

Call for Entries

Letters About Literature

Last year, **Sarah Jenkins** of Molokai became Hawaii's first national winner in the fifth annual Hawaii Center for the Book Letters About Literature award essay contest.

Sarah, a 6th grader at Akaula School, earned Honorable Mention in the national competition for her winning essay "Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry" by Mildred Taylor. She was Hawaii's Level I (grades 4-6) competition winner. How would you like to be a national winner, too?



Jenkins

The Hawaii Center for the Book invites young readers to enter the 2009 Letters About Literature contest by writing a personal letter to an author explaining how his or her work changed the reader's view of the world or themselves. They may select authors from any genre, time period or country.

Readers in grades 4 through 12 are eligible to enter the Letters About Literature contest, which is sponsored by the Library of Congress' Center for the Book, in partnership with Target Stores.

The Hawaii Center for the Book will select the top essayists in each of the three competition levels: Level I for children in grades 4 through 6; Level II for grades 7 and 8, and Level III, grades 9 through 12.

The winning Hawaii essayists will receive a cash prize and a Target GiftCard, and they will be entered in the national competition.

National winners will also receive a Target GiftCard, plus each will win a \$10,000 Letters about Literature Reading Promotion Grant for their local public library or school library so that others can experience personal relationships with authors and the stories that they tell.

The deadline for entries is Saturday, December 6, 2008. The required entry coupon may be downloaded from the Hawaii State Public Library System website at www.librarieshawaii.org. In

addition, copies of contest guidelines and the entry coupon will be available in all public libraries.

Teachers, librarians, and parents may visit the same website to download copies of the contest guidelines, lesson plans and writing samples.

The Center for the Book was established in 1977 as a public-private partnership to use the resources of the Library of Congress to stimulate public interest in books and reading. For information about its activities and national reading promotion networks, visit www.loc.gov/cfbook.

For more information, call the Hawaii Center for the Book at (808) 586-3555.

Top Storytellers, from front page

libraries from October 10-22.

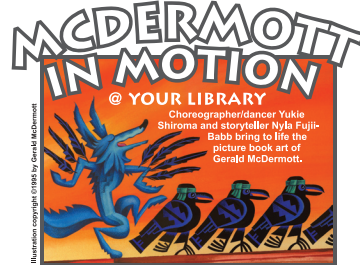
Nyla Fujii-Babb, one of Hawaii's premier storytellers, and choreographer/dancer Yukie Shiroma will be featured in "McDermott in Motion," a special performance dedicated



Fujii-Babb



Shiroma



to Caldecott Award-winning children's picture book artist Gerald McDermott, at four selected libraries, October 18-November 15.

Fujii-Babb and Shiroma will create a performance of "living picture books" combining modern dance, music, masks, costumes, and storytelling. Featuring "Arrow to the Sun," "The Stonecutter," "Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti," and other works by McDermott, these performances will introduce audiences to literature, folklore, cultural studies, and the visual and performing

arts in an exciting multi-disciplinary form. These programs are recommended for ages 5 and older.

Janice Terukina, a veteran local actress and storyteller, previously performed with the East West Players in Los Angeles. Since returning to Hawaii, she has appeared in numerous stage, film, and television roles, and is a popular storyteller at local



Terukina

libraries.

"Island Kine Storytime with Auntie Jan" is scheduled for three selected libraries on the Big Island and Oahu, on October 27 and November 18. These programs are recommended for preschoolers and older.

Visit the HSPLS website: www.librarieshawaii.org for a complete listing of these programs. In addition, other public libraries will host free programs of interest.

Call the hosting library two weeks in advance on Oahu (three weeks in advance - Neighbor Island library) if a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is needed, or for more information. Program schedules are subject to change.



Holo I Mua

(move forward, advance) is published monthly by the Hawaii State Public Library System Library Development Services 3225 Salt Lake Blvd., Suite 205 Honolulu, Hawaii 96818 Tel. 831-6877 / Fax 831-6882 Website: www.librarieshawaii.org

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Top Storytellers Set to Perform

By Paul H. Mark

This fall the **Hawaii State Public Library System** will present outstanding national and local storytellers in a series of programs sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and the UH-Manoa Outreach College's Statewide Cultural Extension Program.

They are **Baba Jamal Koram** from Virginia, **Cathy Spagnoli** from Washington state, and Hawaii storytellers **Nyla Fujii-Babb** and **Janice Terukina**.

Author and educator Baba Jamal Koram brings the history, language, people, and folklore of world cultures to life through storytelling and music in "The StoryMan," which will be presented at 18 selected public libraries from October 10-23. This program is recommended for all ages.

Cathy Spagnoli is a modern storyteller who seeks to build storytelling bridges between her American and Asian cultures, and to remind listeners that the timeless art of the storyteller is still vital in today's fast-paced world. She will share a variety of traditional and modern Japanese folk tales for families with children age 5 and older at eight selected



Koram



Spagnoli

See **Top Storytellers**, back page

Holo I Mua

Hawaii State Public Library System

October 2008

Let's Celebrate Teen Read Week 2008

Books with Bite @ your library

By Paul H. Mark

Throughout the month of October Hawaii's public libraries will celebrate **Teen Read Week**, an annual literacy initiative created by the American Library Association for teens, their parents, librarians, educators, booksellers and other concerned adults.

Come join us as our libraries host special free programs centered on this year's theme – "Books with Bite @ your library" which promotes a variety of books ranging from the supernatural to "Macbeth" to "Shark Bytes," as a tool for getting young adults to read.

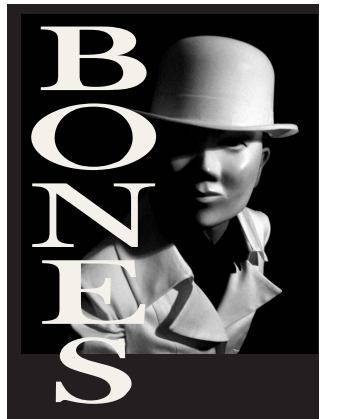
Featured performers and presenters will include Monkey Waterfall, a dance theater company featuring Nyla Fujii-Babb and Yukie Shiroma, in "Bones," a darkly humorous exploration in dance, music, and story inspired by the mystique of ancient human bones at 12 selected libraries statewide; actors from the upcoming Kennedy Theatre production of "Macbeth, Live and in Context!" performing scenes from Shakespeare's play about ambition and evil at five selected Oahu libraries; Gerald Crow, an acclaimed scientific researcher, marine biologist and author, and writer/photographer Jennifer Crites will present "Shark Bytes," a timely informational presentation, at four selected Oahu libraries; and "Bamboo Ridge Tales," starring veteran stage and screen actors Eric Mita and Janice Terukina, who will perform a selection of comical and poignant stories from Bamboo Ridge Press at Liliha Public Library.

These programs are recommended for ages 12 and older, and are sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, the UH-Manoa Outreach College's Statewide Cultural Extension Program, and the Hawaii Council for the Humanities.

For a complete listing of 2008 Teen Read Week programs and more information, visit the HSPLS website: www.librarieshawaii.org and under "Programs" click on "Teens." Call the hosting library two weeks in advance (three weeks in advance - Neighbor Island library) if a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is needed. Program schedules are subject to change.

Mark Your Calendars

Oct. 1-18 – "Key Ingredients: America by Food," Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit, local displays and special programs at Kapolei Public Library. Call 693-7050.
Oct. 4-31 – "Singgalot: the Ties that Bind" photo exhibit commemorating Filipino-American History Month at Hawaii State Library. Call 586-3499.
Nov. 4 – **General Election Day** holiday, all libraries closed.
Nov. 11 – **Veterans Day** holiday, all libraries closed.
Nov. 22 – **Thanksgiving Day** holiday, all libraries closed.



HSPLS Award Winners Chosen

By Paul H. Mark

Eugene Ishihara, an Automated Systems Equipment Technician in our Electronic Services Support Section on the Big Island, is the **2008 HSPLS Employee of the Year**. Ishihara, a 29-year HSPLS veteran, is responsible for repairing and maintaining the computers, printers, telephones, and facsimile machines used in the 13 Big Island public libraries. In addition, Ishihara teaches staff the proper use of computers and electronic equipment and trains staff in the use of hardware and software.



Eugene Ishihara

Among his many achievements this past year, Ishihara teamed with Thelma Parker Memorial Public & School Library branch manager Pamela Akao to conduct Digital Photography workshops for branch managers statewide, instructing them on how to create, manipulate, save and send digital photo files. Ishihara also served as a back-up trainer for the web-based Smart Access Manager (SAM) Internet Scheduling program that was implemented in libraries statewide, and which enables library users to reserve Internet sessions and maximize



Thelma Parker Memorial Public & School Library Staff: clockwise from left, Pamela Akao, branch manager; Jo Ann Koga, Juanette Cordeiro, and Samuel Toler.

the use of public internet computers.

The **Thelma Parker Memorial Public & School Library Staff** is the recipient of the **2008 HSPLS Team of the Year Award**. Staff includes **Pamela Akao** (Branch Manager), **Jo Ann Koga** (Library Assistant IV), **Juanette Cordeiro** (Library Assistant III), and **Samuel Toler** (Janitor).

This staff is known for its superior customer service. Patrons are greeted with a smile and treated to gracious, helpful, and efficient assistance. Staff members are willing to go the extra mile for their patrons and their community.

Keith Fujio, Administrative Services Officer, Office of the State Librarian, is the 2008 HSPLS Manager of the Year. As Manager of the Administrative Services Branch, Fujio's primary responsibilities include preparation, coordination, and explanation of the HSPLS operating budget; planning and coordination of capital improvement projects; procurement of equipment and supplies; management of human resources; and statewide transport of library materials throughout the library system.



Keith Fujio

Fujio's more than 13-year tenure with HSPLS has made him an indispensable senior administrative staff member, and his accumulated knowledge of state government operations, legislative protocols, and public library operations has helped to enable HSPLS to remain a viable and important public resource over the years.

HSPLS annually benefits from Fujio's role in initiating Act 193 (HB 638) that provides a check-off box on State individual income tax returns which allows taxpayers an opportunity to support public libraries. To date, over \$200,000 in tax refund donations have been collected to purchase library materials for all ages.

The above recipients are scheduled to be recognized at the October 9th Board of Education Meeting at 3:30 p.m. at McKinley High School Cafeteria. In addition, they will represent

HSPLS in the 2008 Governor's Award Ceremony scheduled for Friday, October 17th at 2:30 p.m. in the State Capitol Auditorium.

Staff members who earned the **2008 Sustained Superior Performance Award** are **Floyd Fuerte**, Janitor, Lahaina Public Library; **Noreen Nishikawa**, Library Technician, Kapolei Public Library; and **Hilma Inenaga**, Secretary, Hawaii State Library.

\$98,106 Received in Tax Refund Donations

The **Hawaii State Public Library System** received a record amount of \$98,106 in tax refund donations in 2008 as thousands of taxpayers demonstrated their support of Hawaii's public libraries by donating a portion of their 2007 tax refunds to the HSPLS Special Fund.

Act 193 (HB 636) created a check-off box on State individual income tax returns that provides taxpayers with an opportunity to support the Hawaii State Public Library System.

"We are extremely grateful for this overwhelming show of support from all those who contributed through this donation program," said **State Librarian Richard Burns**.

With the continued support of Hawaii's taxpayers, HSPLS will receive additional funding to purchase books and materials that benefit library users of all ages.

As HSPLS braces for impending budget restrictions, the public can make a difference by spreading the word about this effortless fundraising campaign and by continuing to contribute a portion of their tax refunds to the HSPLS Special Fund.

Please watch for more information in the coming months as tax season approaches. Mahalo for your continued support and generous contributions!

Recommended Children's Books

By Hawaii State Library Children's Librarians

Gail Omoto, with Jan and Judy Dill; Garrett Omoto, Illustrator

MELE THE CRAB FINDS THE WAY OUT

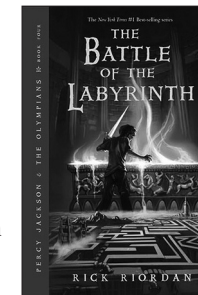
(Preschool -Gr. 3) An easy Hawaiian picture book, this lively story is about cooperation and perseverance written in rhyme for a great read-aloud. Bold illustrations and an included CD add to the story time experience.



Rick Riordan

THE BATTLE OF THE LABYRINTH

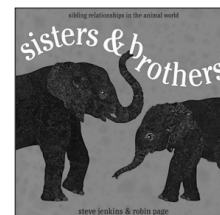
(Gr. 5-8) This is the fourth title in the Percy Jackson & the Olympians series which began with the 2008 Nene Award winner, "The Lightning Thief." When demonic cheerleaders invade his high school, Jackson hurries to Camp Half Blood. He and his demigod friends set out on a quest through the underground Labyrinth, while the war between the Olympians and the evil Titan lord Kronos draws near.



Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

SISTERS AND BROTHERS: SIBLING RELATIONSHIPS IN THE ANIMAL WORLD

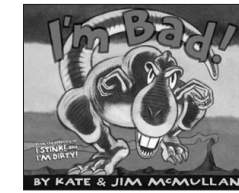
(Gr. 2-4) Like human siblings, animal sisters and brothers work, play, argue, and grow together. Paper collage illustrations and fascinating facts will help young readers understand how animal families live.



Kate and Jim McMullan

I'M BAD!

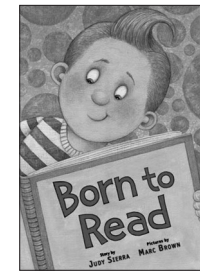
(Preschool-Gr.1) T. Rex is big. T. Rex is scare-the-tails-off-all-the-other-dinosaurs BAD. T. Rex is very, very hungry! This grumpy dinosaur crashes around the forest looking for food until finally we see that T. Rex is not so big or bad after all. From the creators of "I Stink!" and "I'm Dirty!"



Judy Sierra; Marc Brown, Illustrator

BORN TO READ

(Preschool -Gr. 2) From the creators of the acclaimed "Wild About Books," Judy Sierra and Marc Brown, comes a new story that promotes books and reading. The rhyming narrative chronicles young Sam's discovery that his early love of books can be quite helpful, and even save the day.

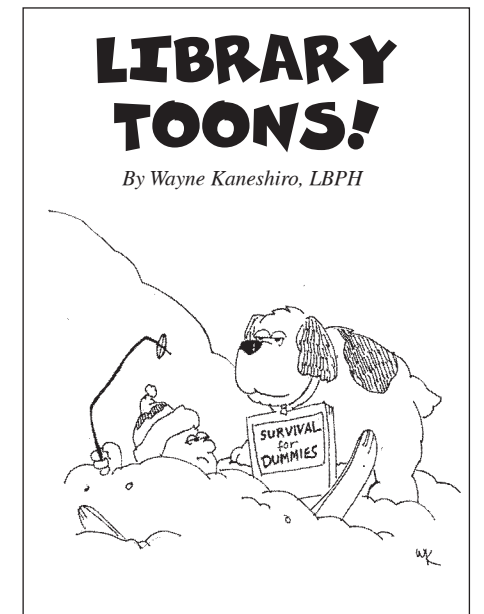
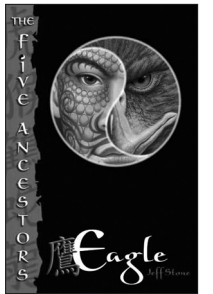


Jeff Stone

EAGLE

(Gr. 5-9) In Book Five of the Five Ancestors Series, Ying is denied the opportunity to

train as a Dragon, and resented the grand master's favorites, his five younger brothers. After an unsuccessful attempt at revenge by burning their temple to the ground, Ying finds himself betrayed by the emperor and imprisoned. Now, Ying finds himself struggling to figure out just who his enemies are.



The exterior of **Kailua Public Library** received a new look as its front area was spruced up and transformed into a beautiful work of art. Eagle Scout **Michael Lim** and his family, long-time library patrons, noticed the need for improvement and wanted to give something back to their library. For his Eagle Scout project, Michael and his father, landscaper **David Lim**, designed a renovation project and Michael served as the overall coordinator. A working crew of over 40 Boy Scouts from Troop 35 and their parents participated in power washing, painting, digging, planting and general cleaning of the front area, as well as improving the appearance of the Courtyard. In these before and after photos, a group of boy scouts (left) prepare the area for the "new" front yard.