

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY CONSULTANT'S REPORT June 2009

Letters About Literature

Illinois Emerging Writers Competition - An annual writing competition to encourage local writers and provide a unique opportunity and outlet for recognizing new literary talent. The competition is open to adults residing in Illinois who have not published a book. There are two divisions - poetry and short story. Winners receive cash prizes and have their works submitted for review and possible publication in several Illinois literary magazines. The deadline to enter is June 30, 2009. For the entry form and guidelines go to the Illinois Center for the Book website at <http://illinoiscenterforthebook.org>. If you are interested in judging, contact Bonnie Matheis at 217-558-2065 or at bmatheis@ilsos.net.

E-RICH Update

E-RICH, the Illinois State Library's Electronic Resource Service, will undergo changes as of FY2011, which begins July 1, 2010. E-RICH will no longer offer subsidized or negotiated pricing for electronic resources for direct library purchases. Notwithstanding, the State Library will continue to totally subsidize and provide FirstSearch at no charge to ILLINET member libraries. E-RICH will assist ILLINET member libraries by continuing to offer Try-It! Illinois, the annual electronic database trial, and the annual Electronic Resource It! Illinois, the annual electronic database trial, and the annual Electronic Resource Exposition (ER-XPO).

NoveList & NoveList K-8 | NoveList Plus & NoveList K-8

The NoveList & NoveList K-8 | NoveList Plus & NoveList K-8 Plus [order form](#) is now available. NoveList and NoveList K-8 is an online readers' advisory service that helps librarians and readers find fiction books based on books they have read or topics in which they are interested. NoveList Plus and NoveList K-8 Plus is an online readers' advisory service that contains information on fiction and nonfiction titles for all ages which can be searched using subject headings. These services are available to ILLINET member academic, public, special and high school library buildings and to middle and elementary library buildings. The Illinois State Library pays 50% of each library-building (location) fee. Order forms received after October 30, 2009 will not be eligible for the Illinois State Library subsidy. Please direct any questions to Gwen Harrison or call Gwen at 217-785-7334.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PER CAPITA GRANTS

We've heard from a few public library directors wondering when they'll receive their annual per capita grant. We wish we had a definitive answer but we don't. All we can tell you is what the State Comptroller's office is saying, and they are the entity that will send your check.

Here is a statement issued by Comptroller Dan Hynes:

"All state agencies, employees, state vendors and payees should be advised that the current delays affecting payments out of the state's General Revenue Fund (GRF) are expected to continue and likely lengthen throughout calendar year 2009. Under optimal revenue conditions, or for payments from non-GRF funds, the Office of the Comptroller

(IOC) can issue a warrant within 2-4 days after a proper voucher is presented to our office. However currently, substantially more GRF bills or vouchers have been submitted to the IOC than incoming revenues or cash on hand permits to be processed on a timely basis. We do not anticipate that there will be sufficient GRF revenues to significantly reduce current payment backlogs for the near future. Please note that while agency payrolls should not be impacted by these conditions, the majority of other payments out of the General Revenue Fund will continue to be delayed due to the lack of sufficient and/or timely revenues. At this time, these delays are in excess of 60 business days and are expected to increase over the next several months.

"Comptroller Hynes has directed IOC staff to continue to work with state agencies and state payees to minimize any disruptions created by these circumstances and to assist in identifying critical payment issues. The IOC recognizes the considerable difficulties created by these conditions and asks for the continued cooperation of all parties concerned to address a situation that is beyond our office's control. We will process as many payments on a daily basis as available revenues allow. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated."

WEBJUNCTION NEWS

WebJunction Illinois encourages users to continue to take advantage of the free online courses made available through the WebJunction Illinois Course Catalog. To make your experience with the Course Catalog as smooth as possible, please check the "Remember Me" box before you add courses to your cart and checkout. This will ensure that you can complete the checkout process successfully.

CALENDAR 2009

June 25	ISL Diversity Program Advisory Committee Meeting, ISL
June 30	Deadline to enter Illinois Emerging Writers Competition
July 9 – 15	American Library Association Conference, Chicago
June 19	IL OCLC Users Group Annual Meeting, St. Xavier
October 6 – 9	Illinois Library Association Conference, Peoria
October 29 – 31	Illinois School Library Media Association Conference, Springfield
October 30	CARLI Annual Meeting, Champaign
November 6	SLA IL Chapter Metropolitan Library System, Burr Ridge
December 9	ER-XPO: The Illinois State Library Electronic Resource Exposition, q Schaumburg Township District Library (register at L2)

2010

March 15 – 17	On the Front Lines, Springfield
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