

August 2014

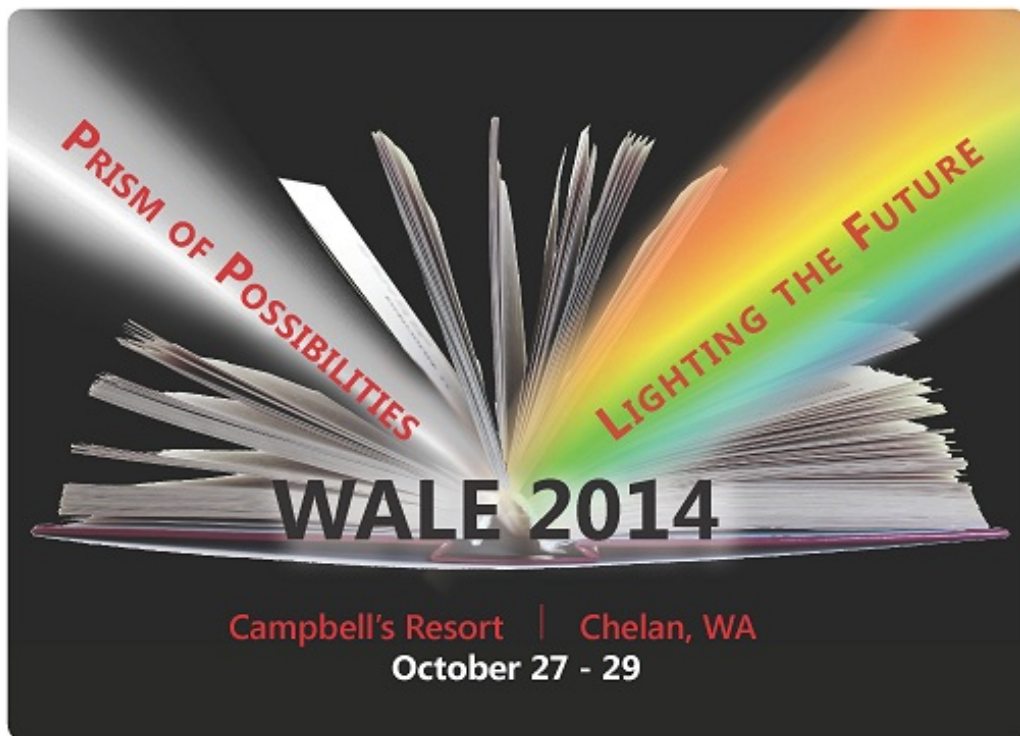
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📅 Save the Date for the 2014 WALE Conference!

By Beth Bermari, WALE Communications Officer

Save the date for the 2014 WALE Conference! While last year's theme focused on reflection, this year we look ahead with "Prism of Possibilities: Lighting the Future," to be held October 27-29 at Campbell's Resort on beautiful Lake Chelan. The conference kicks off with a Monday night reception featuring the Jennan Oaks Band and continues with diverse session offerings and these wonderful keynote speakers: Secretary of State, Kim Wyman; Editorial Director of Library Journal, Rebecca Miller; and Gene Ambaum and Bill Barnes from *Unshelved* comics. Registration opens soon. To stay in the know, check out www.wla.org/wale-conference-2014.



📅 Yakima Valley Libraries "Kids Can't Do That in the Library!"

By Charlotte Hinderlider, Community Library Resources Manager at Yakima Valley Libraries

Yakima Valley Libraries is currently operating a program in coordination with our

Summer Reading Program called “Kids Can’t Do That in the Library”. It is a STEM (STREAM) program adding science and technology projects to our offerings at YVL. We put together 4 different types of project kits to be circulated throughout our 17 branches. These kits include all of the materials and instructions for youth patrons to do the science or technology project as well as instructions for them (or the library staff to guide them) through the project. The projects will work with preschool and grade school patrons to be adaptable to a variety of demographics.

Some of the projects include:

Sink or float lab: Use a big clear tub of water & lots to put in it (stick, penny, plastic lid, etc.). Asked kids before each one, sink or float? At end, two soaps. First, the not-Ivory soap. Then Ivory. Sink or float? Put another bar of Ivory in the microwave & watch the outcome. [read more...](#)

IMLS Releases 2011 Public Libraries in the United States Report

Statistical analysis shows how investments affect library usage.



The Institute of Museum and Library Services released its [Public Libraries in the United States Report](#), an in-depth examination of Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 survey data with important findings about the state of public library service in the U.S.

The Public Libraries in the United States Survey (PLS) examines when, where, and how library services are changing to meet the needs of the public. These data, supplied annually by more than 97 percent of public libraries across the country, provide information that policymakers and practitioners can use to make informed decisions about the support and strategic management of libraries.

The robust report, produced each year by IMLS, aggregates data across all 50 states and the District of Columbia to provide national trends and estimates; offers an in-depth analysis of 13 key indicators of library investments and library use, including per-capita estimates to compare performance across libraries; and offers an analysis for each state that contrasts state level data to corresponding regional and national statistics. [read more...](#)

Continuing Education Corner: Special Windows for Health Insurance

By Emily Lynch, Library Associate IV at Fremont Branch of Seattle Public Library

WLA members! Continue your education on health insurance in Washington State. Last fall, many libraries put on a flurry of activities around the Affordable Care Act a.k.a. “Obamacare,” and some will do so again when the second-annual open enrollment period begins this October. But did you know that many patrons do not have to wait for the open enrollment period to apply for health insurance in Washington State? The Health Exchange is open year-round, and there are a number of situations, or “special enrollment periods”, that give patrons access to free or low-cost health

insurance plans.

National Special Enrollment Periods

For example, many young people may not know they can apply for health insurance if they celebrate a birthday that makes them too old for a parent's plan. And individuals of all ages can apply for insurance if they gain or lose a job or if their income changes.

[read more...](#)

WLA Member Profile

“Happiness is wanting what you already have.” So says Christa Werle, a librarian employed at Sno-Isle Libraries.



Meet Christa:

Q. How do you like your job as Public Services Project Manager at Sno-Isle Libraries?

A. I love my job. It's a new title and a new position for Sno-Isle Libraries (SIL) this year. We are challenging ourselves to approach the creation and revision of services to our customers using project management principles and processes. It makes it much easier to know what not to do and to ensure success from the beginning of our investments.

Q. How long have you been a member of WLA?

A. I was an active member early in my profession and then, without realizing, let it lapse somewhere around maternity leave. I joined again in 2012 and plan to continue and be more active for the rest of my career!

Q. How have you been personally involved in WLA?

A. I have served as Strategic Planning Coordinator on the Board, was an active member of WALT, and am hoping to help share SIL's successes at future conferences.

Q. What does WLA mean to you? or How have you benefited from being a member of WLA?

A. WLA is an opportunity for me to make people's lives better in WA State by supporting and being supported by a professional association that shares my values and ideals.

Q. What is your favorite thing about libraries?

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Looking for Resources to Host a Maker Event? Join IMLS a Mozilla Maker Party Conference Call to Learn How



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IMLS is partnering with [Mozilla's campaign](#) to celebrate teaching and learning the web with Maker Party. Through thousands of community-run events around the world, [Maker Party](#) unites educators, organizations and enthusiastic Internet users of all ages and skill levels.

Mozilla's Hive Learning Network's Chris Lawrence is hosting an information and Q&A session for libraries, museums, cultural institutions, after-school programs, and youth serving organizations that are planning to host, participate, or are considering hosting an event. [read more...](#)