

State Librarian's Report June 4, 2013

1. 94% of Parents Say Libraries Are Important for Their Children

94% of parents of children 18 years old and younger say libraries are important for their children and almost every parent (97%) says it is important for libraries to offer programs and classes for children and teens. This is especially true of parents of young children (those under 6), 84% of whom describe libraries as “very important,” according to the Pew Research Institute’s latest report, “Parents, Children, Libraries, and Reading” released May 1. The report is available online at

<http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/05/01/parents-children-libraries-and-reading/>.

Of the children who visited the library:

- 87% visited the library to borrow books.
- 79% (of parents) describe libraries as “very important.”
- 77% of the children ages 12-17 went to the library to do school work.
- 53% of the children under age 12 went to the library to attend a library event.
- 46% went to borrow DVDs or CDs.
- 43% of the children ages 12-17 went to the library to use the internet.
- 37% went to socialize with their friends.

Lower income parents are more likely to view library services as very important, the report also noted.

2. Kapaa Public Library Children's Room Named for Priscilla Tam Leong

Kapaa Public Library's Children's Room was officially named for Priscilla T. Leong on Friday, May 17 in a ceremony attended by approximately 35 people. During the ceremony Kauai Board of Education Member Nancy Budd spoke of Ms. Leong's contributions to the Kauai community and their long-time friendship.



Back, l-r: Richard Burns, Nancy Budd (Kauai, BOE member), Neva Olsen (Family friend), August Yee (Priscilla Leong's brother-in-law) Front, l-r: Sean Asquith (delivered pule), Lani Kawahara (Kapaa Public Library Manager), Geraldine Tam (Priscilla Leong's sister-in-law) and Myrna Alegardo.

3. Summer Reading Programs will be conducted June 2 to July 6

The Hawaii State Public library System's (HSPLS) annual Summer Reading Programs for Children, Teens and Adults have begun, and will continue through July 6.

Participation in these programs has grown more than 40% over the past four years, to a total of more than 29,000 readers. This year's program themes are “Dig into Reading” (Children); “Beneath the Surface” (Teen); and “Groundbreaking Reads” (Adult).

Participants who visit their local library and read at least one book per week are eligible to receive free weekly reading incentives, while supplies last. In addition to reading, the programs will feature storytelling and performance programs by outstanding storytellers and artists. Performance programs will be highlighted in the June issue of Holo I Mua,

and on the HSPLS website: www.librarieshawaii.org, and our Facebook page and Twitter accounts: www.facebook.com/HSPLSHlgov, and www.twitter.com/HSPLSHlgov.



4. Ronald McDonald Will Visit 17 Oahu Libraries

Seventeen Oahu libraries will host special Summer Reading Program Storytimes featuring Ronald McDonald, now through July 3. Ronald McDonald will offer a fun-filled interactive performance featuring a creative blend of music, magic and games to reinforce the idea that reading is fun, and books are an important part of every day. In addition, Ronald will emphasize appropriate library use and the proper care of books.

5. Hawaii State Library's History Featured in Honolulu Star Advertiser Article

The history of the Hawaii State Library was featured on page B-3 of the May 24 Honolulu Star-Advertiser. The current building opened on February 1, 1913, but the library has been in existence since its days as the Honolulu Workingmen's Reading Association in 1879, and one of its founders was Alexander Joy Cartwright, the "Founder of Baseball." The Library soon changed its name to the Honolulu Library and Reading Room, it moved to Fort Street, then the corner of Hotel and Alakea Streets, and, thanks to a grant from Andrew Carnegie, moved to its current location at the corner of South King and Punchbowl Streets. The Library will continue to celebrate its Centennial throughout the year.

6. HSPLS Joins Job Fair Partners at Neal Blaisdell Center

The Hawaii State Public Library System, represented by librarians Miriam Sato and Colette Young from Hawaii State Library, was one of the partners at the thrice-yearly Job Fair sponsored by WorkForce Hawai'i and held at the Neal Blaisdell Center on May 15. About 3,500 fair-goers were offered materials promoting HSPLS' online collections and services; bibliographies on job searching, resume writing, interviewing, and more; and were informed that HSPLS was currently recruiting for Library Assistant IV positions. It was most satisfying to network with other Job Fair partners – some of whom mentioned seeing the Workforce Hawaii monthly workshop calendars posted in HSPLS libraries. HSPLS informational materials were also shared with the Unemployment Office, State Employment Services, Department of Veterans Affairs, Vocational Rehabilitation, Alu Like, WorkLinks – Waianae (Oahu WorkLinks) and the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission. Staff also displayed and demonstrated HSPLS Mobile, our new netbook computer loan program.