

ABQLA BULLETIN

L'ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTHÉCAIRES DU QUÉBEC / QUEBEC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ÉNONCÉ DE MISSION DE L'ABQLA

L'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec – Quebec Library Association est une association bénévole à but non lucratif bilingue réunissant des professionnels en bibliothéconomie et en sciences de l'information, du personnel aux fonctions connexes et des amis des bibliothèques, de partout au Québec. L'Association fournit un réseau pour le support mutuel de ses membres par l'éducation, la défense de leurs intérêts et la communication. Elle fait la promotion du rôle des bibliothécaires et des spécialistes de l'information et de leurs institutions dans la communauté québécoise.

OUR MISSION

L'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec - Quebec Library Association is a bilingual, nonprofit voluntary association of library and information professionals, related personnel, and supporters throughout the province of Quebec. The Association provides a network for its members' mutual support through education, advocacy, and communication. It promotes the role of library and information specialists and their institutions in the greater Quebec community.

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Message du Président



-Robin Canuel-

Une saison automnale chargée en activités !

Au moment où je rédige ce message, nous sommes très occupés à peaufiner les détails de notre levée de fonds annuelle CODE. Depuis plusieurs années maintenant, l'ABQLA collabore avec CLA (Réseau Montréal) et SLA (Section de l'Est du Canada) pour organiser la levée de fonds annuelle CODE. CODE fut créé en 1959 dans le but de promouvoir l'alphabétisation et l'éducation dans les pays en voie de développement. Depuis 1955, la levée de fonds des vacances d'hiver des associations montréalaises des bibliothèques a contribué à raison de plus de \$40,000 à CODE. Cette année, Sean Swanick, représentant de l'ABQLA, est en charge de l'organisation de l'événement. La levée de fonds CODE se tiendra le 28 novembre 2013, entre 17h30 et 20h30 à la maison Thomson de l'Université McGill, mais aura cependant déjà eu lieu quand vous lirez ce message. Espérons que nous aurons obtenu une grande participation et récolté une tonne d'argent pour une cause formidable !

Le 21 octobre, notre lancement automnal a été un vif succès. Le vin et fromage annuel s'est tenu à la flamboyante neuve Bibliothèque du Boisé à Ville Saint-Laurent et une visite guidée des lieux a suivi. Nous étions très heureux d'être gracieusement accueillis par la Bibliothèque du Boisé, offrant à nos membres une belle occasion d'y aller. Vous aurez l'occasion de lire tout ce qu'il faut savoir sur cette nouvelle bibliothèque dans ce numéro du Bulletin. En plus du lancement, nos sections ont aussi été très occupées à organiser d'excellents événements pour leurs membres. La section Bibliothèques collégiales et de recherche a organisé une session sur le droit d'auteur, intitulée Copyright and Canadian Libraries: What You Need to Know [Droit d'auteur et bibliothèques canadiennes : ce que vous devez savoir], présentée par Amy Buckland, Coordinatrice de la recherche et de la publication électronique et de la numérisation à la bibliothèque

de l'Université McGill. Les sections Bibliothèques scolaires et Jeunesse ont fait équipe pour organiser une présentation et séance de dédicace par Alan Gibbons, auteur du livre *Shadow of the Minotaur*. Pour finir, la section Bibliothèques publiques s'est associée avec les Livres Babar Books pour organiser le toujours très populaire Dewey Divas and the Dudes à la bibliothèque publique de Westmount, le 20 novembre 2013. Je voudrais remercier tous les chefs de section pour leur dur labeur afin d'assurer une offre continue d'événements et d'activités de qualité à nos membres, créant des occasions uniques de réseautage et de développement professionnel.

Le comité de planification de la conférence annuelle travaille dur également. Il a choisi le "design" comme thème pour la conférence 2014 et "Bibliothèques et design" comme slogan. Le comité s'occupe maintenant de sélectionner et d'inviter des conférenciers hors du commun qui parleront de divers aspects du design en bibliothéconomie et de préparer l'appel à présentations. Surveillez notre site internet et nos médias sociaux pour l'annonce de la conférence d'ouverture et d'autres informations importantes. Comme mentionné dans mon précédent message, la conférence se tiendra cette année encore au superbe Centre de conférences Gelber, dans Côte-des-Neiges, et nous avons maintenant choisi le jeudi 8 mai 2014 comme date. Encore une fois, notez la date dans vos agendas.

Pour finir, notre nouveau comité des prix, présidé par Nikki Tummon, est en train de rédiger la documentation et les régulations nécessaires à la mise en application des prix annuels pour étudiants et de voyage récemment approuvés. L'information concernant ces nouveaux prix ABQLA et leurs règlements seront bientôt accessibles sur le site internet, donc gardez un œil ouvert ! Lors de la dernière réunion annuelle générale, il a été décidé que l'ABQLA permettrait aux étudiants inscrits dans un programme de bibliothéconomie agréé d'adhérer gratuitement à partir du 1^{er} janvier 2014. Nous espérons que ces nouveaux prix et toutes les autres choses formidables que l'ABQLA fait vont encourager de nombreux étudiants à adhérer à l'association et à profiter de ces opportunités uniques.

Bonnes vacances !
Robin Canuel

President's Message

A very busy fall season full of activities!

As I write this message, we are busy finalizing the details for our annual CODE fundraiser event. For several years now, ABQLA has collaborated with CLA (Montreal Network) and SLA (Eastern Canada Chapter) to organize the annual CODE Fundraiser. CODE was founded in 1959 with the humanitarian aim of promoting literacy and education in the developing world. Since 1995, the Montreal library associations' holiday fundraiser has contributed more than \$40,000 to CODE. This year Sean Swanick is the ABQLA representative, and is spearheading the organization of the event. The CODE Fundraiser will take place on November 28th, 2013, between 5:30-8:30 pm at McGill University's Thomson House, however, it will have come and gone by the time you read this. Hopefully we will have had a great turnout and raised a ton of cash for a great cause!

On October 21st, 2013, we had a very successful fall kick-off event. The annual wine and cheese took place at the brand new Bibliothèque du Boisé in Ville Saint-Laurent, and was followed by a guided tour of the facility. We were very pleased that the Bibliothèque du Boisé graciously agreed to host us and provide our members with this great opportunity. You can read all about the new library in this issue of the Bulletin. In addition to the kick-off event, our sections have also been very busy organizing excellent events for their members. The College and Research section organized a session on copyright, which was presented by Amy Buckland, the eScholarship, ePublishing & Digitization Coordinator at McGill University Library, entitled Copyright and Canadian Libraries: What You Need to Know, and the School Libraries and Youth sections teamed up to offer a presentation and book signing by Alan Gibbons, author of the book *Shadow of the Minotaur*. Last, but not least, the Public Libraries section partnered with Livres Babar Books to host the always very popular Dewey Divas and the Dudes at the Westmount Public Library, which took place on November 20th, 2013. I would like to thank all of our section heads for their hard work in ensuring that we are continuously offering our members quality events and activities, which provide wonderful opportunities for networking and professional development.



-Robin Canuel-

The annual conference planning committee is also hard at work. The committee recently selected "Design" as the 2014 conference theme, with the tag line "Libraries by Design". The committee is now busy selecting and inviting amazing speakers to present on various aspects of design and librarianship, as well as preparing our call for presentations. Keep an eye on our website and social media feeds for exciting keynote speaker announcements, and other important information related to next year's conference. As mentioned in my previous message, the conference will be held again at the beautiful Gelber Conference Center in Côte-des-Neiges, and we have now chosen Thursday May 8th, 2013 as the date, so again, please mark this important day in your calendars.

Finally, our newly struck awards committee, chaired by Nikki Tummon, is busy developing documentation and procedures to apply to our recently approved annual student award and travel awards. Information about these new ABQLA awards and the procedures to apply for them will be available on our website in the near future, so stay tuned! At last year's annual general meeting it was decided that ABQLA would offer free membership to students enrolled in a recognized library studies program as of January 1st, 2014. Hopefully these new awards, and all the other awesome things ABQLA does, will inspire many library students to become new members of our association, and take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

Happy Holidays!
Robin Canuel

FALL KICK-OFF

Fall Kick-Off at Bibliothèque du Boisé

Allison Smith



This year, the ABQLA celebrated its fall kick-off at the brand new Bibliothèque du Boisé! The event was well-attended, with all sections of the ABQLA represented. After president Robin Canuel's welcome, guests spent the evening tasting hors d'oeuvres and networking in the convivial atmosphere. The highlight of the evening was a tour of the state-of-the-art library, given by Andrée Tremblay (chef de division, Bibliothèque et culture).

Situated in the rapidly growing borough of St-Laurent, the library is the forty-fourth public library in the City of Montreal network and the second largest library city-wide, after the BANQ. Adjacent to the Marcel-Laurin woodland park, the building's natural setting inspired many aspects of its architecture, such as a *passerelle* over the library to the woods. The design of the walls and shelving allows patrons to look out at the park from any spot in the library.

The impressive LEEDS-certified building has 6000 square metres of space for its brand new collection of books, periodicals, and multimedia (including materials in Arabic, Chinese and Spanish), as well as computers,

desks, arm chairs, and gaming stations. In addition to the building's sustainability innovations—rainwater collection, geothermal energy, and green roof, to name a few—du Boisé incorporates some fresh concepts into its space. Some noteworthy ideas include: permitting eating and cell phone use, movable shelving to accommodating gaming nights, comfortable cushions and beanbag chairs to lounge on while using the multimedia stations, and iPads left in the youth section for children to discover. Mme. Tremblay noted that despite the vast spaces and more open rules, du Boisé receives no more noise complaints than the average library.

As we toured behind the scenes of the library, we learned about their "smart chute" book return, which automatically checks in and classifies items into seven different categories for reshelving (including one designated 'other'). We even had the chance to see it in action! The desirable all-new collection is much in demand across the Montreal library system, and the library processes 40 boxes of incoming and outgoing inter-branch loan material per day. *continued on page 5*



ABQLA members on a guided tour of the library by Andrée Tremblay.
du Boisé Library, St Laurent,
October 21, 2013
Photographer: Allison Smith

Fall Kick-Off cont.

The library is well-networked within the community at large. The facility hosts the *Musée des maîtres et artisans du Québec*, with an exhibition space to showcase local artwork and traditional craftsmanship. The library has also produced a collection of audioguides for strolling in the neighbouring woods, featuring

information, sounds, and excerpts from literature. There are guides for the different seasons, available in versions for both children and adults, in French and English.

The Bibliothèque du Boisé was an elegant setting to launch the new year of exciting ABQLA events. □



Left to Right: David Sume, Aude McDermott.
du Boisé Library, St Laurent, October 21, 2013
Photographer: Allison Smith

>BULLETIN ABQLA / ABQLA BULLETIN<

Le Bulletin ABQLA paraît trois fois par année et est distribué gratuitement à tous les membres de l'Association. Le rédaction se réserve le droit de publier ou non les articles soumis. Ceux-ci peuvent être rédigés en français ou en anglais et doivent être soumis électroniquement.

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Adresse postale / Mailing address:

50 Boul St. Charles.
P.O. Box 26717 Beaconsfield, QC,
H9W 6G7

Tél./Fax: (514) 697-0146

Courriel / Email: abqla.bulletin@gmail.com

Site web / Website: <http://www.abqla.qc.ca>

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PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION

The Dewy Divas Are Back in Montreal!

Aude McDermott



Left to Right: Rosalyn Steele, Andrea Colquhoun, Aude McDermott, Lahring Tribe, Margot Stokreef, Jennifer Eisman.
Westmount Public Library, November 20, 2013

After a three years absence, The Dewey Divas and The Dudes were back in Montreal, for an evening of literary discovery at Westmount Public Library on November 20, 2013. The event, organized by the Public Libraries Section, the School Libraries Section, the Youth Section, Livres Babar and the Children's Literature Roundtable of Montreal, was a great success. Librarians and student alike came to listen to Andrea Colquhoun, Penguin

Group; Rosalyn Steele, Harper Collins Canada; Margot Stokreef, Martin & Associates; and Lahring Tribe, Random House of Canada share their favourite picks of great books of the season. Sincere thanks to the Westmount Public Library for hosting the event. If you missed it, don't worry; The Dewey Divas and the Dudes will be back in the spring! □


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YOUTH & SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

Sonia Smith, Youth Section
 Andrea Hyde, School Section
 Linda Toivanen, School Section



On Tuesday, October 22nd, 2013, the Youth and School Sections of ABQLA, in conjunction with the Children's Literature Roundtable of Montreal and *Babar en Ville* bookstore, welcomed British author Alan Gibbons to Montreal.

After spending the day with students at Lower Canada College, Gibbons still had plenty of energy to entertain the group gathered at Babar. With amazing storytelling skill and remarkable rapid-fire banter, he held court for over an hour. We were delighted to learn that his passion as a writer was influenced by having access to a public library, as his family could not afford to purchase books. Having discovered classics like Robert Louis Stephenson's *Treasure Island* and *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, he became an avid reader.

Gibbons worked as a teacher for many years. This contact with kids and their real-life problems and issues are the inspiration and source for his books. His honesty, passion for social justice and love of rock music make it easy to see why he connects with students where ever he might be. In 2000, he won the prestigious *Blue Peter Book Award* in the category, "The Book I Couldn't Put Down" for *Shadow of the Minotaur* (beating out J.K. Rowling and several other published 'heavy weights!'). After balancing writing and teaching for some years, winning this prize allowed him to leave teaching and write full-time. He was shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal twice in 2001 and 2003. Gibbons is not afraid to tackle dark and disturbing themes; he likes to write about social issues and conflict including racism, discrimination and bullying, in such novels as *Caught in the Crossfire*, *The Dark Beneath*, and *The Edge*.

Alan travels around the world to visit schools and talk about books and reading. Using his spare time on airplanes, trains and in hotel rooms to write, he has

published 59 books and these have been translated into 19 languages.

In February of 2011, Gibbons initiated a nationwide campaign Read In to protest library closures in Britain. In March 2011, he also launched a second initiative calling for a National Libraries Day <http://www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk/> to celebrate reading for pleasure and libraries of every kind. He is truly an advocate that devotes much time and energy to gathering allies and speaking publicly on the value of library services.

We all enjoyed Alan's passion and energy and added many of his titles to our 'to-read' lists. □

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COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES SECTION

Copyright and Canadian Libraries

*Adam Baron
Emily MacKenzie*

•••

On October 29th, 2013, the College and Research Libraries section hosted an event entitled “Copyright and Canadian Libraries: What You Need to Know” presented by Amy Buckland, McGill University Library’s eScholarship, ePublishing and Digitization Coordinator. As part of her presentation, Amy discussed some of the changes in the Canadian Copyright Act, which was last amended on November 7th, 2012 and which introduced a number of changes that affect how we as librarians approach our work in terms of access, use, and reuse of information. While highlighting the basics needed to understand copyright in an academic library setting, Amy delved into the complex concept of fair dealing, which enables copyrighted content to be used legally for specific purposes, such as research and private study, and the recent inclusions of education, satire, and parody.

Feedback for the event was very positive, with 21 librarians in attendance. We wish to thank Amy for an enthusiastic and informative presentation, as well as the Concordia Libraries (Webster Library) for providing the venue for the event. □



Education Building, McGill University, October 9, 2013
Photographer: Kristen Emmett.

MCGILL STUDENT CHAPTER SECTION

Bake Sale Fundraiser for Lac-Mégantic

Allison Smith

•••

The 2013-2014 academic year got off to a successful start with our first event: a bake sale fundraiser for the library in Lac-Mégantic, whose collection was destroyed in the disaster this summer. Selling delicious freshly-baked scones, cupcakes, brownies, and cookies—as well as spicy samosas during the lunch rush—we were able to raise over \$200 to contribute to the cause.

We would like to thank everyone who helped out or made a donation! □

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Corner of Westbury, 2 blocks east of Décarie**

The Twitter hashtag for the conference is #abqla14

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Are you interested in a chance to win an ABQLA Student Scholarship or Travel Bursary? ABQLA invites you to apply for the following awards:

1. The Student Scholarship Award, designed to recognize and reward an outstanding current or new ABQLA student member.
2. The Travel Bursary Award (2 recipients), designed to enable ABQLA members receiving the awards to participate in a conference relevant to their profession.

Please visit the Awards section of the ABQLA website for all the details <http://www.abqla.qc.ca/>

CONGRÈS DES MILIEUX DOCUMENTAIRE DU QUÉBEC 2013

Lisa Milner
•••

"Innovating, Exemplary Practices, Services and Policies" was the theme of the fifth edition of the Congrès des milieux documentaires du Québec 2013 which took place November 25 - 27th, 2013 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal. Over 1000 people attended to hear about innovative practices happening across the province and around the world. It was wonderful to see several ABQLA members attending and enjoying the conference. Your association was represented on the organizing committee by Heather Brydon and Lisa Milner and by Julian Taylor on the program committee.

The conference was opened by Ingrid Parent, IFLA President 2011-2013, who spoke about global trends impacting society and in turn libraries. The ABQLA was proud to sponsor keynote speaker Stephen Abram on November 26th, 2013. His talk, entitled "Cautionary Tales: FrankenLibraries or Librarytopia" was a fast, furious and frank discourse on how libraries (and librarians) must get over change and keep adapting. Libraries must learn to leverage and value their strengths and to position themselves for the 21st century. We must tell the stories of our successes and how we impact our communities – school, municipal or university and show that libraries give a great return on investment whether financially, socially or academically. According to Stephen, collecting circulation statistics is pointless and passé. It is necessary to raise awareness about the impact we create, which numbers might not always indicate. We need to hold our core values as a foundation upon which to build bold strategies for the future. We need to get with it or get out! Another inspiring speaker was Debbie Hicks of The Reading Agency, a national charity based in Great Britain, whose mission is to promote equal access to reading and often partners with libraries to achieve this. It was very interesting to hear of their work on the promotion of reading as a mental health tool linking those in the medical field to patients and libraries. Many other great talks were held. More information about these can be found on the conference website at www.milieudoc.ca.

The City of La Malbaie was awarded the prize for architecture for its' beautiful new library. The City of

Montreal Libraries won the 2013 prize for innovation for their project: Montreal Joue et l'Arène which saw 5000 people participate in games and gaming at the library during the spring break period. Our congratulations go out to them.

The next edition of the conference will be held on December 1-3, 2014. □

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PRESS RELEASE

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514 457-6610 Local 5470
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For Immediate Release:

Dollard-Des-Ormeaux Librarian Showcases Finnish Counterparts

Assunta Franco



*Left to Right: Tina Ferstman, Lise Brosseau (speaker),
Kataryna Bianchi and Angelina Petrella.*

Sainte-Anne-De-Bellevue, November 22, 2013. Lise Brosseau, Division Head – Library and Culture at Dollard-Des-Ormeaux Public Library, gave a presentation entitled, “Finnish Libraries: Inspiring!” to Information and Library Technologies (ILT) students, staff and invited guests at John Abbott College.

Ms. Brosseau’s PowerPoint presentation was based on her August 2012 attendance at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress in Helsinki. She visited 15 libraries in 12 days with a group of 36 librarians and students. “Finland is recognized internationally as a forerunner in the field of library science,” she said. “They have very high user and lending rates.” She went on to say that librarians in Finland are responsible for preserving, conserving and passing on the Finnish culture, and thanks to them and libraries, the Finnish

culture has survived. “There’s even a library museum in Vaasa!” she said.

The topics she covered were: a brief history of Finland; the Public Library Act; Finnish resources; human resources; statistics; architecture; furniture and design; new technologies; and the future of public libraries.

She explained that she enjoys seeing how other libraries are set up and operate. She showed the audience pictures of what really stood out for her: pianos in all the libraries in Seinajoki; chairs shaped like flowers, and a musical instrument section at the Turku Public Library; self-check and self-return stations in the Tampere Public Library; bookmobiles throughout Finland; a traveling Internet bus in Tampere, equipped with computers for teaching computer skills; “shopping baskets” at the Suomenlinna Public Library; and a reading section in a garden-like setting at the Turku Public Library. In Lahti librarians dress up as book characters to greet children, and at the Turku Public Library, a quilt made by local crafters is hung in the children’s section and used to tell a story.

Ms. Brosseau commented on the future of Finnish librarians, stating that like their North American counterparts, they wish for a free exchange of ideas, life-long learning, the skills to get along in the twenty-first century, information literacy, networking and collaboration.

The presentation was part of a series organized by a group of students from the Public Relations class. □

PRESS RELEASE

John Abbott College
Information and Library Technologies Department
514 457-6610 Local 5470
ilt@johnabbott.qc.ca



For Immediate Release:

Archivist Faces Challenges in the Eastern Townships

Evan Laverdiere

...



Left to Right: Information and Library Technologies students Raymond Frizzell, Caroline Kunz, speaker Jody Robinson, and students Tayisiya Pshenytska and Nicolas Roy.

St. Anne de Bellevue, October 18th, 2013. Archivist Jody Robinson of the Eastern Townships Resource Center (ETRC) held a seminar for Information and Library Technologies students and faculty on October 18. Robinson spoke of the difficulties archivists face when working in a small facility, ways of overcoming these difficulties, and the rewards for following this line of work.

Robinson explained that one challenge of working in small archives is a high turnover rate; since 2005, she has worked under three different directors at the ETRC. Additionally, such facilities suffer from a shortage of personnel; the ETRC has only one archivist and one director, both of whom work part-time. By extension, she states that people who work at small archives are often so busy that they do little actual archiving.

Apart from these human resources-related difficulties, Robinson also explained that archivists face significant financial challenges. Archival-quality conservation materials are expensive, and preparation of grant proposals can be a long and laborious process. In addition, not all archives have the funding to digitize their catalogues or maintain a good website and database. Training employees was another challenge Robinson mentioned, as it can be expensive to send them off to

take courses in a city three hours away.

Fortunately, Robinson revealed that there are ways to handle these challenges. One method is for archivists to respect their clientele and help them as much as possible; if the archives centre has a positive image with the community, it will be easier to get funding. Additionally, she suggested publishing a bi-monthly article in the local newspaper to raise interest in the collection. Charging membership fees and fundraising were other solutions she proposed.

Robinson concluded her seminar by discussing the benefits of working in small archives. She mentioned that one develops many different skills in this line of work, in such diverse fields as administration, finance, public relations, and more. One also becomes quite familiar with the collection, and works with researchers who sincerely appreciate the services the archivist provides.

Robinson answered questions from the audience. When one attendee asked her what the oddest request she'd ever received was, Robinson replied "men eating alone, together." This drew peals of laughter from the audience. □

PRESS RELEASE

John Abbott College
Information and Library Technologies Department
514 457-6610 Local 5470
ilt@johnabbott.qc.ca



For Immediate Release:

CTV News Librarian Describes Her Challenging Career

Evan Laverdiere



CTV News Librarian - Marta Piobici.

St. Anne de Bellevue, November 8th, 2013. CTV News Librarian Marta Piobici spoke to the students of John Abbott Information and Library Technologies program about "News Cataloguing in a Digital World". Piobici detailed the responsibilities her career entails, and how it has changed since she first took the position in 1979.

Piobici described the cataloguing system employed by CTV in 1979 as haphazard. All footage was shot on film, which Piobici then had to catalogue and store in cans; whenever reporters needed footage for their stories, it was her responsibility to find the film they wanted. Her job was complicated by the fact that the cans were opaque, meaning that she could not visually inspect films

to be sure the footage was correct.

In 1981 CTV began to employ Electronic News Gathering (ENG), and began shooting stories on three-quarter inch tapes. At first CTV only shot one or two stories on tape a week; by 1983, however, they had completely shifted from film to tape. Piobici found the transition made her job easier, because she was able to see what was on the tapes and thus could more easily retrieve whatever footage the reporters needed.

In 1990 CTV became computerized. Piobici found this a difficult time, as she was given no training in how to handle the new equipment and had to figure out how to set up a classification system on her own.

In 2012 CTV went digital, and Piobici described the transition as a shock. She was used to handling physical tapes that had to be shelved, and the lack of tangible material to handle was not easy to get used to. She was, however, given a training course in Toronto to help acclimatize her to this change.

No matter what format CTV uses to archive its records, Piobici finds her job very busy. She described how the news librarian has little discretion in how footage is handled; if a viewer calls in with a complaint about something in the footage, she must cut out the offending bit and ensure that the news librarians in other CTV offices across the nation do the same. Furthermore, she stated that when reporters are agitated, so too is the librarian. □

PRESS RELEASE

John Abbott College
Information and Library Technologies Department
514 457-6610 Local 5470
ilt@johnabbott.qc.ca



For Immediate Release:

Montreal's Deputy Mayor Returns to School

Maria Monteferrante

...

Deputy Mayor Jane Cowell-Poitras spoke to the Information and Library Technologies Department at John Abbott College on November 1 about the challenges of returning to school. She addressed many familiar faces, as she is currently a student in the department.

Cowell -Poitras' love of politics began with a kiss on the cheek from Pierre Elliott Trudeau when she was 15 years old, and it continues today. She has been a city councillor for Lachine since 1988. It is a very busy job requiring good customer service skills, and a lot of attention to detail. On a day-to-day basis there are many e-mails to answer and in today's environment, a lot of social media communications to monitor and respond to.

There are many social responsibilities that come with the position of City Councillor. But still more come with being Deputy Mayor. As Ms. Cowell-Poitras explained, one of her main duties was to attend events when the Mayor was unavailable. She shared some of these experiences.

She attended many flag raisings; she boarded a Korean Navy destroyer that came here to thank Canadians who helped in the Korean War. She has attended numerous galas and fund-raising events over the years. She has, as she put it, eaten endless holiday turkey dinners, sometimes all in the same day, before going home to her own family dinner.

Deputy Mayor Cowell-Poitras told us how the last years have been very challenging politically. She had a long working relationship with Mr. Gerald Tremblay and found it difficult when he called her into his office to tell her he was resigning and that in half an hour she would be Mayor. She found herself in a position that she never expected to be in, twice. She will forever be known as the deputy mayor who had to fill in twice.



Montreal's Deputy Mayor Jane Cowell-Poitras.

But as of November 3rd, 2013 she hands over the reins and becomes "plain Jane" once more. As a student at John Abbott, she has been able to feel right at home with her fellow classmates. She will now be able to finish the semester and concentrate on only being a mother, daughter, volunteer, and student. □

BOOK REVIEWS

Éthel Gamache

...

In Lucia's Neighborhood

Written by Pat Shewchuk; illustrated by Marek Colek
Kids Can Press, 2013

32 p.; \$18.95 (hardcover)

ISBN: 978-1-55453-420-3

Reviewed by Christine Smith

Ages 3-7

A classic story told through the eyes of a child *In Lucia's Neighborhood* invites the reader to explore all that happens on a typical day in this young girl's community. From dog walkers and merchants to parades and farmer's markets, Lucia tells the reader about what it's like to live in her neighborhood. Connecting it to her community's Portuguese-Canadian culture, Lucia talks of Jane Jacobs and the Senhor Da Pedra festival. The vivid illustrations bring to life the short poetic text of Lucia's narrative. The book is based on Montrose Avenue, Shewchuk and Colek's award-winning animated documentary about the Toronto street bearing the same name. A recommended purchase for libraries looking to expand their collections on communities and cultures. □



The Day My Mom Came to Kindergarten

Written by Maureen Fergus; illustrated by Mike Lowery
Kids Can Press, 2013

32 p.; \$18.95 (hardcover)

ISBN: 978-1-55453-698-6

Reviewed by Christine Smith

Ages 3-7

Sometimes Mom needs a little guidance when it comes to visiting kindergarten. "Listen." "Raise your hand." "Be polite." These were all rules in Mrs. Beaudry's kindergarten class, but Mom just didn't seem to understand! In *The Day My Mom Came to Kindergarten*, Fergus and Lowery play with role reversal as Mom is out of hand, and her daughter has to teach her how to be a polite, rule-following kindergarten visitor. For adults who have coached children through classroom rule following, this book will be a humorous hit. However, the satire may get lost on young children. □



Willow Finds a Way

Written by Lana Button; illustrated by Tania Howells

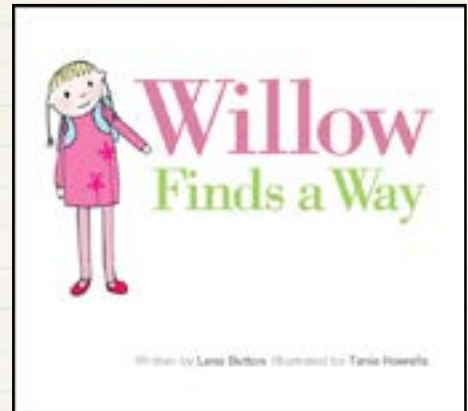
Kids Can Press, 2013

32 p.; \$18.95 (hardcover)

ISBN: 978-1-55453-842-3

Reviewed by Christine Smith

Ages 3-7



Standing up to bullies can be hard, especially when you want to be invited to their birthday party! That is exactly the challenge that Willow faces when she, and the rest of her class, get invited to Kristabelle's birthday bash. The only catch is they have to do exactly as Kristabelle says or "You are not my friend anymore and you can't come to my birthday party!" Willow tries hard to stand up to Kristabelle as her friends get uninvited from the birthday list for not following Kristabelle's rules, but she cannot seem to find the words. Will she find a way to tell Kristabelle that she is not being fair? A simple story accompanied with line drawn illustrations, this book is sure to connect with young readers. □

The Man with the Violin

Written by Kathy Stinson; illustrated by Dušan Petričić

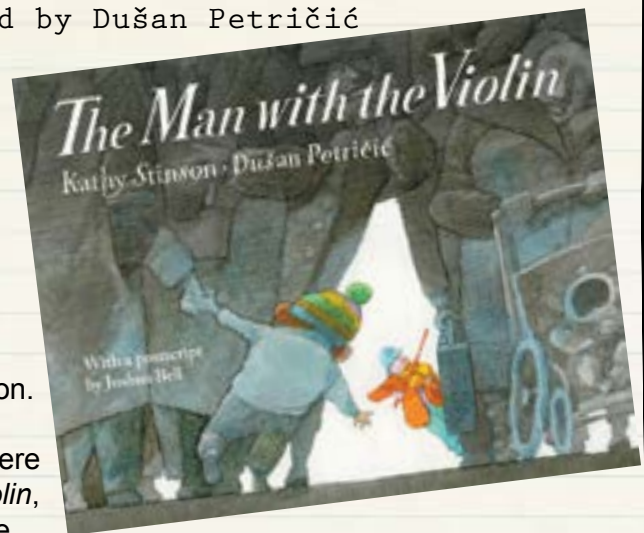
Annick Press, 2013

36 p.; \$19.95 (hardcover)

ISBN: 978-1-55451-565-3

Reviewed by Éthel Gamache

Ages 5-8



Do we take the time to appreciate life little wonders? An experiment was undertaken where the renowned American violinist Joshua Bell played his Stradivarius for more than 40 minutes in a Washington metro station. Of the thousands of commuters, few stopped to enjoy the performance. More children wanted to stop, but were ushered on by their guardian. In *The Man with the Violin*, we follow Dylan who notices his surroundings. We see how the music enchants him, the magical effects of discovering a taste for music.

The story is well written and develops softly. The illustrations are rich: the play with colours embodies the music, the use of simple dark scribbles, recalling grawlix, represents perfectly the sounds of a commute. Both the lyrics and graphics have a moving poetic quality.

This book allows children and adults alike to appreciate little day-to-day wonders, to find solace in a rushed world, and to discover the joys of music. To read with some 'Joshua Bell' on in the background! □

CRITIQUES DE LIVRES - DIRECTIVES DE SOUMISSION

Format

Merci de soumettre votre recension au format Word, en Times New Roman, taille 12 pt.

*Note : nommez le document comme suit : nom du livre, review, et vos initiales. Ex. : pactof-wolvesreviewLG.doc

Information bibliographique

Au début de la revue, merci d'indiquer l'information bibliographique dans l'ordre suivant : Auteur, Titre, Éditeur et date de publication, nombre de pages et prix, ISBN.

Corps de texte

En 150 mots environ, décrivez le livre en donnant suffisamment de détails utiles à ceux qui n'auraient pas vu le livre. Un court résumé de l'intrigue et une critique sont la formule du jour.

Vous trouverez ici une liste des aspects à prendre en considération pour la revue de différents genres:

Fiction

- Intrigue
- Développement des personnages
- Âge du public visé
- Style

Non-Fiction

- Plan
- Contenu
- Y a-t-il un index ? Un glossaire ?
- Une bibliographie ?
- L'auteur cite-t-il ses sources ?
- Âge du public visé

Livres imagés et bandes dessinées, assurez-vous de décrire les illustrations (quel genre ? sont-elles assorties au texte ?)

Envoyer vos recensions finalisées à:

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BOOK REVIEWS - SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Format

Please submit your review in a Word doc with 12 pt. Times New Roman font.

*Note: When saving, use the name of the book, review, and your initials as the title of the document. Eg: pactof-wolvesreviewLG.doc

Bibliographic information

At the beginning of the review, please include this information in the following order: Author, Title, Publisher & date of publication, Number of pages & price, ISBN.

Body of text

In about 150 words, give enough descriptive information to be useful to those who have not seen the book. A brief plot summary as well as a critique is the formula du jour.

Here is a checklist of aspects to consider when re-viewing different genres:

Fiction

- Plot
- Character development
- Age appropriateness
- Style

Non-Fiction

- Lay out
- Content
- Does it have an index? Glossary? Bibliography?
- Does it provide sources?
- Age appropriateness

Picture books and graphic novels, be sure to describe the illustrations (what kind? Are they appropriate for the text?)

Send your completed review to:

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Amy's Marathon of Books

Dear Book Lover,

My name is Amy Mathers and I am a volunteer for the Canadian Children's Book Centre. Born with a type of glycogen storage disease that is also known as a muscular dystrophy, I received a liver transplant at age five and a heart transplant when I was 27. An avid reader from a young age, I have volunteered in various libraries, worked as a bibliotherapist and taken part in a high school reading selection committee despite my physical challenges. Inspired by Terry Fox's and Rick Hansen's Canadian journeys, I decided to honour my passion for reading and Canadian teen literature through a year-long Marathon of Books.

On January 1st, 2014, I will begin my Marathon of Books to read across Canada. For a year, I will read one Canadian teen book a day and write a 100 to 250 word review to share my thoughts on the book. My intention is not only to raise awareness of quality Canadian teen fiction, but to solicit pledges and donations for the Canadian Children's Book Centre (www.bookcentre.ca) in order to fund a new teen book award to be included in the Canadian Children's Literature Awards. My goal is to raise at least \$100,000 in order to fund an annual \$5,000 award.

Using Terry Fox's statistics of being able to run a kilometre in approximately six minutes, I timed myself and realised I could read ten pages in the same amount of time. Thus, ten pages of text will count for one kilometre across Canada. I will start by reading books from Newfoundland authors, and make my way through all provinces and territories from east to west.

We're looking for book suggestions!

In the spirit of truly reading across Canada, I'm looking for book recommendations of authors from every province and territory. Book criteria are as follows:

- Authors must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada for at least two years
- Main character of the novel must be between the ages of 13 and 18
- Any year of publication is acceptable

If you have any book recommendations for my list, please email them to me at amydmathers@gmail.com or fill out the book suggestion form on my website by December 19th, 2013. If you know others who might also have book recommendations, please feel free to forward this email.

Participate in the 13 Book Challenge!

While I will be reading 365 books, I am encouraging teens and other teen fiction supporters to pick one teen book from each province and territory and complete their own book journeys across Canada! It's called the 13 Book Challenge! Participants can read for pleasure and visit the website to contribute their comments about the books or use the 13 Book Challenge to fundraise for the teen book award themselves through a printable fundraising form.

My Marathon of Books website can be found at www.amysmarathonofbooks.ca.

Thank you for your knowledgeable assistance in helping me develop an inclusive Canadian teen fiction reading list.

Sincerely yours,

Amy Mathers ☐

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