



Lifelong Access

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Vandra Thorburn

LIBRARY LEADERS CHOSEN FOR “LIFELONG LIBRARIES” INSTITUTE *LFF to Train 20 Fellows to Revitalize Libraries for Baby Boomers*

NEW YORK – June 13, 2008 —Libraries for the Future (LFF) today announced the selection of **20 Lifelong Access Fellows**, who will join a national network of librarians committed to transforming library services for active older adults. A record number of librarians applied for limited fellowships to the third annual *Lifelong Access Libraries Leadership Institute*, marking the growing recognition of this critical growth area for today’s libraries.

The *Lifelong Access Libraries Leadership Institute* is part of a multi-year national Lifelong Access Libraries Initiative that is aimed at transforming library services for older adults with opportunities for active learning, creative exploration, and meaningful civic engagement. The Initiative is led by Libraries for the Future, a national non-profit organization dedicated to increasing innovation and investment in the nation’s libraries, and supported by generous funding from the Atlantic Philanthropies.

“Lifelong Fellows are pioneers in their profession,” said Diantha Dow Schull, director of the national Lifelong Access Libraries Initiative. “Just as it took dedicated professionals to institutionalize library services for children, and to build partnerships between libraries and health educators, so we now need professionals dedicated to bringing about change in the ways that librarians work with mid-life adults,” said Schull.

The 2008 Lifelong Fellows will participate in the third annual Institute in North Carolina July 27–July 30, 2008. The Institute will be co-hosted by the University of North Carolina’s School of Information and Library Science and the Institute on Aging. It will assemble leading experts in diverse areas of creative aging – from anthropology to neuroscience – to spark creative thinking on the most effective ways for libraries to connect older adults to opportunities for personal and community renewal.

LFF selected the 2008 Fellows through a competitive proposal review. They hail from 15 states, representing public libraries providing services to communities as small as St. Helena (CA) and as large as New York City. All leaders in their libraries, the Fellows were selected for their commitment to furthering their libraries’ work with active older adults. Many have already pioneered projects expanding library outreach to this population.

A full list of this year’s Fellows is attached. Brief profiles of each fellow will be posted within the month to the [Lifelong Access Libraries website \(www.lifelonglibraries.org\)](http://www.lifelonglibraries.org).

The Lifelong Access Libraries Initiative

The annual Lifelong Access Libraries Leadership Institutes focus on four areas: (1) concepts and research underlying new approaches to working with midlife and older adults (2) leadership and skills in community librarianship; (3) the core components of the Lifelong Access Libraries service framework; and (4) promising practices in library service for active older adult.



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Confirmed speakers at the Institute include neuroscientist Paul Nussbaum; sociologist and aging specialist Victor Marshall; philosopher and AARP Academic Advisor H. Rick Moody; and anthropologist and author Mary Catherine Bateson, as well as Fellows who have participated in earlier Institutes and can offer firsthand reports of their challenges and successes.

Following the Institute, Fellows will be linked electronically in a national community of practice based on information exchange and communication. Insights and recommendations from the Lifelong Institute will be captured on the Lifelong Access Libraries website, www.lifelonglibraries.org, where there is more information about the Institute and the Initiative—as well as insights and themes from the 2006 and 2007 Institutes can be found.

Among those to recognize the Lifelong Access Libraries Initiative as a revolutionary and successful approach to addressing the needs of boomers and their communities is the California State Library. “Libraries are uniquely positioned to help ensure that our communities benefit from the skills and experience of baby boomers,” said Susan Hildreth, California State Librarian. “They are ideally suited to capitalize on older adults’ interests in learning and service.” Last year, California partnered with LFF to launch a California-wide initiative modeled on Lifelong Access Libraries, with a fall institute entitled “Transforming Life After 50.”

For more information on the *Lifelong Access Libraries Leadership Institute*, please visit www.lifelonglibraries.org.

About Lifelong Access Libraries and Libraries for the Future

Lifelong Access Libraries is an initiative developed by Libraries for the Future, a national nonprofit that promotes investment and innovation in America’s libraries. Through cutting-edge programs, research, re-grants and trainings, LFF helps local libraries address the ever-changing needs of their communities. For more information, please visit www.lff.org

About The Atlantic Philanthropies

[The Atlantic Philanthropies](http://www.atlanticphilanthropies.org) is dedicated to bringing about lasting changes in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. Through its ageing program, it seeks to bring about lasting improvements in the lives of older adults, transform how ageing is viewed within society, and improve the way older persons are treated by society. www.atlanticphilanthropies.org.

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2008 Lifelong Access Libraries Fellows

Ismael Alicea

Coordinator, Office of Community Outreach
New York Public Library (NY)

Susan Angelow

Branch Manager
Brunswick County Library (NC)

Jennifer Baker

Library Director
St. Helena Public Library (CA)

Carolyn Caywood

Bayside and Special Services Librarian
Virginia Beach Public Library (VA)

Barry Hensley

Manager, Zarrow Regional Library
Tulsa City County Library (OK)

Alice Knapp

Director of Public Services
Ferguson Library (CT)

Dr. Sue Loper

Library Director
Warren County Memorial Library (NC)

Melinda Ludwiczak

Coordinator for Arts and Business Partnerships
Hennepin County Library (MN)

Ruthie Maslin

Manager, Outreach Services
Lexington Public Library (KY)

Patricia Ann McCarthy

Manager of Volunteer Services
Northland Public Library (PA)

Ellen Mehling

Outreach Librarian
Queens Library (NY)

Tom Moran

Adult Programming and Outreach Manager
Austin Public Library (TX)

Karen Neely

Department Head, Outreach Services
Daniel Boone Regional Library (MO)

Barbara Nightingale

Reference Librarian
San Dimas Library (CA)

Satia Orange

Director, Office for Literacy and Outreach Services
American Library Association (IL)

Greg Poe

Information Services Librarian
Burke County Public Library (NC)

Michele Raine

Manager, Reference Services
Fayetteville Public Library (AR)

Luba Sawczyn

Head of Reference
Chapel Hill Public Library (NC)

Terry Soave

Manager of Outreach and Neighborhood Services
Ann Arbor District Library (MI)

Beth Wiseman

Library Public Information and Programming
Specialist
Loudoun County Public Library (VA)