

North Dakota Council on the Arts Announces Traveling Exhibit for Libraries



NORTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA) recently announced a photographic exhibit based and derived from *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains*, a 2011 North Dakota Library Association Notable Document Award winner.

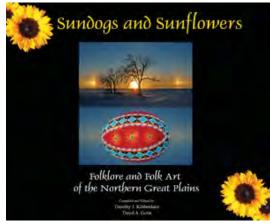
The NDCA is presently making the exhibit available to cultural organizations, schools, public libraries, and art galleries throughout the state. *Sundogs and Sunflowers* includes folklore and folk art from every county of North Dakota. Since the book's content comes from North Dakota communities, NCDA is eager to take

the book and exhibit back to those communities. The exhibit consists of 28 full-color didactic panels, framed to 30" x 20". Visual examples of the panels are available at <u>http://1.usa.gov/rtfCvC</u>.

The NDCA is eager to make the exhibit available, free of charge, to libraries across the state in 2012. Libraries will be responsible for exhibit transportation expenses only, along with any cost of special receptions held in association with the event's premiere in a community.

In addition to the traveling exhibit, NDCA can also offer the following enhancement possibilities:

- 1. Each library that wishes to have a grand opening associated with the exhibit may purchase *Sundogs and Sunflowers: Folklore and Folk Art of the Northern Great Plains* at a wholesale cost from the NDCA and resell the book at retail price, keeping the difference to benefit the library.
- 2. If a site library wishes to have a grand opening and wants to invite folk and traditional artists from their area to have objects on hand, conduct demonstrations or workshops, have a performance, perhaps pay to bring in a traditional storyteller to perform for children, or some other art activity in association with the exhibit, they may be eligible to apply for a Special Projects Grant from the NDCA. This is a competitive grant program for requests up to \$1,000 to non-profit organizations. More information on this program can be found at http://www.nd.gov/arts/grants/SPguidelines.html.



If your library would like to take advantage of this opportunity to schedule an exhibit date at your library, please contact Adam Emter at the North Dakota State Library at 701-328-4656 or <u>aemter@nd.gov</u>.

2012 Summer Reading Programs

MANUALS ARE AVAILABLE

Dream Big

FLICKERTALE

The 2012 summer reading manuals have arrived at the State Library and are ready for shipment. The manual will instantly become your best friend for planning, promoting, and hosting a successful 2012 summer reading program. To receive your manual, which is being provided at no charge by the North Dakota State Library, please submit the

form available at <u>http://www.library.nd.gov/summerreadingmanual.html</u>.

2012 THEMES

Dream Big - READ! (Children)

Own the Night (Teens)

Between the Covers (Adults)

2012 SUMMER READING WORKSHOPS IN NORTH DAKOTA

Summer reading workshops are scheduled for February 2012. Attendees will have an opportunity to connect with other librarians, share ideas for summer reading, and have fun learning program ideas related to the 2012 themes. Click on your preferred location/date below to register!

Locations and Dates:

February 13 - Bismarck Public Library

February 15 - Dickinson Public Library

February 16 - Minot Public Library

February 21 - Grand Forks Public Library

February 22 - Leach Public Library (Wahpeton)

February 23 - James River Valley Library (Jamestown)

2012 SUMMER READING KICKOFF DAY

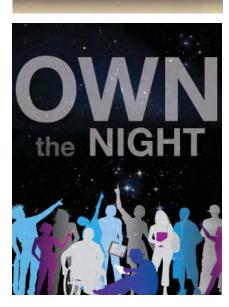
Friday, June 1, 2012, has been set as "Summer Reading Kickoff

Day" in North Dakota. All libraries planning to host a kickoff event are encouraged to host it on Summer Reading Kickoff Day. A summer reading kickoff event is a great way to attract community and media attention to your library!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about summer reading programs, please visit <u>http://www.library.nd.gov/publicawareness.html?tab=1#tab_1</u>.





2

FLICKERTALE



November 2011

CALENDAR

November 24 State Library Closed for Thanksgiving

December 2 NDLA Executive Board Meeting at State Library

> December 26 State Library Closed for Christmas

January 2 State Library Closed for New Year

January 20-24 ALA Midwinter Meeting - Dallas, Texas

Quotable

3

"I highly encourage you to share Tutor ND with your students, parents, administrators, and patrons, as I believe it will be extremely helpful to students of all ages. It sure would have helped me with my high school algebra and geometry classes!"

- Deb Syvertson, Library Director at Dakota College at Bottineau, after using the live, one-on-one Tutor ND service

State Library and ND Library Coordinating Council Announce Grant

The North Dakota State Library and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council announce a new grant round using state dollars, beginning November 15, 2011. The grant applications are due February 13, 2012, and the categories are outlined below along with the web site to access the grant guidelines and grant applications.

This grant opportunity is for three categories:

- 1. Participation in the Statewide Online Catalog through WorldCat
- 2. Innovative Partnership with a Non-Library Entity
- 3. Technology to Provide Access to Information

For additional information, please visit <u>http://www.library.nd.gov/librarian.html</u>. Grant applications are due at the State Library postmarked no later than February 13, 2012.

FLICKERTALE

November 2011

North Dakota State Library : On the Road

November 16-17 Student Training - Fort Totten

November 17 Library Visit - Lidgerwood Public Library

November 17 Library Visits - Stanley Public Library, Tioga Public Library, Sherwood Public Library, and Mohall Public Library

> November 22 Training - Fessenden

November 29 E-reader Training - Bismarck Public Library

> December 2 Student Training - Fessenden

December 7 Teacher Training - Towner and Granville

E-rate News

The Description of Services Requested and Certification Form (Form 470) should be completed and used to begin your library's bidding process for telecommunication services, Internet services, internal connections, and basic maintenance for internal connections. By posting a Form 470 on the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) website, you let vendors know that you are seeking those services.

Here are a few tips to remember when completing your Form 470 :

- 1. When completing the Form 470, be specific. For example, if you are seeking a discount for a cell phone used by the bookmobile driver, state that you are seeking "Cellular Telephone Service" not just telephone service. If you are seeking a discount for Internet over a fiber optics line, state "Internet Service over a Fiber Optics Line," not just Internet service.
- 2. Filing online is quicker and easier than filing by paper. If you are filing a Form 470 for the first time, you will need to print out the Certifications and Signatures page, sign it in ink, and mail it to USAC. Once USAC has received your original signature, they will issue you a PIN that can be used as a signature for filing proceeding forms completely online.
- 3. You must wait 28 days after the Form 470 has been posted before moving on to the next step. If you issue a Request for Proposal (RFP), you must wait 28 days after the RFP has been posted online or made available to the public.

If you have a question or need further assistance, please contact Al Peterson, E-rate coordinator at the North Dakota State Library at 701-328-4021 or <u>alpeterson@nd.gov</u>.

Library Staff Changes in North Dakota

OUTGOING

Linda Mahon - Ward County Library

Mike Jan - Heart of America Library (Rugby)

Leona Schneider - Walhalla Public Library

BiblioStat Connect : A Data Comparison Tool for Public Libraries

Have you ever wondered how your library compares to other libraries in North Dakota or across the country? Have you ever needed data to support a request for funding? The State Library has a subscription to BiblioStat Connect, a program which compiles data on public libraries. It allows the State Library to generate tables and graphs comparing the data. Comparison data for your library is available upon request from the North Dakota State Library.

The Connect program offers three main sources of data:

- The Federal State Cooperative System (FSCS), which is a joint effort of the State Data Coordinator from all 50 states, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the National Center for Education Statistics, and the U.S. Census Bureau. It is a national database that includes a common core of data for all public libraries in the U.S., allowing data to be compared between states.
- The annual Public Library Data Service's survey of libraries in the United States and Canada, which is a voluntary survey and usually includes approximately 800 of the largest libraries.
- The annual statistical surveys of each state, which includes the data North Dakota libraries submit to NDSL's data coordinator for the annual public library statistical report. You can also look at the annual surveys of other states.

There are three ways the data may be compared:

- Alphabetical comparisons allow you choose libraries to compare from an alphabetical list.
- Peer comparisons allow you to identify libraries for comparison based on a certain criteria you define, such as libraries with similar populations of the legal service area, and then compare other factors, such as circulation per capita, for those peer libraries.
- Benchmarks or statistical calculations based on a chosen characteristic, such as the average circulation for the top 10% of libraries.

The statistical data is very useful when making requests for budget increases, as the data demonstrates how well your library is doing in certain areas or where there is room for improvement.

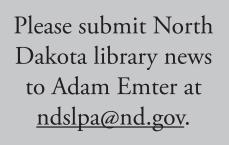
If you would like to learn more about BiblioStat Connect or how your library compares to others, please contact Sarah Matusz, Field Services librarian at the North Dakota State Library at 701-328-4680 or <u>smatusz@nd.gov</u>.

MINITEX Director to Retire

It has been recently announced that MINITEX Director Bill DeJohn will retire at the end of the calendar year. Many in North Dakota know Bill for his many years of service and can appreciate his desire for a "little" rest and "a lot" of quiet time. If you want to express your congratulations, you just might be able to reach Bill at 612-624-2839 or <u>w-dejo@umn.edu</u>. Best wishes from the staff at the North Dakota State Library!



FLICKERTALE



NDLA Meeting Reminder

All NDLA Executive Board members are reminded that the December 2nd meeting will be held at the State Library from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (approximately). An agenda has been sent to all board members. If you did not receive notice via email, please contact Aubrey Madler at <u>aubreymm@gmail.com</u>.

Spotlight on Prevention Resource and Media Library

6

The Prevention Resource and Media Center (PRMC) specializes in topics of substance abuse prevention and mental health. As the name indicates, they focus on media, and they have games, kits, and DVDs you can borrow. The PRMC also collects materials on dealing with the effects of concussions and traumatic brain injury (TBI). They have a number of TBI tool kits, including a concussion tool kit for schools.

They have a lot of hands-on items to deter kids from abusing drugs and alcohol, such as fatal vision goggles which simulate impairment from alcohol and help demonstrate the dangers of drinking and driving. PRMC also collects materials on bullying, and they have several DVDs to help you address bullying in your community.

PRMC offers pamphlets, temporary tattoos, activity books, bookmarks, and posters to distribute in your community. Take a look at what's available at <u>http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/prevention/pdf/ch-catalog.pdf</u>. You may order materials online at <u>http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/prevention/prmc.html</u>. The PRMC is a branch of the State Library, so choose North Dakota State Library to locate PRMC items when searching the ODIN catalog.

ND Library Tidbits

- Fargo native Chuck Klosterman has a new book titled *The Visible Man*. It was reviewed in the June 13, 2011 issue of *Publishers Weekly*.
- Leach Public Library in Wahpeton has a construction project underway to repair the building's foundation.
- The Gackle Library hosted an open house on October 19 to showcase interior and exterior improvements.
- The University of North Dakota Chester Fritz Library marked it's 50th anniversary on October 13th. The library is home to approximately 1.4 million pieces of print material.

Your North Dakota State Library Field Services representative will work with you, in your library. The only requirement is an invitation!

Call 800-472-2104 for more information or to schedule a visit.

The Center for the Book Announces "Letters About Literature" Writing Contest

7

Children in grades 4 - 12 are invited to write a personal letter to an author explaining how that author's work somehow changed their view of themselves or their world. The contest's focus is on reader response and reflective writing.

Please feel free to use the attached announcement and flyer to promote the contest in your community. You may also visit <u>www.lettersaboutliterature.org</u> for more information. At this site, teachers and librarians can download free teaching materials, including lesson plans, assessment checklists, writing samples, and entry guidelines. The deadline for submissions is January 6, 2012.

Letters About Literature provides awards for students on both the state and national level. In addition, 18 national winning students earn the opportunity to nominate a school or community library to receive thousands of dollars in Letters About Literature reading promotion grants.

For specific questions about the contest, please contact Catherine Gourley, National Project Director for Letters About Literature at 570-262-7320 or programdirector@lettersaboutliterature.org.

National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest Winners Announced

The Center for the Book and the Rare Book and Special Collections Division of the Library of Congress, the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America and the Fellowship of American Bibliographic Societies have announced the winners of the National Collegiate Book Collecting Contest. The organizations assumed leadership of the contest in 2010 with support from the Jay I. Kislak Foundation.

The winners received their awards during a ceremony on Friday, October 21, in Washington, D.C. The program included a talk, "The Thrill of the Hunt: The Serendipitous Pleasures of Book Collecting" by Michael Dirda, Pulitzer Prize-winning critic for The Washington Post.

The winners are:

First Prize: Arthur Mitchell Fraas, Duke University, for his collection "Anglo-American Legal Printing, 1702 to the Present."

Second Prize: Margaret Murray, Johns Hopkins University, for her collection "Literature of The Little Review: In Which Margaret Anderson Enters an Antiquarian Bookstore."

Third Prize: Sarah A. McCormick, University of California-Riverside, for her collection "Desert Dreams: The History of California's Coachella Valley."

Essay Prize: Emily Brodman, Stanford University, for her essay "Sourcing the Sanctuary Movement."

Prizes, generously underwritten by the Jay I. Kislak Foundation, were awarded both to the students and to the libraries of their respective institutions.

Teen Programming Online Course Offered by YALSA

Learn new ways to bring more teens into the school and public library with "Power Programming," the Young Adult Library Services Association's (YALSA) popular online course, which offers up-to-date ideas for programming, from simple, self-running contests to reading celebrations, and more. The self-paced course is taught by Amy Alessio and takes place February 5 to March 6.

To register, please visit the YALSA "Power Programming" website at <u>http://bit.ly/sCJV98</u>.

ALSC Releases Children's Graphic Novel Core Collection

The Association of Library Service to Children (ALSC) has created a listing of graphic novels for children geared to the interest of elementary school-age children (K–8). The result is the Children's Graphic Novel Core Collection. The list includes classics as well as new titles that have been widely and recently well-reviewed and deemed to have popular appeal as well as critical acclaim.

To view the complete list, visit <u>http://bit.ly/vDRK0X</u>.

Dagger Awards

2011 Nobel Prize for Literature

Swedish poet Tomas Tranströmer, 80, has been named as the winner of the 2011 Nobel Prize for Literature. Tranströmer was the subject of a *Washington Post* profile, which is available at <u>http://wapo.st/vLnjfv</u>.

Warner Brothers to Cease Shipments of Harry Potter Films

Harry Potter, the #1 motion picture franchise of all time, will soon disappear from shelves, as Warner Bros. stops shipping all Harry Potter theatrical film titles (including Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2, and Harry Potter: The Complete 8-Film Collection) as of December 29, 2011 (moratorium does not include digital – Electronic Sell-Through & VOD – or games).

The Harry Potter franchise has grossed more than \$12.1 billion for Warner Bros. Entertainment – with \$7 billion at the worldwide box office for Warner Bros. Pictures and \$5.1 billion for Warner Bros. Home Entertainment Group and Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment.

Consider purchasing new or replacement films for your library collection before December 29, 2011.

The final three Crime Writers Association Dagger Awards of the 2011 season were announced in London on October 7. Tom Franklin's *Crooked Letter* won the Gold Dagger Award, while the Ian Fleming Steel Dagger went to *The Lock Artist* by Steve Hamilton. *Before I Go to Sleep* by S. J. Watson was awarded the John Creasey Dagger. For more information, please visit the Crime Writers Association website at <u>http://www.thecwa.co.uk</u>.

Why Your Library Is Important

The September/October issue of *Public Libraries* provided an interesting article entitled "Community Centered: 23 Reasons Why Your Library Is The Most Important Place In Town." The reasons presented in the article are definitely worthy of the considerations of librarians, especially public librarians. Additionally, the reasons will help library administrators crystallize their thoughts as to the value of their libraries prior to any future round of budget requests.

The reasons are divided under the general considerations of: Libraries as Community Builders; Libraries as Community Centers for Diverse Populations; Libraries as Centers for the Arts; Libraries as Universities; and, Libraries as Champions of Youth.

To read the complete article, visit <u>http://bit.ly/w2Xos3</u>.

Poetry Out Loud Seeks Participants

9

North Dakota high school students are encouraged to participate in this school year's Poetry Out Loud program. This national recitation contest encourages youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. The competition begins at the classroom level, with winners advancing to a school-wide competition and then the state finals, which will be March 19, 2012, in Bismarck. One student from each state will compete at the 2012 national finals in Washington, D.C., May 13-15, where \$50,000 in scholarships and school prizes will be awarded. Free curriculum materials are available for use by participating schools, including print and online anthologies with more than 400 classic and contemporary poems, a website (www.poetryoutloud.org), a teacher's guide for teaching recitation and performance, and a CD of well-known actors and writers. To learn more about the program, or to register, contact Rebecca Engelman at the NDCA, 701-328-7593, or rengelman@nd.gov. A registration form is available at www.nd.gov/arts/whatsnew/POL.html. Registration deadline is January 13, 2012!

Big Read Invites Applications for Community-Wide Reading Programs

The Big Read, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment, is accepting applications from nonprofit organizations to develop community-wide reading programs between September 2012 and June 2013.

Organizations selected to participate in the Big Read receive a grant, access to online training resources and opportunities, and educational and promotional materials designed to support widespread community involvement and participation. Approximately seventy-five organizations from throughout the United States will be selected.

Applicant organizations must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit; a division of state, local, or tribal government; or a tax-exempt public library. Eligible applicants include such organizations as literary centers, libraries, museums, colleges and universities, art centers, historical societies, arts councils, tribal governments, humanities councils, literary festivals, and arts organizations.

Community organizations participating in the Big Read are expected to develop and produce a well-planned, wellattended, community-wide read with innovative, diverse programming, and widespread community involvement and participation. Activities should last approximately one month and focus on one book or poet from the Big Read Library.

Organizations may apply for grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000 each, depending on community size and number of activities planned. Grants must be matched at least 1 to 1 with non-federal funds. Grant funds may be used for such expenses as book purchases, speaker fees and travel, salaries, advertising, and venue rental.

Visit <u>www.neabigread.org</u> for complete program guidelines, project development resources, and application materials.

E-book Workshop

ALA TechSource will host a workshop on "Ebooks and Access: Upholding Library Values" on December 7 and 14. In this two-part workshop, insight will be given to help libraries navigate through ebook acquisition and collection development with library values as your compass. Registration information for this workshop is available at <u>www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=3590</u>.

Computer Hardware News

Does your desktop PC take a long time to start up? Have you tried installing the latest game only to find out your graphics card is too old to render the 3D graphics properly? Do you simply want to take advantage of the speed and reliability of operating systems like Microsoft Windows 7 and Mac OS Lion. If any of these are true, then it might be time for you to buy a new computer. *PC Magazine* offers help with their top 10 recommended systems at <u>http://bit.ly/unlRNd</u>.

Also, a recent *New York Times* article (October 24) notes five ways to remedy a slow PC, with suggestions from Microsoft, at <u>http://nyti.ms/t1oodF</u>.

Ten Quick Reads

Many readers seem to think that a short book must be slight in every way. Check out <u>http://bit.ly/sCeaJU</u> for ten great "one sit" reads!

Genealogy Research Tips

Start a blog. Find a friend. Keep a research log. S-l-o-w d-o-w-n. For further explanation of these and other genealogy tips from experienced genealogy researchers, check out <u>http://bit.ly/unwGzj</u>!

Four Tips for Preserving Digital Photographs

From the Library of Congress, get four tips on how you can preserve your own personal digital information as you venture into a start on the digital preservation path. Your tasks are to identify, decide, organize, and make copies. For more information, visit <u>http://1.usa.gov/vVmONX</u>.

New E-readers

Kobo has announced a new e-reader it calls "the first social e-reader." The new device, Kobo Vox, will include social features that will integrate mainly with Facebook, but also with Twitter and email. Vox will run Android 2.3 on a 7-inch color touch screen, which is meant to enhance not only your reading experience, but also the social part of it. The new Vox is actually a tablet, akin to the Kindle Fire, and can be used also for surfing, for checking emails, and for downloading apps. It retails for \$200. Also, with the upcoming Kindle Fire tablet, Amazon isn't just launching another new LCD-based tablet into the marketplace, it's also marketing yet another ebook filetype, Kindle Format 8. This is the first departure from the longstanding Mobi filetype that Amazon has been using for its Kindle books thus far, and it looks like KF8 is being designed and implemented specifically to compete with the functionality found in the EPUB format. For more information, search the web or visit the ALA TechSource website at www.alatechsource.org.

Court Says Video Streaming Is Not Copying

10

A lawsuit that was filed against UCLA by Ambrose Video Publishing and the Association for Information Media and Equipment over UCLA's streaming of purchased DVDs to remote authenticated users, was dismissed on October 11, 2011. This is major news in the usage of video materials by libraries. The essence of the decision is that the court found that streaming video is <u>not</u> a public performance. The decision of the court made moot the license held by UCLA that contained public performance restrictions. It should be noted that this judgment, which may be appealed, which defines streaming video as not being a public performance is huge. However, the judgment does not affect the long-standing court rulings that note that music <u>is</u> a public performance. For the court's view regarding music as a public performance, visit <u>http://bit.ly/tsZMAO</u>.

With this court ruling (UCLA v. Ambrose), other libraries may, like UCLA, establish streaming video sites to showcase and make available the library's videos to their patrons. Such an action by a library may very well prompt another lawsuit in another jurisdiction. What is most evident, however, is just how very fast the concepts of electronic materials made available by libraries are changing.

IEEE-Chicago Section Extends Public Libraries Grant Application Deadline

11

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)-Chicago Section's Science Kits for Public Libraries Grant currently offers up to \$2,000 in funding to public libraries in the Midwest for the development of math and science collections for pre-university students (K-12). The deadline for grant applications is December 15, 2011.

The Science Kits for Public Libraries Grant is an expansion of a pilot project supported by IEEE-Chicago Section's Chicago Fund. IEEE-Chicago Section identified an educational need and designed the Fund as a way to generate enthusiasm for math and science education, especially education about electrical engineering. The Mount Prospect Public Library (MPPL) in Mount Prospect, IL was the pilot project for the Fund.

Because of the Chicago Fund, MPPL librarians were able to develop science kits and give students access to prepared experiments and science materials that they might not encounter in the traditional classroom. Additionally, the MPPL librarians created the Mad Scientists Club, an educational program that allows students to conduct experiments at the library with the guidance of a librarian. Watch MPPL's Mad Scientist Club online at <u>http://youtu.be/2NRePbjwyak</u> to view the kits in action.

Over 60 students have participated in Mad Scientists Club during the past year and registration for the library's first three programs filled up quickly. According to Mary Smith, Head of Youth Services at MPPL, "the enthusiasm for the Mad Scientist Club and the science kits indicates that students have a deep curiosity about the way the world works. The library is the perfect place to satisfy this curiosity."

The current grant is designed to replicate and expand the success of the MPPL science kits in public libraries throughout the Midwest. According to Science Kits for Public Libraries Project Director, John Zulaski, "I was impressed by the innovation of MPPL's Youth Services Department and I believe that public libraries are an ideal place to make materials available for students to deepen their scientific knowledge."

The Science Kits for Public Libraries Grant is made possible due to \$40,000 in funding from the IEEE Foundation and IEEE Life Members Committee and an additional \$4,000 contributed by S&C Electric.

For more information and to learn about applying, please visit <u>www.ieeechicago.org</u> and click on the "Science Kits for Libraries" navigation tab.

Laura Bush Foundation Grant Available for School Libraries

In order to promote a love of reading, the goal of the Laura Bush Foundation (LBF) is to provide books and reading materials to the school libraries and students that most need them. Consequently, funds are available only for library books and magazine/serial copies and subscriptions. The Foundation makes grants of up to \$6,000 to update, extend, and diversify the book collections of the libraries that receive them.

All LBF grants are made to individual schools rather than to school districts, county systems, private organizations, foundations, or other entities. Only schools where a minimum of 50% of the student body qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch (FRL) program are eligible to apply. Because research demonstrates a clear relationship between family income and a student's access to books, the LBF gives selection preference to schools in which 90% or more of the students receive free or reduced lunches and are likely to have the fewest books and reading materials at home.

All applications must be made online at <u>http://laurabushfoundation.unt.edu</u>. Recipients will be identified and awards will be made before the middle of May 2012.

FCC Plans Cheap Internet Service

12

In the November 8, 2011 publication of the *Washington Post*, it was noted that the Federal Communications Commission has announced a cooperative action with cable and computer firms to provide low-income homes with \$10 monthly broadband Internet service and \$150 computers. This action has the intended result to solve one of the more vexing problems in the government's quest to connect all Americans to the Internet.

As data has continued to show, even when people have the ability to subscribe to high-speed service, 100 million households choose not to connect as they use their funds for other things. Experts say that's largely because of cost since the price of high-speed Internet averages \$40 a month, and computers can cost several hundred dollars. Under the plan of the FCC beginning in the spring (2012), cable Internet service providers such as Bright House, Comcast, Cox and Time Warner will offer families that are eligible for federal school-lunch programs a discounted monthly service. The service will also include free installation and modem rental for two years. An estimated 25 million Americans may be eligible for this program.

Additionally, Redemtech, a computer refurbishing firm, will offer those families that are eligible laptops or desktops for \$150, with free home shipping and 90 days of tech support. Microsoft will provide new computers for eligible school-lunch families for \$250. To read the complete article, please visit <u>http://wapo.st/w3t8ID</u>.

Flickertale

a monthly publication of

North Dakota State Library

604 East Boulevard Avenue – Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

A Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent Hulen E. Bivins, State Librarian —— Adam Emter, Publication Editor

ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.