



Saskatchewan School Library Association Executive Newsletter

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The SSLA Executive would like to extend all members best wishes for the New Year. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break and have returned to work feeling rejuvenated.



Conference 2009

Good news! Plans are now being finalized for this year's SSLA conference. The SSLA has entered into a partnership with the Saskatchewan Education Technology Consortium for a joint conference entitled *E-merging Learning*. We are very excited about this year's keynote speakers:

Jamie McKenzie

<http://www.edtech.com/notmckenzie.htm>,

David Warlick

<http://www.edtech.com/notwarlick.htm>,

and members of *Telling a New Story*:

Dean Shareski

<http://ideasandthoughts.org/>,

Clarence Fisher

http://classblogmeister.com/blog.php?blogger_id=2734,

Darren Kuropatwa

<http://adifference.blogspot.com/>,

and Kathy Cassidy

http://classblogmeister.com/blog.php?blogger_id=1337&l=1143592742.



Upcoming Events

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, March 23 from 4:00-5:00 pm. After the A.G.M., the annual SSLA awards ceremony and a 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held. As details are finalized, information will be posted on the [SSLA website](#) and published in *The Medium*, *The Bulletin* and *Outreach*.



SSLA Awards and Bursaries

Do you know someone who is dedicated to school libraries and teacher-librarianship? Consider nominating a deserving individual for one of the following awards:

❖ **Art Forgay Award of Distinction**
Awarded annually to recognize administrators who have direct

responsibility for a school or group of schools, and who have demonstrated commitment toward establishing or developing effective school library programs.

❖ **Connie Acton Award of Merit**

Awarded annually to recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution to school library service in Saskatchewan.

❖ **John G. Wright Distinguished Service Award**

Awarded annually to recognize individuals who throughout their careers have made outstanding contributions to school library service in Saskatchewan.

❖ **Dr. Alix Hambleton Bursary**

Valued at \$500 and offered annually to a Saskatchewan student who is registered at a recognized Canadian university in an undergraduate or graduate program in the field of school librarianship.

More information for the above awards and bursary can be found at <http://www.ssla.ca/awards/awards.htm>
The deadline is quickly approaching!

Please forward all applications to Charlene Leaderhouse at cleaderhouse@cec.pacsd6.sk.ca



The Medium

The Medium is a publication of the SSLA to provide information of a professional development nature applicable to school library personnel. The [Winter 2009 issue](#) is now available. Please consider [submitting](#) to *The Medium*.

Ministry of Education

The past year has been a paradox of events in regards to teacher-librarianship and school libraries. The release of the *Connections* document was an exciting highlight. The elimination of the Curriculum Actualization Consultant position and the closing of the Instructional Resources Branch was definitely a low point. Please read the president's message from the [fall 2008 issue](#) of *The Medium*.



Curriculum Renewal

We are currently in an exciting and challenging time as the renewed curricula are being implemented in our schools. Inquiry and information literacy are woven throughout the curricula. Links between subject areas are an important component. The role of the Teacher-Librarian has never been more valuable and advocacy is more important than ever. To help you stay abreast of curricula changes, please see the Sask. Learning links:

<http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/curr-rsces>
<http://www.education.gov.sk.ca/curriculum%20renewal%20presentations>



Quotes

Unless you try to do something beyond what you have mastered, you will never grow.

~C.R. Lawton~

Through literacy you can begin to see the universe. Through music you can reach anybody. Between the two there is you, unstoppable.

~Grace Slick~

Newsletter compiled by C. Leaderhouse,
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