

State Library of Ohio

2009 Annual Report



LIBRARY
BOOK RETURN



2009 State Library of Ohio Board

The State Library is governed by a five member board. The Board members are appointed by the State Board of Education and each member serves a five year term of office. Under the Ohio Revised Code, section 3375.01, the State Library Board is responsible for the State Library of Ohio and a statewide program of development and coordination of library services.



George Paulson, M. D.
Board President



Lynn Grimshaw
Vice-President



Andrea Tiktin-Fanti
Member



Ward Murrey
Member



Stephen Wood
Member
Term Ends: 12/31/2013

Vision

The State Library of Ohio will lead in ensuring the delivery of all information and library services to all Ohio residents, anywhere, anytime

Mission

Lead and partner in the development of library services throughout Ohio
Promote and enable resource sharing among libraries and library networks
Provide access to information for Ohio's state government
Provide specialized services to Ohio's residents

State Librarian Report

The year 2009 was filled with many exciting opportunities, accomplishments, and challenges at the State Library. It's natural for most of us to focus on budget reductions, day-to-day management strategies, and future plans for our libraries and library organizations. While good stewardship requires us to focus on these issues, I find that it is also important and rewarding to reflect on the why, how, and what we have accomplished.

When looking back on 2009, again I see the pattern of highs and lows we experienced in 2008. The impact of the economy continues to reduce the budget of libraries across the state while the need for library service increases. The State Library launched several initiatives to help libraries and Ohioans during these tough economic times. The Find Help in Tough Times resource center was developed to establish a one-stop center for Ohioans to quickly access relevant state and federal agencies' websites to locate assistance and information. A special LSTA grant was awarded to Stark County District Library to conduct a series of workshops for libraries helping job seekers. In addition, information and resources for helping job seekers is available on WebJunction Ohio.

The Choose to Read Ohio statewide initiative was launched in April during National Library Week. The goal of the program is to encourage the reading of Ohio literature together in all types of settings including libraries, schools, community centers, neighborhoods, and churches.

We entered our second year of the WebJunction Ohio partnership and now have over 1800 registered Ohio affiliated members. While the online course enrollments have steadily grown, we still have a large quantity of course units available for staff working in libraries and library organizations at no cost to them. With the decrease in funding, these courses are even more attractive since there is no required travel and no tuition cost. I urge you all to take another look and sign up to take a course today!

Our commitment to digitization continues. The State Library received a Connecting to Collections planning grant in 2009 to assess the state of care and preservation of Ohio's cultural heritage. The Opening History survey project of cultural-heritage institutions was completed in the spring. The next generation of Ohio Memory, a collaborative project to increase digital accessibility with the Ohio Historical Society, was launched in early March.

This was a difficult year. It is easy to despair when lack of adequate funding makes it necessary to cut programs and services. But looking back over the past year was a pleasant surprise. I am proud of the accomplishments of the State Library staff and the Ohio library community – and hope you will be, too as you read about them in this issue of The News.



Jo Budler

Choose To Read Ohio

Choose to Read Ohio, a State Library of Ohio initiative, began in April 2009 during National Library Week. In partnership with Ohioana Library, Choose to Read Ohio was featured at the Ohioana Book Festival on May 9.

First Lady Mrs. Frances Strickland introduced the project, describing her love for reading and experiences with children and books. Ruth Metcalf, former State Library of Ohio Library Consultant, led a panel discussion with six of the Choose to Read



Ohio authors including Jaime Adoff, Louise Borden, Andrea Cheng, Sharon M. Draper, Margaret Peterson Haddix, and Ann Hagedorn. The authors discussed the stories in their Choose to Read Ohio books, their writing processes, and current projects.

The goal of the statewide Choose to Read Ohio program is to encourage the reading of Ohio literature together. The 2009-2010 Choose to Read Ohio booklist includes four current titles and one classic for the three categories of Children's, Young Adult, and Adult. The program encourages Ohioans of all ages to choose a book by an Ohio author and read it together over a six week period anytime between National Library Week and the end of 2010. Choose to Read Ohio provides resources and materials for readers to come together to discuss a selected title in a variety of settings including local public libraries, schools, community centers, daycares, or other organizations.



Opportunity Online Hardware Grants Come to Ohio

In late 2008, the State Library of Ohio was chosen to participate in the third and final round of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's (BMGF) Opportunity Online hardware grant program. The State Library of Ohio agreed to be the intermediary for the Ohio process. Awarded since 2007, the grant program provides funds to help public libraries upgrade and add public computer workstations for patrons in communities that have high concentrations of poverty and also have public computers that are at risk of becoming outdated with limited capacity for users.

The BMGF, using their own process, determined which public libraries were poverty-eligible and thus met the first criteria for participating in the program. The State Library then worked with the public libraries meeting the poverty eligibility requirements to fill out a survey using TechAtlas, a tool to help libraries through the technology planning process. This resulted in a complete inventory of the technology in these libraries. Using the results of TechAtlas, the BMGF developed the list of libraries eligible to participate in the grant – those that were both poverty-eligible and technologically vulnerable. Missy Lodge, Head of Library Programs and Development, wrote a proposal to the foundation requesting funding for those libraries meeting both the economic and hardware requirements. The State Library was very pleased to receive the grant on behalf of 162 public libraries representing 61 library systems. These systems will receive 964 public access computers. In addition to the computers, the libraries will also receive funds for technology training and support.

At the October Board meeting, twelve libraries received funding for the first year. The remaining libraries will receive funding for the first year at the December and January Board meetings. Funding for the second year will be taken to the State Library Board for allocation in the fall of 2010.

WebJunction Ohio



WebJunction Ohio reached its one year anniversary this summer and we now have over 1800 affiliated members. In partnership with WebJunction, the Ohio site continues to grow with up-to-date content in areas such as Ohio's LSTA, E-Rate, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Opportunity Online Hardware Grants. Our original vision to move the Librarians' Toolkit content from the State Library website to WebJunction Ohio has been realized. Today the Ohio Center on WebJunction Ohio includes resources and information about library programs, services, and management originally found in the Toolkit as well as much more.

While it has been a challenge to get Ohio library and library organizations' staff to play a part in adding content and participate in discussions, we continue to solicit contributors. The momentum is growing and the value of the site increases with each opportunity to share and learn from one another.



In February 2009, the State Library of Ohio, in partnership with the Ohio Historical Society, was awarded an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Connecting to Collections Planning Grant. Entitled "Ohio Heritage Partnership: A Statewide Initiative", this project will begin to address the lack of care and preservation of Ohio's cultural heritage which has reached a crisis point and must be addressed if our heritage is to be saved.

The Connecting to Collections grant program grew out of the 2005 publication "A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index (HHI) Report on the State of America's Collections," a joint project of Heritage Preservation and IMLS. The HHI Report concludes that our nation's collections of objects and documents are imperiled and in need of swift action. The report recommendations include:

- * Provision of safe conditions for the collections
- * Development of emergency plans
- * Assignment of responsibility for caring for collections to institutional staff
- * Broad public/private support for collection stewardship

In response to the HHI, IMLS launched a call to action entitled "Connecting to Collections." One component was the initiation of planning grants. Each state was eligible to receive one of the \$40,000 awards. Grants allow for collaborative planning partnerships among libraries, museums, archives and other statewide organizations to address the HHI recommendations. Ohio submitted an application in October 2008, receiving the award notification in February 2009.



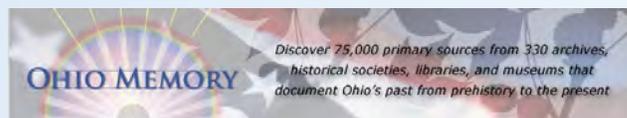
Digital Collections in Ohio:

Opening History & the State Library

Late in 2008, State Library staff began a survey project of cultural-heritage institutions in Ohio to identify those institutions with digitized content available on the Web. Our goal in so doing was to help build a centrally-located registry of digital collections. The survey project was completed in spring 2009.

Our project began after learning of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's project, IMLS Digital Content and Collections (DCC), and its sister project, Opening History. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the DCC was created in an effort to create a registry of IMLS-funded digitization projects.

Ohio Memory Project



On March 2, 2009, the State Library of Ohio and the Ohio Historical Society launched the next generation of Ohio Memory after nearly a year of planning and effort by staff from both organizations. Ohio Memory contains 75,000 images contributed by 330 libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies, and documents Ohio's past from prehistory to present.

Since going live with the second generation Ohio Memory in March, the Ohio Historical Society and the State Library of Ohio have added multiple digital collections containing thousands of images, documents, sound files, and more. Several libraries and historical societies have contributed digital content and others are interested in doing so. There is no question that, thus far, the new Ohio Memory is all that we hoped it would be.

New State Library of Ohio Website



The State Library of Ohio introduced a redesigned website in 2009. The new site features a menu system that helps users navigate the site more easily and efficiently. Information and services are now logically grouped according to our primary customers: state employees, libraries, and residents. A focus group was created to evaluate and critique the new site and they responded with comments and suggestions for improvement.



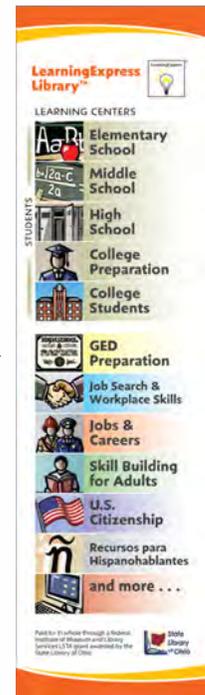
The new site was built using Drupal, an open source content management system. State Library staff is now able to update pages on the site more quickly than before. Each department has a designated editor for pages within their content area.

LearningExpress Library

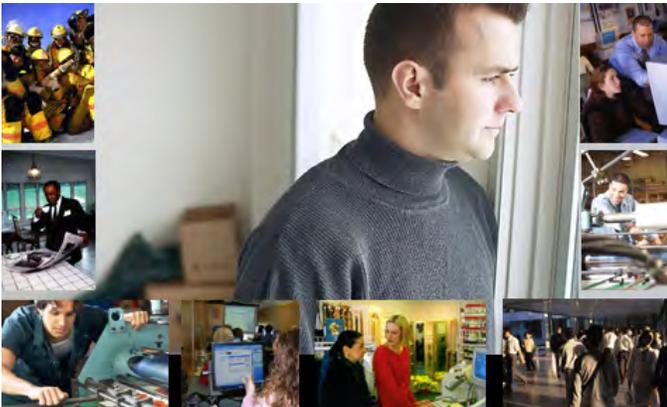
In 2009, LearningExpress Library (LEL) entered its fifth year as a database available to all Ohio residents. LEL includes academic and career practice tests as well as tools such as resume builders, job search, and workplace skill development that aid unemployed individuals. Statewide usage increased 40% from 2008 to 2009. The LEL database is accessible through library websites and the Ohio Web Library. It is funded through a federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) grant awarded by the State Library of Ohio.

In April, over 50 new and updated interactive practice tests were added in the following growing industries and hot areas: Allied Healthcare, GED Preparation (For Spanish Speakers), Commercial Driver's License, and Teaching. A complete list of the new interactive tests and updates are available for download as PDF in the Media Center.

In July, a new interface design went live. The new interface includes additional resources including a Librarian Resource Center. A collection of enhanced Flash-based Computer Skills tutorials was added to the service for Ohio. The updated online tutorials replaced previous online versions and are accessible to patrons from the LEL Computer Skills Learning Center. Features of the update include an easier to use interface with greater functionality; training videos and animation with both audio and full text captioning; and discussions, demos, quizzes, and assessments to track and monitor progress. The Microsoft Office applications tutorials are now accessible for Macintosh computers.



Find Help in Tough Times



Find Help in Tough Times launched in June 2009. While paging through a library journal one day, State Librarian Jo Budler read about the New Jersey State Library's website gathering information from state agencies and nonprofits to help people get through tough economic times. She realized that creating an Ohio resource, similar to <http://gethelp.njlibraries.org>, was a perfect project for the State Library of Ohio. Jo pulled together a brainstorming session, inviting staff with marketing, research services, and information technology experience. After deciding on a temporary project name and basic categories to structure the new resource, the group got to work.

Marsha McDevitt-Stredney, Director of Marketing & Communications, designed a logo. Six librarians began identifying agencies specializing in employment, financial, wellness, and housing help, as well as resources uniquely designed for seniors and parents. A seventh general information category was later added. During the resource-gathering portion of the project, the State Library's intranet served as a temporary location to store

agency and nonprofit descriptions and links. Information technology staff used the open source content management system Drupal, known for its collaboration properties, to create the project website.

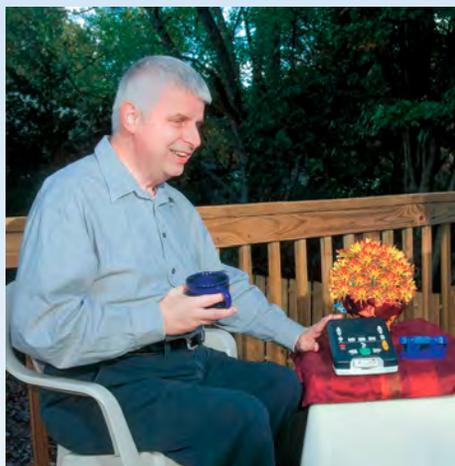
When the website was ready, the next step in the process was publicity. The Find Help in Tough Times logo was added to the State Library's home page and announcements were placed in the newsletter and on WebJunction Ohio. Bookmarks were created and instructions enabling libraries to link to the project were placed on the Find Help in Tough Times website. The project committee planned and held a webinar so that librarians could learn about programs and publications directly from state agencies. Eight agencies and over thirty librarians participated.

The State Library staff who gathered the initial categories of links has continued to look for additional resources and monitor links, looking for any changes. Librarians around the state have been invited to give feedback and share their success stories of patrons using these resources.



Ohio Talking Books

In July 2009, Regional Library service in the southern part of the state was merged with the Cleveland Regional Library. To reflect its expanded role, the Cleveland Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped changed its name to the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. Users will not experience a change or degradation in service, since books and other materials are sent to and returned via mail.



In August 2009, following years of planning and development, the National Library Service (NLS) started the transition from talking book analog tape machines to digital talking book player machines. The new machine has

a USB port and uses flash drives in specialized cartridges that are easy to handle and have enough surface space for print and Braille labels. "We received the first shipment of digital players in September 2009. To date, the State Library has received approximately 1,500 machines and will continue receiving 500 players monthly for distribution to registered users. It will take over two years before all of Ohio's current 16,000 plus users have a new player and probably three years before cassette players and tapes are phased out entirely," said Jim Buchman, Head of Patron & Catalog Services. Veterans have the highest priority for requesting the players.

The Ohio eBook Project (OEP) is a consortium of 37 libraries that pool their resources to collectively purchase downloadable audiobooks and ebooks for use by library patrons right from their home computers and portable devices. The books and other materials purchased for the OEP collection are shared with all member libraries. For example, a member library in northeast Ohio can purchase a copy of a book that is available not only to their patrons, but to the patrons at an OEP member library in southwest Ohio. The OEP does mimic the paper book world in one important way – each copy of an item is available to one patron at a time. Patrons can place holds on popular materials, just like with paper books in the physical library. The vendor for this service is OverDrive, Inc., located near Cleveland, Ohio. OverDrive, Inc. is a company known for helping libraries bring downloadable materials directly to their patrons.

By the end of 2009, the OEP had more than 10,000 copies of over 7,000 titles. Downloadable material is available in several formats, including audiobooks in MP3 format. The big news in 2009 is that most audiobooks in WMA (Windows Media Audio) format can now be transferred to the iPhone™ and the iPod®. Using the Transfer Wizard in the OverDrive Media Console, audiobooks can be sent to Windows-formatted iPods. Of the more than 7,000 titles in the OEP, over 4,000 are WMA format audiobooks.

KnowItNow24x7

At their May 2009 meeting, the State Library of Ohio Board unanimously approved an Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant that makes KnowItNow24x7 (KIN24x7) possible. In September, the service celebrated its fifth anniversary of providing statewide virtual reference service. The continuing support of the Board members and State Librarian Jo Budler is greatly appreciated by everyone connected with the project.

From January through October 2009, librarians working with KIN24x7, including the State Library of Ohio Librarians, handled 87,457 sessions, up 16.5% over the same period in 2008. Of the 251 public libraries in Ohio, less than one out of five provides staff to answer questions on the service. With the new options for participation implemented this year, this is a great time for libraries to take a second look at getting involved with KIN24x7.

Earlier in the year, KIN24x7 partnered with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled to implement a new commercial instant messaging (IM) option, allowing Ohioans, especially the visually-impaired, to contact a librarian in real-time via MSN, AOL, or Yahoo! through the statewide network.



Serving Every Ohioan (SEO)



SEO Consortium

- 76 library systems representing 38 Ohio counties
- 6.6 million items in the database
- 759,451 registered borrowers
- 1,075,260 Bibliographic records

Annual Consortium Circulation

- Total SEO Automation Consortium—13,990,751
- Resource Sharing to 96 Non-member Ohio Public Libraries—104,784
- Resource Sharing to 14 Ohio Correctional Institutions—11,908

Annual SEO Circulation

- Total SEO Circulated—302,820
- SEO staff brokered 13,505 OCLC requests for member libraries in Ohio
- Periodical requests filled—776
- Reference questions filled—255
- OLS: MORE filled—1,846

Medianet Circulation

- Ellison Dies—2,174
- Videos with Public Performance Rights (PPR)—147
- 16MM Films with PPR—222
- DVDs with PPR—37

Cargo

- SEO received and checked in bags of library materials on US Cargo
- SEO checked out and sent bags of library materials on US Cargo



Training Facilities

(October 2008—September 2009)

- Mobile Lab
- 33 libraries visited
- 398 classes taught
- 1,880 people participating in classes
- F. Ward Murrey Annex
- 17 workshops held at either the F. Ward Murrey Annex or the SEO Library Center with 106 people participating.

Highlights

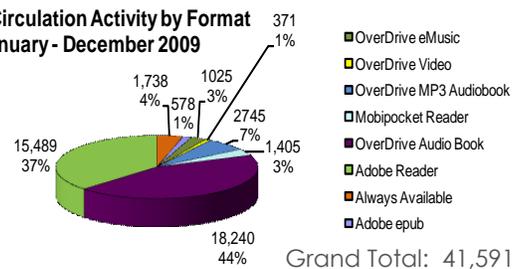
- Upgraded to Horizon 7.4.2 and Horizon Information Portal (HIP) 3.10
- The newest members joining SEO consortium are Tiffin-Seneca Public Library, Granville Public Library and Licking County—Newark Public Library
- Implemented the Director's Dashboard
- SEO User's Group held May 7-8, 2009 at Mohican State Park in Loudonville
- Introduced the "Best Practices" wiki
- With the upgrade to Horizon 7.4.2 SEO gained the ability to utilize the new NCIP responder from SirsiDynix
- SEO is participating in OLS: MORE as a responder with SEO materials
- Narrowcast setup that allows for the delivery of broadcast messages for library announcements or events
- Open Source ILS software, Evergreen, has been installed at the SEO Library Center for testing and evaluation.
- Introduced eBooks in EPUB format
- Functionality to post details about a download title to the social networking sites Facebook and Twitter is available in the iDownloads center

Membership services

- Original bibliographic records—1,001
- Member Catexpress bibliographic records—51,023
- Copy cataloging—5,462
- Cataloging support questions—1,081
- Circulation support questions—859
- Overdues generated and sorted—327,124
- IT support questions—1,959

eResources

Digital Circulation Activity by Format
January - December 2009



Budget

STATE FISCAL YEAR 2009 ~ JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009

	General Revenue Funds (GRF)	LSTA Federal	Non-GRF Funds	Total Expended
Payroll/Personal Service	\$3,392,712	\$890,040	\$662,565	\$4,945,317
Maintenance	\$1,645,653	\$684,852	\$1,598,700	\$3,929,205
Equipment/Library Materials	\$357,821	\$199,993	\$155,724	\$713,538
OPLIN	\$3,703,931	\$0	\$1,574,507	\$5,278,438
Ohioana Rental	\$124,816	\$0	\$0	\$124,816
Grants	\$2,221,895	\$3,862,949	\$0	\$6,084,844
Refunds	\$0	\$555	\$171	\$726
Total	\$11,446,828	\$5,638,389	\$3,991,667	\$21,076,884

Sources of Funds

GRF Funds	\$11,446,828	54%
LSTA Funds	\$5,638,389	27%
Non-GRF Funds	\$3,991,667	19%

Total Sources of Funds \$21,076,884 100%

Library Grants

GRF Funds (a)	\$2,306,640	37%
LSTA Funds	\$3,862,949	63%

Total Library Grants (a) \$6,169,589 100%

Expenditures

Operating	\$14,907,295	71%
Grants	\$6,169,589	29%

Total Expenditures \$21,076,884 100%

(a) Includes \$84,745 in OPLIN Filtering Grants



LSTA GRANTS AWARDED ~ STATE FISCAL YEAR 2009 ~ JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009

Automation

Malabar Farm Park	\$26,444
Pioneer Career & Technology	\$201,873
The Mercantile Library	\$101,531

Automation/Open Source ILS

Ohionet	\$80,000
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Blind & Physically Handicapped

Cleveland Public Library	\$129,572
Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	\$94,320

Innovative Technology

Instructional Technology Svcs Central Ohio	\$24,000
Ohio Wesleyan University	\$47,137
Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	\$24,000
The Ohio State University Libraries	\$141,277
University of Cincinnati Libraries	\$24,000

Job and Career Workshops

Stark County District Library	\$8,743
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Libraries Connect Ohio

Wright State University	\$1,542,414
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Resource Sharing/Open Source SWRS

OHIONET	\$250,000
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Resource Sharing/SEO ILS/Evergreen Gap Analysis

Holmes County District Public Library	\$3,128
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Services to People with Disabilities

Dublin City Schools	\$23,861
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Services to Targeted Populations

Cleveland Public Library	\$132,060
Licking Valley Local School District	\$3,307
Ohioana Library Association	\$4,999
Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	\$4,999
The Ohio State University Libraries	\$14,943
Toledo Lucas County Public Library	\$11,778
Wood County District Public Library	\$95,000
Wright State University Library	\$2,131

Services to Youth

Dr. Samuel L. Bossard Memorial Library	\$8,374
Jefferson Area Local School District	\$3,348
Kate Love Simpson Morgan County Library	\$15,021
Ohio Library Council	\$49,896
Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	\$51,489
Public Library of Steubenville & Jefferson County	\$56,926
Salem Public Library	\$14,735
South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools	\$79,702
Stark County District Library	\$21,004

Training

LaSalle High School	\$22,305
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Virtual Reference/KnowItNow

Cleveland Public Library	\$548,632
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TOTAL LSTA FUNDS - SFY 2009

\$3,862,949

Library Visits

State Librarian Jo Budler continued her visits to Ohio libraries although at a slightly slower pace. In 2009, Jo visited 19 public libraries, one special library, and one academic library for a total of 21 libraries.

Jo began the year at the Ohio School for the Deaf Library reading Green Eggs and Ham to the students, and was accompanied by Thing 1 and Thing 2. She spoke to the Galion Public Library's board and association members. In July she watched the teens at Twinsburg Public Library perform. Then Jo experienced a plethora of public art at the Medina County District Library. She even got to see a jazz bowl that was commissioned by Eleanor Roosevelt at the Rocky River Public Library's Cowan Pottery Museum.



Library at the School for the Deaf Director Ada Kent and Donna Henderson - March 2, 2009



Medina County Public Library - Brunswick Branch
Branch Manager Susan Ungham & Library Director Carole Kowell - August 13, 2009



Galion Public Library Solarium
April 20, 2009



Weed & Seed mural at Euclid Public Library
September 1, 2009



Twinsburg Public Library Director Laura Leonard and Jo Budler - July 31, 2009



Barberton Public Library Director Julianne Bedel and Jo Budler - November 18, 2009

