MINUTES/NOTES

Attendees: Alyssa Resnick (SIG coordinator, Glendale PL), Cathy Billings (Brand Library/ Glendale PL), Clayton Kirking (New York PL), Karen Lightner (Free Library of Philadelphia), Mary Stark (Beverly Hills PL), Elizabeth Marshak (Correctional Training Facility), Pam Eyerdam (Cleveland PL), Susan Chute (New York PL)

Introductions – the members each went around and introduced themselves to the group and mentioned some recent changes or issues at their institution.

Alyssa - Glendale Public Library
- Two managers are responsible for 2 branches each because of a recent management reorganization
- Only the Central Library is open on Sundays and only p-t staff are used (except for one full-timer at circ on most Sundays).

Karen - Free Library of Philadelphia
- Only the Central Library is open on Sundays and funded with donation money.
- They have ca. 13 branch vacancies
- Some branches have paired their hours so one is open Monday-Friday and the other is open Tuesday- Saturday.

Susan – New York Public Library
- She asked how we can leverage our specialty to the entire library system.
- And she also commented that we have to decide if we want to fight against changes or learn to live with them.

Mary – Beverly Hills Public Library
- BHPL has begun cross training of generalists, children’s and art.
- A generalist was weeding Graphic Novels from the collection (741s) and continued weeding extensively beyond that area of 741’s to include the circulating 700’s in general without Mary’s knowledge.

Pam – Cleveland Public Library
- Pam was temporarily a branch manager while continuing her duties in art but that did not work.
- Now that the branches are familiar with her and her expertise they are calling on her for assistance with such things as displays.
- She is now somewhat of the “exhibit” coordinator but prefers this instead of being a branch manager.
Cleveland is doing much weeding and not considering transferring materials to the branches. If something has not circulated in 6 months is gets weeded.

Minneapolis program ideas

Based on the introductory comments by members the topic of Survival techniques for Art Librarians at Public Libraries was suggested by Clayton. Several members then mentioned various new responsibilities they are being asked to do that could be presented during a session in Minneapolis.

- Blogs, Twitter, Online Exhibits (Susan – her staff is becoming responsible for these, and it helps redefine one’s job)
- Art librarian doing graphic design (Cathy)
- FLP Prints & Picture Collection does an annual fundraiser event and silent auction. Exhibits used to just be from the collection and now Karen is bringing in outside artists.
- Web 2.0 to promote collections to increase statistics. Pam is adding all finding aids to their blog to promote use.
- NYPL is using Voice Thread to mount online exhibits and can include comments, video and audio. It can be embedded into the library’s website and is meant to be interactive.
- NYPL is actively using Twitter.
- Floating collections: NYPL is doing this but not at the main branch. Art holds go to 5 of the 80 branches.
- Are libraries doing extended loans of art titles to their branches?

Alyssa will put together a program proposal for the 2011 conference.

Final topics

- Alyssa will ask TEI for a separate listserv for the Public Librarians SIG.
- Alyssa will write up notes to share with those that attended and those that indicated they were interested in the SIG. The notes can also be shared once the listserv is set up.