

OLBPD DIMENSIONS NEWSLETTER

**Ohio Library for the Blind & Physically Disabled
At Cleveland Public Library**

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The Year in Review, and Moving Forward to 2013

As 2012 quickly comes to an end, the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD) has enjoyed another busy, productive, and successful year. OLBPD circulated over 795,000 items to 15,609 active readers. The collection is now more than 67,000 titles, including new Playaway books as well as Blu-Ray and DVD titles. Patrons using OHIO-BARD downloaded over 111,000 books and magazines. OLBPD inspected over 347,000 returned books and more than 3,000 were damaged or missing media. OLBPD repaired over 4,600 cassette and digital talking books and added over 4,600 copies of high-demand digital talking books to meet patron reading needs. OLBPD answered over 25,000 patron phone calls requesting service and over 8,100 mail and email requests.

In 2012, OLBPD resumed offering talking books of local interest to our readers thanks to our partnership with VOICEcorps reading service in Columbus. DCL 00001 "Colo's Story: The Life of One Grand Gorilla" by Nancy Roe Pimm was added to the collection. More titles will continue to be added over the next year. OLBPD and the State Library of Ohio Talking Book Program worked cooperatively throughout 2012 on a marketing and promotional campaign to help raise public awareness about our service. OLBPD produced a public service announcement that will air on radio and television throughout the State of Ohio promoting our service. State Library of Ohio sent letters to all of Ohio's public library directors encouraging them to help promote OLBPD in their libraries. Over 750 promotional kits containing OLBPD tabletop displays and brochures were distributed to Ohio public libraries.

This year has definitely raised the bar for us in 2013. In 2013, we hope to continue providing readers with the best service possible and keep building on and improving services. OLBPD plans to maintain the momentum of our promotion activities while also planning more outreach activities for patrons across the State like Family Fun and Learning Days in 2013 in Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati. Our goal is to build more meaningful and stronger connections with our readers across the State of Ohio.

Our patrons continue to be our strongest advocates so please tell anyone who could benefit from and is eligible for service about OLBPD. Thank you for a great 2012 and all of your continued support, and we will be working hard for an even better year in 2013.

Save the Date: Family Fun and Learning “Days” in 2013

OLBPD will host three Family Fun and Learning Day events in 2013. On Wednesday, July 10, 2013 OLBPD will host its first Family Fun and Learning Day at the Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Cincinnati. On Wednesday, August 14, 2013, OLBPD will host its first Family Fun and Learning Day at the State Library of Ohio in Columbus. Finally, on Wednesday, September 11, 2013, OLBPD will host its 19th annual Family Fun and Learning Day in Cleveland at OLBPD. More event and program details will be announced in future editions of the Dimensions newsletter.

Equipment Update

The National Library Service (NLS) is introducing stereo headphones (stock number AC023) for use with the digital talking-book machine (DTBM). The headphones are compatible with both the standard model (DS1) and the advanced model (DA1) Digital Talking Book Machine. The headphones connect directly to the green headphone jack located on the right-hand side of the digital player. This accessory should only be used with DS1 or DA1 players and is not compatible with C1 players.

NLS is also introducing a new accessory for use with digital talking-book machines (DTBMs), the breath switch adapter (stock number AC022). The accessory is compatible with both the standard model (DS1) and the advanced model (DA1) DTBM. The adapter allows for use of the existing NLS breath switch (stock number AC009) to control the Play/Stop function of the digital player. The adapter should be connected to the AT port of the player using the USB right angle adapter (stock number AC020) to reduce the potential for damage to both the player and the breath switch adapter. The breath switch does not have the ability to control power therefore the player should always be connected to AC power when using the breath switch. Any patrons interested in more information about these accessories or ordering these items should contact the State Library of Ohio Talking Book Program at 1-800-686-1531.

Emergency Closings

On Friday, November 2, OLBPD was closed due to power outages in the City of Cleveland caused by Hurricane Sandy. As winter arrives, OLBPD could also close due to inclement weather and power outages. Patrons should be aware that when OLBPD loses power, it also shuts down our phone system until power is restored. When possible, OLBPD will attempt to alert patrons through our web site or voice mail greeting when the library is closed. OLBPD will also alert the State Library of Ohio of any emergency closing. Any messages or service requests received will be answered as soon as possible.

ACB-Ohio Reading Braille: The Touch of Wonder

“Reading Braille: The Touch of Wonder” is a program developed and conducted by The American Council of the Blind of Ohio. The Reading Braille Program includes children attending school in Ohio who are blind or visually impaired between the ages of ten and seventeen. In order to participate in the program, you must fill out an Application Form and send it in with your essay of between two hundred and four hundred words on the topic of "Why I Enjoyed Reading This Book." The book is any book that you chose to read and which gave you both enjoyment and a new insight into yourself and other people. You must read your selected book in Braille or large print. Each applicant who submits a completed application and an acceptable essay will receive a book of his or her choice selected from the Seedlings Catalogue, and he or she will be entered in an essay contest which may win him or her any one of three prizes. The essay contest is named the Arlene Cohen Braille Essay Contest in memory of Arlene Cohen, an outstanding and dedicated teacher and former president of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio. There are three prizes: first prize \$150, second prize \$100, and third prize \$75 for each of two age groups, 10- to 13-year-old contestants and 14- to 17-year-old contestants.

ACB-Ohio will accept applications from January 14 to March 1, 2013. Winners will be presented with their monetary awards at their school, at a location near their home, or in Columbus at the ACB-Ohio state convention. Please include the title and author of a book you would like to own from the Seedlings Catalogue on the application. A book will be awarded to each contestant who submits a satisfactory essay. Please note: Only one entry per person. Send your completed applications and essays to:

**Arlene Cohen Braille Essay Contest
in c/o Joyce Rogers
1121 Morado Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45238**

If you have any questions, you may contact Joyce Rogers via e-mail at jarogers@one.net or call (513) 921-3186. To print out the Application Form, go to the web site: WWW.ACBOHIO.ORG/TOUCH-OF-WONDER. The Seedlings web site is WWW.SEEDLINGS.ORG.

Receiving Books around the Holidays

OLBPD would like to remind our readers to place their book orders early to ensure that patrons will have enough books to get them through the holiday season. Patrons can call OLBPD at 216-623-2911 or 1-800-362-1262 or by email at OLBPD@cpl.org to make arrangements for book service around the holidays or to make any changes to their service.

Recommended Reading from OLBDP Staff

Here are new reading recommendations from OLBDP staff. Remember that staff may recommend books that contain sex, strong language, or violence, so be sure to check before ordering.

Carol: "Pioneer Woman" by Ree Drummond – DB 73279; Autobiography

Michael: "Cross Country" by James Patterson – DB 72450; Suspense

Rose: "The Silent Girl" by Tess Gerritsen – DB 73310; Mystery and Suspense

Stephanie: "Last of the Breed" by Louis L'Amour – DB 23910; Adventure

Will: "11/22/63" by Stephen King - DB 73931; Fiction and Supernatural

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I'm not getting enough books. Can I get more books, including digital books?

A: Yes. Contact OLBDP to request increasing the amount of books you receive.

Q: Is there a limit on the number of books I can download through BARD?

A: No. There is no limit on the amount of books you can download on BARD.

Season's Greetings

In keeping with the traditional season's greeting, the staff of OLBDP wishes you a happy holiday season, and peace, good health and good reading in the New Year.



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