Come Blow Your Horn

On March 19, 78 children’s librarians gathered at the State Library, and 16 others at two remote sites to be inspired by ideas from some of the most creative librarians in Ohio. Come Blow Your Horn presented 12 ideas that can be used by children’s librarians to spice up their programming.

The day started out with a mad scientist giving plans for a weird Halloween party, then Cinderella showed up and we found out how to help kids get ready for the prom. Community helpers gave safety tips, we learned lots of crafty ways to use books and then we went to the races with a banana as a car.

After lunch we joined a surfers club, found all kinds of things in pockets and learned how to attract kids to the library with trucks. We found ways to help teachers, had a party with Hitty and ended the day betting that we all would go home with ideas we could use.

The presenters all did a wonderful job and everyone went home with lots of ideas. We had two remote sites watching on video and they had a chance to comment and ask questions as well. The remote locations were a new venture for OLC at a live workshop, but as usual, the Children's Services Division is at the forefront of new methods in OLC.

I would encourage all of you to send ideas for next years Come Blow Your Horn workshop when the invitation comes to you. You all have at least one successful program that others would like to learn about.

Thank you to all the presenters, the committee and the staff at the OLC office who made this program a success.

Coordinator's Corner

By Deborah Dubois

The purpose of this newsletter is to let you know what the Children's Services Division has planned for you in the coming year, and to let you know some of the programs we have already accomplished. We have tried to plan programs and workshops that will give you information you can use in your daily work. We are also hoping to get a mentoring program off the ground this year, to help those librarians who may not have much experience, or just need someone else to discuss ideas with.

I urge all of you to get involved in OLC and the Children's Services Division. You have talents and ideas that would make this a better organization. Please think about being a mentor, running for action council, volunteering for a committee or task force, or speaking at a conference.

If you have any suggestions for how the Children's Services Division can serve you better, please contact me at deborah_dubois@freenet.richland.oh.us.
The Helping Books Connection
By Tony Petruzzi

http://www.helpingbooks.lib.oh.us Task Force of the Children’s Services Division of the Ohio Library Council is actively developing the website. The members of the Task Force and other volunteers continue to volunteer their ideas and book reviews, although it gets harder and harder to find the time with decreased library funding and staff that are stretched thinner and thinner.

The Parent’s Page.
The Task Force has begun the design of a Parent’s Page for the website. Content so far will include: “Tips on Parenting,” “Reading to Your Child,” and links to sources that provide guidelines for understanding the developmental stages of childhood. Recommendations are welcome!

In response to the war in Iraq, the reviewers have been inputting titles that address the sense of fear, anxiety, confusion, and loss that children are feeling as a result of the fighting. Suggestions for titles and new reviewers are always invited! Just click on the Comments? link located below the GENERAL INFO category on the menu of the left side of the screen.

Promotion. Recently, a school psychologist in the northeast Ohio area implemented a program on bullying to second and third graders in an elementary school. He used the Helping Books Helping Families manual supplied by Ruth Metcalf of the State Library to get ideas for themes, titles, and discussion questions. (For more information on the program, click on the program title on the home page. He is now an enthusiastic supporter of the Helping Books Connection website. A convenient way to make patrons aware of the website is to print off the bookmarks located from the Additional Resources link under GENERAL INFO. Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and click on the Comments? link located below the GENERAL INFO category on the menu of the left side of the screen.

Printable Bookmarks. The reverse side of the bookmark is blank and you can add your own library’s information there.

Workshops. Please consider attending the Helping Books Helping Families workshop to be held at the NOLA headquarters in Warren, Ohio on Monday, October 20, 2003. (www.nolanet.org). Participants will learn about the three discussion components of the State Library Helping Books Manual: Families Talk, Parents Talk and Students Talk. For more information about the program see: http://winslo.state.oh.us/services/LPD/tk_helpbks.html
LOOKING AHEAD FOR 2004...
By Tony Petruzzi

Imagine a place that has over 2,000 original illustrations from picture books... Wonderful, huh... Well, one does exist and it’s right here in Ohio. The Mazza Museum, International Art from Picture Books, at the University of Findlay is such a place. Established in 1982 as part of the 100th anniversary of the university, this grand museum houses original works from H.A. Rey, Eric Carle, Jan Brett, and Randolph Caldecott, just to name a few.

The Children’s Division of OLC is working on a visit to the Mazza Museum for the spring of 2004. While there Dr. Mallett, the museum’s director, would conduct a professional development workshop as well as a tour of the museum. This promises to be a very exciting, fun, educational event. We will keep you posted...

SAVE THE DATE--MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD!
The Hundred Languages of Children: New Directions in Library Services for Youth
A New Kind of Workshop, A New Way of Looking at What We Do
By Barb White

For forty years, the experiences of the children, educators, families, and community of Reggio Emilia, Italy, have spoken to the great power and potential in every child. These experiences have stressed the ability of children to teach us to learn with joy, to tell story in many "languages," and to see the extraordinary in the ordinary.

Today, advocates for children from all over the world study the work of Reggio Emilia through reading, discussion, and, whenever possible, visiting and studying the well-travelled exhibit, "The Hundred Languages of Children." For a limited time only, this exhibit will reside in Elyria and this affords us an invaluable opportunity to dialogue with the experiences of Reggio and to explore together its meaning for our own work with youth in a library context.

Join us for a day of discussion, reflection, and collaboration. To ensure a powerful experience for all attending, the number of participants in this exciting and unique workshop will be limited, so keep your eye on the OLC calendar and SIGN UP EARLY to secure your spot.

("The Hundred Languages of Children: New Directions in Library Services to Youth" is cosponsored by OLC, NOLA, and CAMLS.)