

Art in the Public ... Library

Saturday May 3, 2008 - 2:00pm - 3:30pm - Mt. Evans B Room

This session will introduce ARLIS/NA members with the art resources available at public libraries. Topics will include art exhibitions, partnerships with academic libraries, and Friends of the Library groups that support many public libraries. Each of these topics will enlighten all art librarians about potential partnerships and encourage everyone to visit their local public library.

Moderator: Alyssa Resnick, Brand Library

Speakers:

Cathy Billings, Brand Library

**First Exposures: Contemporary Art Exhibitions
in Public Libraries**

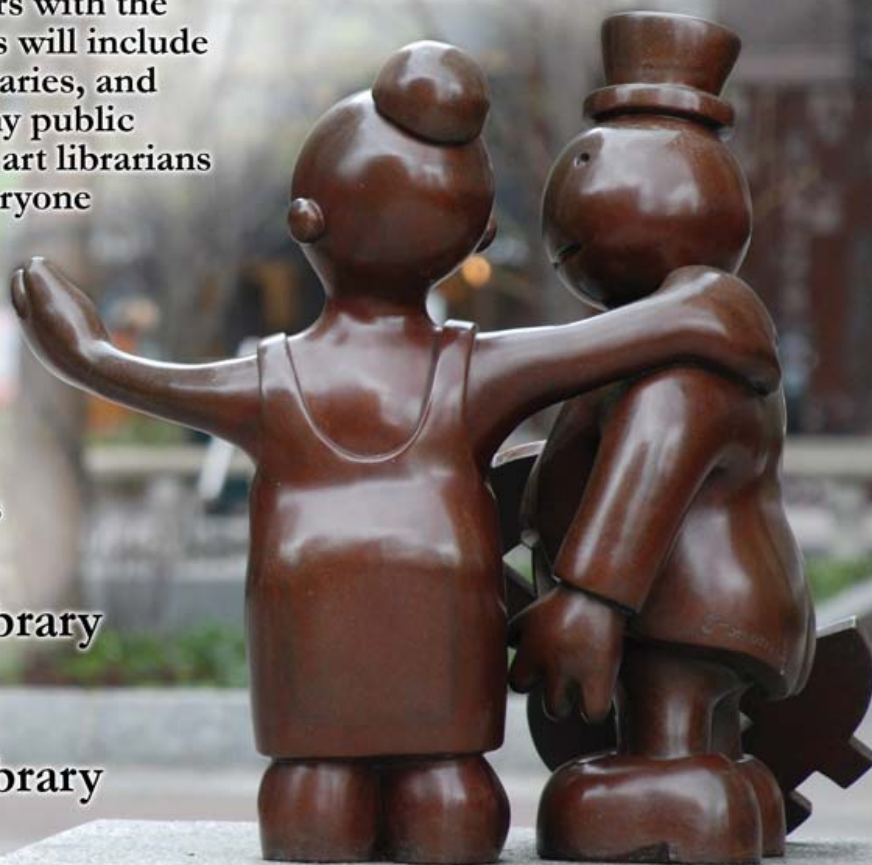
Pam Eyerdam, Cleveland Public Library

**Building Partnerships in Art Libraries:
Public and Academic Libraries**

Mary Stark, Beverly Hills Public Library

Friend in Need...Friend Indeed!

Partnerships with Friends of the Library



Cleveland Public Library
Eastman Reading Garden
Sculptures by Tom Otterness

HELLO and welcome! I'm Alyssa Resnick, the moderator of the Public Librarians Round Table and moderator for this session. I am currently the Senior Library Supervisor at the Brand Library in Glendale, CA which is the art & music section of the Glendale Public Library. Few public librarians are able to attend specialized conferences like ARLIS but those of us who can have been meeting as an official Round Table since 2005. Prior to that there was public library division. As a round table we decided to propose a session that would introduce all ARLIS members to the various arts resources and services that are offered within public libraries. We also felt that this would be useful for those wanting to work in public libraries but it could also benefit academic or museum librarians by offering new ideas. Thus the session ***Art in the Public ... Library*** was developed and we were thrilled to have it accepted for the 36th annual ARLIS/NA conference.

I will first briefly introduce you to the speakers and their topics and then we will begin with the presentations. I will take a couple of questions immediately following each speaker but then additional questions can be asked at the end as time permits. The Public Librarians Round Table will be meeting at 3:45 in this room so additional questions or discussion can continue at the round table meeting.

The first speaker is my colleague **Cathy Billings** and she is the art librarian and gallery manager at the Brand Library. She earned her BA in art history at the University of Oregon and her MLIS at the University of Washington. Prior to working at the Brand Library she was manager of a large scale information systems project at the University of Washington and the Director of Administration at the Mercantile Library of New York in New York City. She currently serves as the chair of the ARLIS/NA Internship Award Sub-committee. Cathy's presentation *First Exposures: Contemporary Art Exhibitions in Public Libraries* will focus on results from a recent survey she conducted and include examples of gallery exhibitions from select public libraries.

Pam Eyerdam has been the Fine Arts & Special Collections Manager at the Cleveland Public Library since June 2005. Her previous positions were in academia as the Fine Arts & Visual Resources (Art History Slide Librarian) at Cleveland State University and the University of Akron. She has over 20 years experience as a Fine Arts librarian. Pam is also the author of the 2003 publication, *Using Internet Primary Sources to Develop Critical Thinking Skills in the Visual Arts*, published by Libraries Unlimited. Ms. Eyerdam has a Bachelors of Arts and a Masters Degree in Art History. Pam's paper *Building Partnerships in Art Libraries: Public and Academic Libraries* will center on her own experience in partnerships between the Cleveland Public Library and nearby universities as well as other similar partnerships. Pam is also responsible for creating this great flyer for our session.

The final speaker, **Mary Stark**, is a former colleague of mine at Brand Library and we also had the opportunity to work together during our time at UCLA in library school. Mary is now Fine Arts Librarian at Beverly Hills Public Library. Her book, *The Professional A.C.T.—Acting, Communication, Technique*, is published by Metamorphous Press. Mary created a one-woman-show, *White Ashes: The Life and Writing of Harriet Beecher Stowe*, which she performed at the National Portrait Gallery and the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institute, and at the Beecher Family Reunion. Her paper *Friends in Need...Friends Indeed! Partnerships with Friends of the Library* will introduce you to the concept of a Friends of the Library group and also detail the history and current status of the Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library.

Thank you for all attending this session today and I also want to thank the 3 speakers for agreeing to participate in this session and for working so hard to develop their presentations! So, without further ado Cathy will begin!