

Between the Lines

Express Yourself with Corn!

Corny Art is a creative art contest open to all ages. Create a mosaic using any form of corn (kernels, seeds, Indian corn, popcorn, husks, corn leaves or corn silk) glued onto cardstock or cardboard, up to 10 by 12 inches in size. Entries will be accepted September 10 through October 10 on second floor of the downtown Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 First Street SE.

Prizes will be awarded in three age divisions: youth through age 12; young adult ages 13-18; and adults 19+. All entries will be on display at the downtown Library. Judging will occur the week of October 10 with the winners announced the following week. Prizes may include books related to Iowa, art and/or Grant Wood. The corporate sponsor for this contest is ADM Corn Processing.



Books & More Debut in September

Each month (typically the second Monday) the Library will arrange for an author, illustrator, publicist or anyone connected with book-related materials to present his or her work and expertise during an evening program in Beems Auditorium.

The "Books & More: People Behind the Books" Library series will debut on Monday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m. Relive radio history

with author Jeff Stein as he discusses his book *Making Waves: The People and Places of Iowa Broadcasting*. The line-up continues in October with Thomas Flagel, author of *The History Buff's Guide to World War II*. November's speaker will be author Larry Stone and his book *Iowa: Portrait of the Land*.

Check online at www.crlibrary.org for more programs and program information.

Busy Summer Readers

Numbers are in for the 2005 Adult Summer Reading program. This year a whopping 658 persons registered with 288 completing the program, nearly doubling last year's figures! A big thanks to all who participated and helped promote Adult Summer Reading.

Lunch at the Library on Wednesdays

Join us the first Wednesday of each month at 12:15 p.m. in Beems Auditorium for Brown Bag Briefings – 30-minute programs on a variety of topics from gardening to travel to smart investing. On the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, enjoy an hour of free live music in Jem's Deli (on second floor of the downtown Library) starting at noon.

There's always something worth 'checking out' at the Library!

The Next Chapter

Newsletter of the Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation

A Grand Day of Celebration and Visioning

On September 30, the Cedar Rapids Public Library will take the unusual step of closing its doors for a day to celebrate important milestones in its history and set its sights on the future.

Called "Admiration for the Past and a New Vision for the Future," the day will bring together Library staff members, leadership boards, volunteers and supporters for a series of programs and discussions encouraging participants to look back with gratitude and forward with imagination. Funding for the day's special events has been provided by the CRPL Foundation and Friends of the Library.

Foundation Director Amy Geiger says this major occasion has multiple purposes. "We will celebrate 20 years in our downtown building and the recent installation of the Library's Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system, honor the Hall-Perrine Foundation for its outstanding friendship over the years, provide a staff enrichment opportunity, and envision our library's future in the community." All of these objectives are interrelated, she explains.

"When you look back in history, there were six attempts to build a new library in our community," says Geiger. "The Hall-Perrine Foundation stepped forward boldly and said that they would give this significant amount to start the process. That was the driving force that led to this building."

The Hall-Perrine's \$6.8 million gift – the largest the library has ever received and the largest the private foundation has ever awarded – was given with two conditions: that the city donate the site and the newly formed Library Foundation raise an additional \$1 million in private funds. That was soon accomplished, and the new building was opened in February of 1985.

"It was a huge community effort to raise the money and complete the building project," says Geiger. "It's still a rare example of cooperation between a city, a private foundation and the community. After 20 years, it's time to say thank you once again and tell the community we're excited about the future."

Exciting developments ahead

Staff enrichment activities planned for the day reflect another priority of the Library director and Trustees, Geiger says. "To close the Library for a day is a major thing; they wanted to take the time to invest in our staff and give them the tools they need to do their jobs well. The staff is a high priority for the Library and the Foundation, and staff members have been involved in planning this day."

James Lichtenberg, president of Lightspeed LLC of New York, will be the keynote speaker at the day-time staff program and evening events. His topic is one of the Library's most important recent

developments – the installation of RFID, also known as the Intelligent Library System. Lichtenberg is a nationally known expert in the fields of publishing and information technology and has worked extensively with the American Library Association on the introduction of new technologies.

The largest project ever funded by the CRPL Foundation, RFID is a collections management tool that uses coded computer chips implanted in books to facilitate automated check-in and check-out, inventory control and loss prevention.

"The benefits of RFID are not only for libraries but for patrons," says Lichtenberg in a preview of his comments. "Libraries are really leaders in publishing technology, going out on the edge to provide readers and viewers with the best access to information. RFID is the next step, with enormous benefits for patrons, especially as staff members can be better employed to assist them."



*Keynote speaker
Jim Lichtenberg
will discuss the ways
new information
technologies are
enhancing library
services.*


Cedar Rapids Public Library
FOUNDATION

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OUR MISSION

The Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation enhances the quality of the Cedar Rapids Public Library services to the community by securing resources to support library programs and projects not normally met by public funding.

'Celebrity Librarians' Encourage Reading through CRPL Posters

Regular visitors to the Cedar Rapids Public Library are likely familiar with the READ posters developed by the American Library Association to encourage reading among people of all ages, interests and walks of life. Each one features a large photo of a famous person with his or her favorite book – from Oprah Winfrey holding *Beloved* by Toni Morrison to race car driver Matt Kenseth with John Grisham's *The Testament*.

This summer, the library began producing its own series of posters featuring its very own "celebrity librarians."

"Our new director, Lori Barkema, suggested that we create posters using our own staff as celebrities," says Amy Ackman, Library Materials and Reference Assistant, "and the Library Foundation offered to fund the project as a creative and fun way to honor our staff."

Because the READ concept is trademarked, Ackman worked with Nancy Olinger, CRPL Community Programs Specialist, to develop a distinct theme and design for the Library's posters. Each one says "DISCOVER... What's at Your Library" and presents a member of the library staff in a setting that reflects a personal passion.

Three 13-by-19-inch color posters were produced over the

summer and eight more were unveiled at a September 8 staff meeting. Each features a staff member who has received the City of Cedar Rapids "years of service" award recognizing five-year increments of service.

"It's an assortment of staff members," says Ackman, who is the project photographer. "They get to pick their theme, location and book, they help choose the photo that we use, and they choose where their poster is displayed at the library."

Staff members have really enjoyed the process and prepared thoughtfully for their modeling debuts, relates Ackman. For example, Materials Services staff member Gerry Hopkins, an avid bow hunter, "went to great lengths and did a lot of creative thinking" to come up with his pose – wearing camouflage and perched in a tree.

"Most people are excited and want extra copies," she says, noting that each staff member also receives a framed 5-by-7-inch copy of the poster. "Each year, we will create new DISCOVER posters for those staff members who are recognized by the city for their milestone years of service."

The next time you visit the library, be sure to search out the posters

featuring the celebrity librarians who are helping you discover what's at your library.



Bow hunter Gerry Hopkins from the Library's Materials Services staff, quilter Jolene Hiting of Programming Services, and golfer Jill Messerli from Public Services are among those who have been featured on the CRPL's new DISCOVER posters.

At a Glance: Admiration for the Past and a New Vision for the Future

The Library's special celebration on September 30 will include a range of programs and activities for Library staff members and community supporters. Here is the line-up of events:

The *Turn Over a New Leaf* Staff Development Day, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., will offer sessions on:

Tai Chi: A time of stretching, deep breathing and relaxation.

Personality Assessment: A self-assessment exercise to help library staff members better understand themselves and their co-workers.

Keynote speaker James Lichtenberg: A look at the impact of new information technologies, including the Intelligent Library System or RFID.

Personal safety: Advice and tips on personal safety from the Cedar Rapids Police Department's Public Safety Officer.

Power of 100: Attitude and Motivation: A presentation on the role of attitude and motivation in propelling an organization to greatness.

At an evening dinner, keynote James Lichtenberg will speak on the topic of "Reaping the Benefits of RFID for Libraries and Their Readers." A reception for library friends and supporters will be held in the Library's first-floor lobby beginning at 7:30, with a program following at 8:30 in Beems Auditorium. At this event, the Hall-Perrine Foundation will be honored for its pivotal support of the Library and James Lichtenberg will speak about the emerging role of the public library in the community.

New Titles Honor Treasured Friends

Library supporters often purchase books for the Library in memory or honor of loved ones or friends. Here are a few of the books that have been added to the shelves recently thanks to memorial and gift book contributions.

Adult Books

World War II Day by Day, by Michael Armitage
The Five People You Meet in Heaven, by Mitch Albom
Sinatra: The Life, by Robby Swan
Oh Sew Cozy Flannel Quilts, by Lynette Jensen
The Mermaid Chair, by Sue Monk Kidd
Blue Dahlia, by Nora Roberts
Poland, by James Michener

Children's Books

The Royal Mice, by Loretta Krupinski
Thumbelina, by Brad Sneed
Kids Can Sew, by Beverley Alvarez
Me Baby You Baby, by Ashley Wolff
Big Book of Kid's Crafts
Saving Strawberry Farm, by Deborah Hopkinson
"A" Was Once an Apple Pie, by Suse MacDonald



Enjoy the View!

Just recently I took a bold step and purchased my first set of reading glasses. I still wear them only in the privacy of my own home, but what a difference they have made! Yes, I look back fondly at the days when reading a menu, book, label, recipe or program was done with such ease. Those were the good old days. However, as time passes I must admit that having a little help to see things more clearly is a good thing.

I do hope that you will join us as we take a look back to celebrate how far we have come. Many of you may have fond memories of helping with the door-to-door fundraising or serving on one of the many committees that were instrumental in turning the dream of a new library into reality. What a tremendous effort and outpouring of support. Over the last 20 years much has taken place that we can all take pride in. Millions of books have been circulated, many people have come through our doors, thousands of programs have been offered, and the library continues to play a vital role in our community.

As we look back fondly at our past, it is with excitement and a clear vision that we look ahead to what awaits us. I invite you to grab your glasses and join us as we look to the future of our public library.

Amy Geiger, Director
CRPL Foundation

