



The Progressive Librarian Bulletin

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PLG in Seattle - The Conversations Start Here!

If you are in or near Seattle while the American Library Association is in town, come to one or all of the PLG events below - you don't have to be registered for the ALA conference to attend, just come and bring a colleague!

PLG Conversation & Meeting

Saturday, January 26

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Sheraton Hotel –Willow Room

1400 Sixth Avenue

“What does it mean to be a progressive librarian in this time of economic decline, eroding civil liberties, and environmental crisis? What is our task and responsibility as individuals and as an organization?” For those interested, here are links to two readings, as well as a video, that might give our conversation a shared point of departure:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/dec/29/fbi-coordinated-crackdown-occupy>

<http://tinyurl.com/atocjvm>

<http://radicalreference.info/content/critical-librarianship-symposium-boston-live-recording>

PLG Dinner

Saturday, January 26

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Black Coffee Coop <http://blackcoffeecoop.com/>

501 E. Pine St. Seattle (just a 7 minute walk from the convention center)

Pacific Northwest, local, organic soup bar (FREE!!!) Plus for those who want more to eat, you can order a la carte from the café at Seattle's newest worker-owned coop – Black Coffee.

PLG Reception

Sunday, January 27

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Left Bank Books <http://www.leftbankbooks.com/>

92 Pike Street (at the entrance to Pike Place Market)

Meet PLG @ LBB! A reception with drinks and snacks (again, local'n'organic'n'delicious) for people new and old to PLG, at Seattle's best lefty'n'indy bookstore – Left Bank Books.

350.org at ALA Midwinter

350.org's fossil fuel divestment campaign will be discussed during the American Library Association conference in Seattle. One place the topic should be on the agenda is at SRRT's Task Force on the Environment.

Friday, January 25
7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Washington Convention Center, Room 604, Table 1

For more info on divestment conversation contact Elaine Harger,
eharger at drizzle dot com

Library and Archives Canada Roundtable

The PLG London Chapter hosted a roundtable discussing the recent budget cuts at Library and Archives Canada. There was some good insight into the reality of the changes happening at LAC and participants of the event shared some interesting thoughts and opinions.

The changes that are happening at LAC were pre-planned before news of the budget cuts. The cuts were used as a catalyst to initiate these changes and bring into effect the government's new vision of the institution. There are no longer any funds for institutions, no money for digitization efforts and zero dollars for staff and/or equipment. An unrealistic obsession with digitization has developed and there is a misunderstanding of what digitization entails and the funding and staff that are required. It was then made clear that the government will only care about the damages being done if it becomes an obvious issue in swing ridings. If MPs think it could become an election issue, the government will start to pay more attention. As seen from the many letters sent to LAC from concerned librarians and archivists that have received the same boilerplate response, the professionals reacting is not enough. The average voter has to be made aware and care for us to see real change happen. "We need to mobilize the guy on the tractor."

PLG Member's Work in Aruba

PLG member Fred Stoss, Associate Librarian at the SUNY University at Buffalo, was selected as a Mentor by former Vice President Al Gore's nonprofit organization, The Climate Reality Project, to assist in the training more than 950 individuals from 47 U.S. states and 56 countries. The August 2012 training was for the most recent version of Mr. Gore's global climate change slide presentations. Fred was among the first 500 "Climate Messengers" trained in 2007. Fred's daughter, Kaeti Stoss (BA Distinction in Art History, University of Rochester; BS cum laude in Earth Science and Secondary Science Education, SUNY College at Brockport), was one of the new trainees from New York.

Fred was an invited guest to the Green Aruba III Conference held in October 2012 in Oranjestad. The week following this conference, Fred and Kaeti also gave presentations to more than 2,000 Aruba High School and post-high school science and technology students at the first Green Education Aruba 2012 Symposium. Kaeti again accompanied Fred to Aruba and addressed the state of environmental education in the U.S. and possible linkages between US and Aruba. Fred described efforts in creating the Caribbean Energy, Environmental and Sustainability Education (CEESEd) Program in Aruba and its outreach to Aruba's students. He has been working for more than a year in creating CEESEd as a program within the National Library of Aruba, which is planning a major Caribbean region Symposium for teachers, educators, advisors, and administrators.

"All of Us or None" Review

PLG member Lincoln Cushing's "All Of Us Or None" social justice poster book and exhibition was recently reviewed by the Social Responsibilities Round Table.

It's a testament to the impact that archives and special collections can have on research and education.

View the review here: <http://srrtreviews.tumblr.com/post/37124787701/all-of-us-or-none-social-justice-posters-of-the-san>

New PLG Discussion List

Reminder - be sure to sign up for the new PLG discussion list! A new listserv was created because our old one was discontinued by the host, San Jose State University. If you haven't already, you can sign up for the new listserv here:

<http://lists.sonic.net/mailman/listinfo/progressivelibrariansguild>

Message from Braden Cannon

Hello, PLG members! 2012 has come to an end and with it so too does my tenure on the Coordinating Committee, which means that both the Union Library Workers blog and the PLG Bulletin will be administered by the most capable hands of Sarah Barriage. It's been a great year and I really want to thank everyone for their support of the bulletin and the steady flow of really great contributions and updates. I got a lot of great feedback on the bulletin so please keep sending your updates to Sarah as PLG membership really appreciates hearing about what's going on across the organization.

I'm sure that 2013 will be another year of ever-increasing PLG activity and I look forward to hearing about all of the great work going on across the organization.

In solidarity,
Braden Cannon

Remember, the Bulletin needs updates from the PLG membership so we can spread the word about all of the good work that we are collectively doing!

Got an update? Send it to
sarahbarriage@gmail.com