

Learning Resources and Technology Newsletter May 2000

Advanced Alternative Preparation for School Library Media Specialist – Applications Available

Applications for the second cohort of the Advanced Alternative Program for Certification of Teachers to Become Library Media Specialists are now available on the ACES web site: <http://www.aces.k12.ct.us>, scrolling to the Advanced Alternative Route. An announcement also will be mailed to school superintendents and principals in the near future.

To be eligible for the program a teacher must have:

- a valid Connecticut teaching certificate;
- have worked full time under that certificate for at least five of the past eight years;
- an earned Master's degree; and
- at least a developing competence with educational technology.

Applications are due on May 26, 2000. Those selected will begin the program in September. Consult the ACES web site for more information and/or the complete application form.



Governor's Summer Reading Program 2000

Planning for the **Connecticut Reads**, the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge is well underway. Posters, bookmarks and reading journals related to the program will be mailed to each school and public library in May.

During the second week of May, there will be an awards ceremony for those schools with the

highest reading levels for last summer. The purpose of the program is to encourage all children and young adults to enjoy reading this summer. Summer reading totals are submitted to the Department of Education in the fall.

Rise in Test Scores Tied to School Library Media Programs

Keith Curry Lance, director of the Library Service Center of the Colorado State Library, conducted studies on the impact of school library media programs on academic achievement in Colorado, Alaska and Pennsylvania. As in his original study in 1993, these studies show a positive and statistically significant correlation between the size of the library media center and the library media staff and test scores. An article highlighting the findings of the study appears in the April, 2000 *School Library Journal*. The article, entitled, "Dick and Jane Go to the Head of the Class," can be found at School Library Journal On-line:

<http://www.slj.com>

The March 22, 2000, *Education Week* also had an article, "Study Shows Rise in Test Scores Tied to School Library Resources," on the studies and the on-line version gives numerous links to other studies and the full report. The address for the article is:

<http://www.edweek.com/ew/ewstory.cfm?slug=28libe.h19>

Results of the new studies are important information to share with district decision-makers, boards of education, parents and teachers. School library media programs and library media specialists can and do make a difference in academic achievement.

Internet Tool Kit

The American Library Association has developed the "Libraries and the Internet Toolkit" to provide guidance and tips for managing and communicating about the Internet. The content includes information about filters, evaluating web sites, policy development, how to handle tough questions about the Internet, and a list of publications and other helpful resources. Libraries are granted permission to reproduce the toolkit. The web site address is:

<http://www.ala.org/internettoolkit>



Between the Lions – a New Reading Program for Children Ages 4-7

Public Broadcasting Services (PBS) has launched a new reading series that emphasizes the pleasure and the value of reading, as well as the skills needed to learn to read. Programs revolve around a family of lions who run a very unusual library. It is a magical place where characters may pop off the page, vowels sing and words can take on a life of their own. Programs use puppetry, animation, live action and music to turn reading into an entertaining and educational adventure.

Between the Lions is broadcast on Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) Monday through Friday at 3:30 p.m. Kids and families also are encouraged to visit the *Between the Lions* web site for a variety of educational activities and materials related to the series (such as the Designated Reader literacy campaign and a list of companion books).

The address is:

<http://www.pbskids.org/lions>

Connecticut Library Network (CLN) Governing Board Vacancy

The CLN governing board is seeking applications to fill one vacancy on the board in the category of professional librarian or school library media specialist. The term would run through March 31, 2002. The Board meets monthly at the Middletown Library Service Center. The application form and details about the function and responsibility of the Board can be found on the CLN web site:

<http://www.cslib.org/cln/memapp.pdf>

2001 Nutmeg Award Nominees

The Nutmeg Children's Book Award, jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Educational Media Association (CEMA), is designed to connect intermediate (grades 4-6) readers with notable fiction. In January, students vote for their favorite book. Nominees are:

The Ghost of Fossil Glen by Cynthia DeFelice;

Deep Doo-Doo by Michael Delaney;

My Louisiana Sky by Kimberly Willis Holt

A Shooting Star: A Novel About Annie Oakley by Sheila Solomon Klass;

No More Mice by Amy MacDonald;

Riding Freedom by Pam Munoz Ryan;

Gib Rides Home by Zilpha Keatley Snyder;

Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief by Wendelin Van Drannen;

101 Ways to Bug Your Parents by Lee Wardlaw;

Belle Prater's Boy by Ruth White.

Visit the Nutmeg Award web site for more information and publicity materials:

http://www.geocities.com/nutmeg_award/

Knowledge Network May Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 8:30 – 10:30 Art History: Survey of the Western World Programs 1-7 10:35 – 12:00 Art History Programs 8-12	2 8:30 – 10:30 Art Maker Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 Art Maker Programs 9-16	3 8:30 – 10:30 Art Maker Programs 17-24 10:35 – 12:35 Art Maker Programs 25-32	4 8:30 – 10:30 Arts Alive Programs 1-7 10:35 – 12:15 Arts Alive Programs 8-13	5 8:30 – 10:30 Return of the Art Maker Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 Return of the Art Maker Programs 9-16
8 8:30 – 10:30 Return of the Art Maker Programs 17-24 10:35 – 12:35 Return of the Art Maker Programs 25-32	9 8:30 – 10:30 Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 Cover to Cover Programs 9-16	10 8:30 – 10:30 More Books: Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 More Books: Cover to Cover Programs 9-16	11 8:30 – 10:30 Know It All Programs 1-7 10:35 – 12:10 Know It All Programs 8-13	12 8:30 – 10:30 NASA CONNECT Programs 1-4 10:35 – 12:10 NASA CONNECT Programs 5-7
15 8:30 – 10:30 Read On: Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 Read On: Cover to Cover	16 8:30 – 10:30 Story of Read- Alee-Deed-Alee Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 Story of Read- Alee-Deed-Alee Programs 9-16	17 8:30 – 10:30 Watch Your Language Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:30 Watch Your Language Programs 9-15	18 8:30 – 10:30 In Other Words Programs 1-7 10:35 – 12:00 In Other Words Programs 8-12	19 8:30 – 10:30 America Past Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 America Past Programs 9-16
22 8:30 – 10:30 Elec. Field Trips “Crossroads” and “Enslaved” 10:35 – 12:35 Elec. Field Trips “Washington: Man and Myth” and “A Day in the Life”	23 8:30 – 10:30 Elec. Field Trips “Trail of Whispers” and “Call to Arms” 10:35 – 11:35 Elec. Field Trip “Building History”	24 8:30 – 10:30 Tracks Programs 1-7 10:35 – 12:00 Tracks Programs 8-12	25 8:30 – 10:30 America Past Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:35 America Past Programs 9-16	26 8:30 – 10:30 Head to Toe Programs 1-8 10:35 – 12:15 Head to Toe Programs 9-15
29 Memorial Day No Broadcast	30 Request Day	31 Request Day		

Knowledge Network June Schedule

No formal programming will be scheduled in June. However, June 1-5 and 8-12 have been set aside as request days. If there are series from the Instructional Television Schedule and Resource Guide, 1999-2000 that you would like to have block fed during these two weeks, contact Betty Goyette (860-566-6660) to schedule them. Programs can be broadcast between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The Knowledge Network will resume broadcast in the fall.

About the Knowledge Network

The Knowledge Network is a collaborative project of the Connecticut State Department of Education and Connecticut Public Broadcasting, CPTV, that is designed to deliver instructional programming to schools, colleges and other educational institutions throughout the state. The Network is Connecticut's Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) System. ITFS is the identification given by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to television channels set aside for use by schools for the delivery of instruction and/or instructional materials. It is a relatively low-powered, limited-range microwave delivery system that relays signals from a control center to ITFS transmitters located strategically around the state. The Network eventually will consist of approximately 28 transmitter sites around the state. The system is private as two special pieces of equipment (a receiving antenna and converter box) are necessary to receive and translate the signals so they can be viewed on a regular television set. This is a way in which the Knowledge Network differs from cable or open air broadcast. The two channels available provide great flexibility for scheduling programming, such as block feeds of instructional television series, that would not be possible on open air broadcast and simultaneous broadcast of two programs.

As new transmitters become operable, superintendents of schools in the expanded receiving area are contacted about participation in the Knowledge Network. Once a memorandum of agreement is signed and returned, staff from CPTV conduct signal strength tests at district schools to determine the best site for placement of the antenna. Jo Ann Freiberg (860-278-5310) serves as the director of the Knowledge Network at CPTV. She can provide additional information about the Network and the timeline for development.

Programming on the Knowledge Network currently consists of instructional television series and other special programming such as teleconferences and electronic fieldtrips. Most programs can be recorded and used during the school year. Record rights are described for each series or are indicated in the Instructional Television Schedule and Resources Guide. As additional control sites are developed and have the capacity to originate programming, the opportunity for live broadcasts will be developed as well.



Have a Wonderful Summer.