 2006.
- *Readers' Advisory Service in the Public Library* 3rd ed. Joyce G. Saricks. American Library Association, 2005.
- *The Real Story: a Guide to Nonfiction Reading Interests*, Sarah Statz Cords. Libraries Unlimited, 2006.

Articles

- *I Need a Book!: Readers' Advisory for Adults*. Brozio-Andrews, Amy. *Library Journal*, 12/1/2006, Vol. 131 Issue 20, p172-172 (Ebscohost).
- *Older Adults and Readers' Advisory*. Ahlvers, Alicia and Trott, Barry. *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, Summer 2006, Vol. 45 Issue 4, p305-312 (Ebscohost).
- *Reading Maps Remake RA*. Wyatt, Neal. *Library Journal*, 11/1/2006, Vol. 131 Issue 18, p38-42 (Ebscohost).

Multi-Media

- *I Need a Book! A Guide to Readers' Advisory*. (DVD) Available through Library Video Network (www.lvn.com).

Training Opportunities:

www.ceohio.org

Complete List of Competencies:

www.olc.org/CoreCompetencies.asp

More Information:

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