

OHIO ★ Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, Toledo

Toledo, with six existing Sister City relationships and five additional developing ones, will use an international Sister Cities theme for the year 2000 Summer Reading Club. The library will plan programs with and for children and teens and utilize community resources and local people with ethnic backgrounds. It will send Book Buddy, the library's mascot, to all Toledo Sister Cities during the Summer Reading Club.

PENNSYLVANIA ★ Shaler North Hills Library, Glenshaw

The Book Bugs Club members, grades 4-8, participate in literature-based activities. The library in **Cessnock, Australia**, will establish a similar group so the children can share thoughts about books, videotapes and computers. Sharing this information with the community and hosting international programs for families will also be part of this program.

TEXAS ★ Austin Public Library (North Village, Windsor and Southeast Community Branches), Austin

Special programs about **Adelaide** and **Australia** will be presented throughout the year at the North Village Branch, and children and teens will correspond via e-mail and postcards. The Windsor Branch and a library in **Saltillo, Mexico**, will dedicate a day to the art and culture of Saltillo. The Southeast Austin Branch and a library in **Lima, Peru**, will work with the schools so children can communicate with one another. Special programs will be developed system-wide for the multicultural population.

TEXAS ★ Fort Worth Public Library, Fort Worth

Fort Worth has initiated a pilot project with Fort Worth Sister Cities to encourage children and teens to learn more about their six Sister Cities. Already 110 youths have corresponded with pen pals in one of their Sister Cities.

TEXAS ★ Houston Public Library, Houston

During Children's Book Week, children in Houston will link with children in **Perth, Australia**. They will work together on a cultural exchange: the Houston Public Library will send children's books written by Texans, information about the library, art work, writings and crafts.

VIRGINIA ★ Virginia Beach Public Library, Virginia Beach

Activities during Children's Book Week will focus on children's authors. Teen volunteers will offer suggestions that will help **Miyazaki** Public Library in **Japan** start its own teen volunteer program.

VIRGINIA ★ Williamsburg Regional Library, Williamsburg

Plans include an exchange of recipes with children in **Denmark** to create a cookbook and a booklet with comparisons of holidays and customs. Chat lines will be set up for children and teens.

WASHINGTON ★ Colfax Consortia, Colfax

Colfax High School, Whitman County Library and Jennings Elementary/Junior High School will join together to learn about the people and culture of **India** through e-mail exchanges. They will share books, have reading challenges and use video-conferencing.

WASHINGTON ★ Edmonds Library, Sno-Isle Regional Library System, Edmonds

The library will organize a program of cultural exchange with the **Hekinan, Japan** library, featuring stories from Japanese teenagers and storytelling with American teenage folklore.

WASHINGTON ★ Washington School Library, Mount Vernon

Washington School is an example of a family school involved with service learning and care for the whole child. With the assistance of the school library, the students will compare and share historic information about their school with children from another school in a small community that has served generations of families.

WISCONSIN ★ Marathon County Public Library, Wausau

The exhibition "Down Under and Over Here: Children's Book Illustration from Australia and America" will come to the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum as a result of collaboration between various agencies and institutions and a grant from Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The exhibition will introduce children and adults to children's book illustration and to the joys and wonders of reading. Children and families will have electronic connections to children in **Campbelltown, Australia**.

Sister Libraries is the official White House Millennium Council Project of the United States National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

The Commission advises the President and the Congress on the library and information needs of the nation and the policies and plans necessary to meet those needs. NCLIS coordinates library and information science activities with federal, state, and local governments and with other public and private organizations. It conducts studies, surveys and analyses, and it promotes other research and development activities that will extend and improve the nation's library and information handling capability. NCLIS is a permanent, independent agency of the federal government.

For additional information about Sister Libraries: A White House Millennium Council Project, contact:



UNITED STATES NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

1110 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 820
Washington, DC 20005-3552

Telephone: 202/606-9200

Fax: 202/606-9203

E-Mail: SisterLibraries@nclis.gov

Website: www.nclis.gov/millennium/millenn.html



Sister Libraries
A WHITE HOUSE
MILLENNIUM COUNCIL PROJECT

**PROJECT SUMMARIES FROM
DESIGNATED SISTER LIBRARIES
September 1999**

ALABAMA ★ Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham

The celebration of Italian folktales and culture in all 20 locations will be the focus of the exchange between **Naples, Italy**, and Birmingham. Storytellers from each library will take listeners on an imaginary journey to Italy. At the conclusion of each program, a sampling of Italian food will be available. The children of Birmingham will not only discover Italian culture, but will enjoy the learning process.

ARKANSAS ★ Central Arkansas Library System, Little Rock

Through the library's computer lab, children will find e-mail pen pals and exchange information about the international curriculum in their schools and in **Ragusa, Italy**.

CALIFORNIA ★ Cupertino Public Library, Cupertino

Children's librarians will present a program of American folk literature for school-age children, featuring Tall Tales and Brer Rabbit stories, and will provide a workshop for them to write about and illustrate their favorite stories. The collection of written works will be sent to **Hsinchu City, Taiwan**. The children in Taiwan will be encouraged to write, in English or Mandarin, about their favorite Chinese folk literature and to send a collection of their writings to Cupertino for display during Children's Book Week.

CALIFORNIA ★ San Diego Consortia, San Diego

A consortia of the public library and libraries at several public and private elementary, middle and high schools, including the Preuss School at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and the Children's Museum Charter School, will work together to help students research, create and produce books about San Diego's history, economy, society and culture. The books will be published on the web and shared electronically with libraries in **Tijuana, Mexico**, and **North Shore City, New Zealand**. Students will decide what to include in the books and personalize them with their own observations and creativity.

DELAWARE ★Castle Hills School, New Castle

By using books, videos, e-mail and the Internet, students will have a unique opportunity to learn about life in **Watford, England**. The program will include cooking projects, songs, storytelling, author studies, dress up days, journal writing and a myriad of cross-curricular activities both in the library and in the classroom.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ★District of Columbia Public Library, Washington

Four branches will have programs allowing children, youth and families to correspond by e-mail with families in **Bangkok, Thailand**, to discuss their communities and culture. This will be an interactive exchange that can be replicated in other locations.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ★Sidwell Friends School, Washington

Sidwell Friends has a well-established Chinese Studies program and its students and staff will share materials with and make suggestions for the purchase of new materials for their Sister Library in **Beijing, China**. “Keypals” will allow students to practice their Chinese/English link via e-mail. A group of students from Sidwell visits China each summer and actual face-to-face encounters might be arranged.

FLORIDA ★Broward County Library, Fort Lauderdale

Developing a small world-wide web page for each library's web site where information relating to children and teens can be posted is one of the varied activities designed for the Broward County Library's exchange with **Gold Coast, Australia**.

GEORGIA ★DeKalb County Public Library, Decatur

Teens in Decatur and **Trujillo, Peru**, will be encouraged to design a program that best fits their needs. Varied segments of the population will be invited to meet for programs featuring multicultural and bilingual storytellers, crafts and conversation groups.

GEORGIA ★Peach Public Libraries, Byron

Children will exchange local histories, have virtual tours on the web of their respective communities, and use simultaneous programs with on-line evaluation for comparisons with **Byron, Australia**.

GEORGIA ★Tifton-Tift Public Library, Tifton

Information about **Picton, Australia**, will be incorporated in the children's programs and the library will work with schools to include research about Australia in their curriculum.

ILLINOIS ★Carbondale Public Library, Carbondale

Currently providing library tours for educators and businessmen from **Nakajo, Japan**, the library will suggest that a librarian be included in future visiting delegations. To promote this partnership, Carbondale Public Library will host a Japanese tea ceremony and programs highlighting Japanese music, holidays and celebrations. Programs will be videotaped for exchange with their Sister Library. A “partners in reading club” will be started.

IOWA ★Ames Public Library, Ames

Story hours, displays with cross-cultural discussions and visuals will take place in Ames and **Mérida, Mexico**. Books will be shared between the libraries and the librarians.

KANSAS ★Johnson County Public Library, Shawnee

Plans include sponsoring a storyteller or dramatic program highlighting stories from **Ireland**. The program will be held in Listowel Park, named after the Irish settlers of Shawnee, Kansas.

MARYLAND ★Cecil Manor Elementary School, Elkton

Students will learn about another culture using media resource materials and primary accounts from students in **France**. The project will focus on third grade students.

MASSACHUSETTS ★Overlook Middle School, Ashburnham

Working with Takatori Junior High in **Fukuyama-shi, Japan**, where one of Overlook's teachers was a Fulbright Scholar, students will communicate with one another via filmed or recorded morning announcements and the school web site. Eighth grade students will work cooperatively on this project.

MICHIGAN ★Ann Arbor District Library, Ann Arbor

Ann Arbor students and librarians will collaborate via e-mail and chat rooms with their colleagues in **Tübingen, Germany**, to create articles. These will focus on short stories for young teens, and the final publication will be bilingual and available in both print and digital formats.

MICHIGAN ★Detroit Public Library, Detroit

Shared summer reading programs and themes will promote cultural and ethnic awareness and a destination for Internet activities.

MICHIGAN ★West Bloomfield Township Public Library, West Bloomfield

A “teen read-in” or virtual book discussion group, during which Sister Library participants read and discuss the same books, exchange books from local authors and share lists of favorite authors, will be just one of the activities shared with participants in **Higashiura, Japan**.

MINNESOTA ★Cloquet Public Library, Cloquet

Teens will come to the library and use chat rooms to talk to their partners in **Cloquet, Finland** about lifestyles, reading and school. A committee of teens and children will work together to design programs and activities.

MISSOURI ★Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City

Targeting children and teens in **Ramle, Israel**, and **Seville, Spain**, special areas will be established in library branches with information about the other libraries. A special web page for youth will be developed with direct links to the other Sister Library web sites.

MONTANA ★Bozeman Public Library, Bozeman

Children will write letters describing Montana, their home, school and library. Each school will be asked to donate five items to be boxed and exchanged with their Sister Library in **Hamilton, Bermuda**.

NEVADA ★Washoe County Library System, Reno

Washoe County is one of ten libraries in the country to receive a planning grant from the DeWitt Wallace Reader's Digest Fund to address the library's role in expanding and enriching services for young people and improving their educational and career development. The library will use information from this grant to implement an active Sister Libraries program. There is an on-going Library Youth Council and a plan for Spanish Dial-a-Story, tutoring and storytelling with its Sister Library.

NEW JERSEY ★Helen Morgan School, Sparta

Students will use a mailing list to share information and opinions on books. They will then manipulate the data, draw conclusions, form hypotheses and report back to their Sister Library in **Cobar, Australia**.

NEW YORK ★Crandall Library, Glens Falls

The libraries in **Saga City, Japan**, and Glens Falls will continue to develop programs for children that involve the whole family. Understanding parent and child relationships is an integral part of the learning process. Family activities that encourage observation and cultural awareness will be designed.

NEW YORK ★Queens Public Library, Jamaica

Through the Connecting Libraries and Schools Project (CLASP), local outreach librarians will connect children (K-8), their parents and schools with their counterparts in **Zagreb, Croatia**. Programs will be developed based on the interests of the children and teens. KidsWorld Queens, a partnership of 20 cultural institutions, will participate in the project. Some library branches will use digital video conferencing for interactive meetings and discussions.

NEW YORK ★Webster Public Library, Webster

Children and teens, ages 8-16, are invited to join the international Pen Pal Program to interact with children and teens in **Letterkenny, Ireland**.

NEW YORK ★White Plains Library, White Plains

Program objectives include promoting communication and understanding between children of different cultural backgrounds through global dialogue, and providing children with fun and safe online international Cyber Pen Pals, from **Dee Why, Australia**.

NORTH CAROLINA ★Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center, Fayetteville

The library will host a Cadets Teaching Program where students will provide programs for elementary students to learn about their Sister City, **St. Avoird, France**. Also, the public library will develop an “e-pal” program and a Culture Club to offer diverse programs for the entire family.

OHIO ★St. Ursula's Academy, Cincinnati

St. Ursula's existing Library Club will partner with Harare City Library in **Harare, Zimbabwe** to include students in coffee houses where poetry, prose and plays are read and discussed in a small, relaxed, group setting. E-mail, Internet, chat sessions and other long-distance learning technologies will be incorporated in the program. Students may travel to Harare to meet students with whom they have communicated.