

# Libraries & Archives Monthly

News from the Kentucky Department  
for Libraries and Archives

May 2013

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## Check Out Your Community

By Amanda Gilmore  
Community Relations  
Coordinator  
Boyd County Public Library

Boyd County Public  
Library (BCPL) introduces  
its new initiative, Check  
Out Your Community.

## Kentucky Poet Laureate Inducted Before Record Crowd

By Emily B. Moses  
Communications Director  
Kentucky Arts Council

On April 24, Lexington  
writer Frank X Walker  
was officially inducted as  
Kentucky poet  
laureate during the  
Kentucky Writer's Day  
celebration at the Capitol  
Rotunda in Frankfort.



Kentucky Writer's Day is an annual event organized by the Kentucky Arts Council that celebrates the Commonwealth's strong literary history. It is observed on the birth date of Kentucky native Robert Penn Warren, the first poet laureate of the United States and winner of three Pulitzer Prizes.

Walker blows the crowd of over 300 a kiss as he receives a standing ovation

"I am proud to celebrate the historic induction of Frank X Walker as Kentucky's first African-American -- and youngest -- poet laureate," said Governor Steve Beshear, who appointed Walker to the position earlier this year. "Mr. Walker is a writer and educator and joins a great legacy of prolific Kentucky writers who have served as state poet laureate."

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Check Out Your Community is an innovative way to introduce library card holders (BCPL has more than 40,000) to the community's activities and organizations by allowing them to check out a pass or equipment to try an activity that interests them.

[Read more...](#)

## Trustee Connection

By Mindy Woods  
Carter County Public Library  
Secretary, KLTRT  
[graysonwoods@yahoo.com](mailto:graysonwoods@yahoo.com)

The Kentucky Library Trustees Round Table (KLTRT) business meeting was held on April 9, 2013 at the Griffin Gate Marriott in Lexington, KY. Sixteen were in attendance.

Chairman Steve Marcum welcomed everyone and introductions were made. He reviewed the goals of KLTRT.

Minutes of the fall meeting were distributed. Motion was made by Jim Stoops and seconded by Natalie Cecil to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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## Focus on Friends

### *Meet & Greet to Expand*

By Nelda Moore  
Communications Director  
Friends of Kentucky Libraries

## Elaine Allen Retires

By Susan Dunman  
Regional Library Consultant  
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Elaine Allen, director of the Fulton County Public Library for 21 years, retired at the end of March, 2013. A reception in her honor was held on March 27 at the library in Fulton. The local newspaper, The Fulton Kentucky News, interviewed Elaine and in the interview she said, "I can honestly say that working at the library has been a labor of love for me. I can go through the old pictures and see the changes that have taken place since I began working in 1992. I will miss it all, but truly am looking forward to some new adventures that my retirement will bring."



The library wishes Elaine well...with cake!

New director Heather Roberts began her library tenure in April.

## Diverse Women Writers Headline 7th Kentucky Women's Book Festival

By Amy Purcell  
Associate Curator  
Archives and Special Collections  
Eastern Kentucky University Ekstrom  
Library

A diverse group of Kentucky women writers will share their experiences and works with participants at the 7th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival at the University of Louisville.

Author presentations and workshops, book sales and signings, and a keynote luncheon will give participants a chance to connect over their favorite pastimes - reading and writing - Saturday, May 18, at



Keynote speaker and Affrilachian and performance poet Bianca Spriggs

During the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) conference last month, Friends of Kentucky Libraries (FKL) announced the expansion of the Legislative Meet & Greet initiative from senatorial districts to county level for 2013. This will allow better participation by those all-important library patrons at a time when libraries need to have their Friends and friends show up and speak up for them as never before.

[Read more...](#)

### Trustees Earn Certification

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) is proud to announce that the following Kentucky public library trustees have attained Trustee Certification:

- Rebecca Kelm, Campbell County
- Paul Johnson, Campbell County
- Mrs. Dulcie Hardin, Crittenden County
- Susan M. Mospens, Ph.D., Kenton County
- Richard Matthews, Owen County
- Christina Cook, Powell County
- Jerry Claunch, Pulaski County
- Elaine Wilson, Pulaski County

Ekstrom Library. Doors will open at 9 a.m. The festival officially begins at 9:30 a.m. with the refreshments and socializing and ends at 2:30 p.m. with the start of a poetry slam.

[Read more...](#)

### Checking in With New Director Mark Wetherington, Jr.

By Paige Sexton  
Communications Officer  
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Libraries & Archives Monthly decided to go back and check in with new director Mark Wetherington Jr. Here is how he sees things after a few weeks in his new position at the Powell County Public Library.



"My first few weeks as director have been demonstrative in the challenges and rewards of librarianship. Interacting with the community and patrons and figuring out how best to serve their needs and interests has been incredibly gratifying, while figuring out how to accomplish our goals within a modest budget has been an ongoing exercise in problem solving and creative thinking. I'm looking forward to being able to make the library the best institution it can be and to make it a place that is enjoyable to visit and with resources that are useful, entertaining, and educational."

### 29th Annual Kentucky Archives Institute

By Tim Tingle  
Public Records Branch Manager  
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

The 29th annual Kentucky Archives Institute is scheduled for June 21, 2013, at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), 300 Coffee Tree Road, Frankfort. The Institute, sponsored by the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., provides information for scholars, general researchers, and genealogists interested in archival research.

Featured speakers at this year's event include Nancy Richey, Western Kentucky University; Kandie Adkinson, Secretary of State's Land Office; and Walter Bowman and

## KDLA Congratulates New Certification Holders

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives would like to congratulate these newly certified library employees:

- Essy Day,  
Henderson County,  
Professional I
- Theresa  
Hoverman,  
Jessamine County,  
Library Experience
- Veronica  
Rainwater, Warren  
County,  
Paraprofessional

## KDLA Welcomes New Trustees

KDLA would like to welcome the following new trustees:

- Mike Boling,  
Hancock County
- Rhonda Wise, Lee  
County
- Kimberly Hopkins,  
Lincoln County
- Corlette May,  
Lincoln County
- Kenny Lyons,  
Nicholas County
- Alonzo Allen, Scott  
County
- Hannah Edwards,  
Trimble County
- Sharon Shelton,  
Whitley County
- Rita Rogers, Wolfe  
County

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Kari May of KDLA. Participants will also have the opportunity to tour the Kentucky State Archives.

A registration fee of \$45.00 includes attendance at the Institute from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., lunch, and all materials. Deadline for registration is June 14, and seating is limited to 50. Registrations should be sent to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., Kentucky Archives Institute, P. O. Box 4224, Frankfort, KY 40604.

For further information or to see a detailed schedule for the event, please visit the [KDLA website](#) or contact Tim Tingle at 502-564-8300, ext. 251.

## Archival Photo of the Month



The Run for the Roses; Kentucky Derby, 2005.

Source: Creative Services Photo Collection, Public Records Division - Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives helps libraries provide equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government programs is created, efficiently maintained, and made readily accessible. For more information, visit <http://kdla.ky.gov> or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

Please send questions, comments, and story ideas for Libraries & Archives Monthly to editor Paige Sexton at [paige.sexton@ky.gov](mailto:paige.sexton@ky.gov) or call 502-564-8300 ext. 315.

# Full Articles Beyond This Point

## Kentucky Poet Laureate Inducted Before Record Crowd

On April 24, Lexington writer Frank X Walker was officially inducted as Kentucky poet laureate during the Kentucky Writer's Day celebration at the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort.

Kentucky Writer's Day is an annual event organized by the Kentucky Arts Council that celebrates the Commonwealth's strong literary history. It is observed on the birth date of Kentucky native Robert Penn Warren, the first poet laureate of the United States and winner of three Pulitzer Prizes.

"I am proud to celebrate the historic induction of Frank X Walker as Kentucky's first African-American -- and youngest -- poet laureate," said Governor Steve Beshear, who appointed Walker to the position earlier this year. "Mr. Walker is a writer and educator and joins a great legacy of prolific Kentucky writers who have served as state poet laureate."

Walker will serve as poet laureate for 2013-14. A poet, author, and teacher, he is the author of five collections of poetry and is an established playwright. He currently serves as associate professor in the University of Kentucky's Department of English and as director of the African American and Africana Studies program.

In addition to the induction ceremony, Writer's Day included readings by past poets laureate Maureen Morehead, Gurney Norman, Jane Gentry Vance, Sena Jeter Naslund, Joe Survant, and Richard Taylor. A public reception in honor of all Kentucky writers followed the ceremony.

"We were thrilled to have a record crowd join in our annual Writer's Day celebration to applaud the Commonwealth's outstanding and unmatched literary legacy," said Lori Meadows, arts council executive director. "The event was a great opportunity to meet Kentucky writers and the artists who live and work here."

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## Diverse Women Writers Headline 7th Kentucky Women's Book Festival

A diverse group of Kentucky women writers will share their experiences and works with participants at the 7th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival at the University of Louisville.

Author presentations and workshops, book sales and signings, and a keynote luncheon will give participants a chance to connect over their favorite pastimes - reading and writing - Saturday, May 18, at Ekstrom Library. Doors will open at 9 a.m. The festival officially begins at 9:30 a.m. with the refreshments and socializing and ends at 2:30

p.m. with the start of a poetry slam.

Judith C. Owens-Lalude will open the festival with a talk on the Underground Railroad. The author drew inspiration for her novel, "The Long Walk: Slavery to Freedom," from stories she heard about her enslaved great-grandfather and his mother, travel to her husband's native Nigeria, and books by men who had been slaves in the same Kentucky counties as her family.

Other speakers include:

- Kristen Gentry, assistant professor of creative writing at SUNY Geneseo
- Nora Rose "Rosie" Moosnick, author of "Arab and Jewish Women in Kentucky"
- Judi Jennings, researcher and writer
- Bianca Spriggs, Affrilachian and performance poet who will give the luncheon keynote
- Sarah Garland, education journalist
- Erin Keane, Sheri L. Wright, and Amy Tudor, who will give poetry readings

The lunch session is the only one that requires registration and has a charge. Registration is required by May 15 and can be made by calling the UofL Women's Center at 502-852-8976. The cost is \$16. Participants who do not want to eat lunch can attend for free.

The Women's Center sponsors the event with University Libraries.

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## **Check Out Your Community**

Boyd County Public Library (BCPL) introduces its new initiative, Check Out Your Community.

Check Out Your Community is an innovative way to introduce library card holders (BCPL has more than 40,000) to the community's activities and organizations by allowing them to check out a pass or equipment to try an activity that interests them.

Many of the new items that will be available for check out can be used in Ashland's Central Park, adjacent to the Main Branch, including volleyballs, basketballs, soccer balls, tennis rackets, and pedometers. There will also be fishing poles, binoculars, and Frisbee golf equipment. All of the items can be checked out for a maximum of seven days. And, of course, the library has books on these topics - for those who need some instruction before they play.

Outside groups and organizations are an important part of Check Out Your Community. Those already involved include: the Ashland Tennis Center (court time); Ashland Area YMCA (family pass); and Neon Links mini-golf at the Kyova Mall (discounted family pass). Also, the Ashland Fire Department and Ashland Police Department will give tours to anyone who checks out a pass from the library, and calls to schedule it.

"We hope this is just the beginning," said library director Debbie Cospers. "We are excited about all the possible partnerships we can have with this."

The idea for Check Out Your Community came from the library's ongoing partnership

with the Highlands Museum & Discovery Center, which includes allowing library card holders to check out family passes to the museum. The response to the museum pass check out has been tremendous.

The initiative compliments BCPL's mission, which is "to provide quality resources and access to information for all users." The community is full of quality resources, and many people, for whatever reason, cannot afford to explore those resources, or simply haven't taken the time, Cosper said.

Library card holders can place a hold on any of the items or passes by searching "Check Out Your Community" in the BCPL catalog, which can be found at [www.thebookplace.org](http://www.thebookplace.org).

To find out more about Check Out Your Community, please call circulation supervisor Ben Nunley at 606-329-0518, ext. 1210.

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## **Focus on Friends**

### ***Meet & Greet to Expand***

During the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA) conference last month, Friends of Kentucky Libraries (FKL) announced the expansion of the Legislative Meet & Greet initiative from senatorial districts to county level for 2013. This will allow better participation by those all-important library patrons at a time when libraries need to have their Friends and friends show up and speak up for them as never before.

Still planned for anytime during the month of October, the key to securing participation by one's state senator and representative(s) will be early invitations. One senator, for example, may represent several counties, and with each hosting their own M&G, scheduling will be more successful the sooner it can be done. Fortunately, 2013 is an "off year" for elections and there will be less demand on their schedules for public appearances.

Another plus to going to county-wide events should be the availability to attract local officials - fiscal court members, city councils, county judge/executives, mayors, sheriffs, school superintendents and principals, local newspaper editors, etc. It's an opportunity to get all the movers and shakers in your community (elected and otherwise) together to see and hear how much the public cares about its libraries.

FKL will continue to provide information and assistance in organizing these, just as we have done in the past, and will encourage those 40-something libraries that have hosted before to share some of their tips as well. Look for information to start finding you mid-summer and be thinking ahead about your guest list.

What an opportunity to showcase your library!

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## **Trustee Connection**

The Kentucky Library Trustees Round Table (KLTRT) business meeting was held on

April 9, 2013 at the Griffin Gate Marriott in Lexington, KY. Sixteen were in attendance.

Chairman Steve Marcum welcomed everyone and introductions were made. He reviewed the goals of KLTRT.

Minutes of the fall meeting were distributed. Motion was made by Jim Stoops and seconded by Natalie Cecil to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Officers for 2013-14 were introduced, including: Steve Marcum, president; Jim Stoops, vice-president; and Mindy Woods, secretary/vice-chair elect. Their services were offered to attend ground breakings, ribbon cuttings, board meetings, etc.

Chairman Marcum announced the KLTRT Scholarship to attend this conference was awarded to Barbara Davis of Carter County Public Library. KLTRT has a small budget with which to fund this scholarship along with some travel, and to help the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) pay licensing fees for modules for trustee training.

The trustee listserv information was given as [kpla@trustees.kentonlibrary.org](mailto:kpla@trustees.kentonlibrary.org) and attendees were encouraged to join and use the site for communication among trustees.

Trustee Certification sessions given at this conference were discussed. One additional Kentucky specific module was presented, with more in progress. Other ways to obtain certification could include webinars or sessions at board meetings. There will be a need in the future for additional modules for recertification, or contact hours can be gained from KPLA or Kentucky Library Association (KLA) conferences or KDLA webinars. We need to encourage other trustees through personal contacts or by posting on the listserv which classes or webinars we feel have been beneficial. We need also to advocate with counties not active in the Kentucky Public Library Association (KPLA), KLA, or attending conferences.

An update was given on the Northern Kentucky counties lawsuit. Go to [www.cc-pl.org](http://www.cc-pl.org) for information. A status conference is scheduled for April 25, and information will be sent out after this. KPLA has set aside some funds to assist districts with attorney fees.

Jim Stoops reported on KY Legislative Day in February, legislators were impressed with the amount of yellow present in the capitol and he feels emails and phone calls made a difference in the outcome of HB1 and SB20. Don't wait until Legislative Day to advocate!

Steve Marcum reported he will attend the upcoming DC Legislative Day and noted the importance of membership in the American Library Association (ALA), with the United for Libraries track.

Next meeting will be in September at the Galt House in Louisville. Notice of the KLTRT meeting will be sent out so all who are within driving distance may attend.

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