

### **Sno Island Regional Library- Edmonds Library/ Edmonds, WA**

- • •The library will organize a program of cultural exchange with the Hekinan, Japan Library. They will feature stories from Japanese teenagers and storytelling with American teenage folklore.

### **Washington School Library/ Mount Vernon, WA**

- • •Named as an example of a family school involved with service learning and care for the whole child will compare and share historic information about their school with another school in a small community that serves generations of families.

### **Marathon County Public Library/ Wausau, WI**

- • •Collaborations between various agencies and institutions and a grant from IMLS will bring the exhibition, Down Under and Over Here: Children's Book Illustration from Australia and American to the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum. The exhibition will be the point of reference to draw children and adults to the world of children's book illustration and to the joys and wonders of reading. Children and families will have a direct tie to children in Australia with a Sister Library connection.

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Sister Libraries is the official White House Millennium Council Project of the United States National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS).

The Commission advises the President and the Congress on the library and information needs of the nation and the policies and plans necessary to meet those needs. NCLIS coordinates library and information science activities with federal, state, and local governments and with other public and private organizations. It conducts studies, surveys and analyses, and it promotes other research and development activities that will extend and improve the nation's library and information handling capability as essential links in national and international communications and cooperative networks.

NCLIS is a permanent, independent agency of the federal government.

For additional information about the Sister Libraries: A White House Millennium Council Project, contact:



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# **Sister Libraries**

**A WHITE HOUSE  
MILLENNIUM COUNCIL PROJECT**

## **PROJECT SUMMARIES FROM SELECTED SISTER LIBRARIES June 1999**

### **Birmingham Public Library/ Birmingham, AL**

- • •Celebrating Italian folktales and culture in all 20 locations will be the focus of the Birmingham Public Library. Storytellers from each library will take listeners on an imaginary journey to Italy. At the conclusion of each program, a sampling of Italian food will be available. The children of Birmingham will not only learn about the culture, but will have a good time learning as well.

### **Central Arkansas Library System/ Little Rock**

- • •Through the computer lab, children could develop pen pals through e-mail about information in the international curriculum in their schools

### **Cupertino Public Library/ Cupertino, CA**

- • •Children's librarians will present a program of American folk literature for schoolage children and provide a workshop for them to write about/illustrate their favorite stories. The library will feature Tall Tales and Brier Rabbit stories. The collection of written works will be sent to Taiwan. The children in Taiwan will be encouraged to write, in English or Mandarin, about favorite folk literature from Chinese culture and send to Cupertino for display during Children's Book Week.

### **San Diego Public Library/ Public School Consortia/ San Diego, CA**

- • •A consortia of elementary, middle and high schools as well as the Preuss school at UCSD and the Children's Museum charter school will work together to research, create, and produce a book to exchange with their Sister city. Students will decide what is in the books and groups will personalize books with their own observations and creativity.

### **Sidwell Friends/ Washington, DC**

- • •Having a well-established Chinese Studies program, students and staff will be able to share materials and make suggestions for purchases of new materials for their Sister Library in Shanghai. Key pals will allow students to practice their Chinese/English link all via email. A group from Sidwell visits China each summer it will be possible to arrange a visit for an actual face-to-face encounter.

### **Broward County Library/ Fort Lauderdale, FL**

- • Developing a small world web page for each library's Webster where information relating to children/teens can be posted is one aspect of their varied activities designed for the program.

### **DeKalb County Public Library/ Decatur, GA**

- • Teens will be encouraged to design the program that best fits for them. Varied segments of the population will be invited to meet for programs featuring multi-cultural and bi-lingual storytellers, multi-cultural crafts and conversation groups.

### **Peach Public Libraries/ Fort Valley, GA**

- • Children will exchange local histories, have virtual tours of respective communities and simultaneous programs with on-line evaluation and comparisons.

### **Carbondale Public Library/ Carbondale, IL**

- • Currently providing library tours for groups of educators and business delegates from Nakajo, Japan, the library will now encourage that a librarian be included as part of the delegation to visit. To continue to promote the partnership, Carbondale Public Library will host a Japanese tea ceremony, Japanese music programs, programs highlighting Japanese holidays and celebrations. Programs will be videotaped to exchange with their Sister Library. A "partners in reading club" will be started.

### **Johnson County Public Library Shawnee, KS**

- • Plans include sponsoring a storyteller or dramatic program highlighting the stories of the Irish who settled in Kansas and hold the program in Listowel Park, named after the Irish settlers of Shawnee Kansas.

### **West Bloomfield Township Public Library/ West Bloomfield, MI**

- • A "teen read-in", or a virtual book discussion group where Sister Library participants will read and discuss the same books, exchange books from local authors and share lists of favorite authors will be just a few activities in this community.

### **Bozeman Public Library/ Bozeman, MT**

- • Children will write letters telling about Montana their homes, their school and their library. Each school will be asked to give five items to be included in a box to exchange with their Sister Library.

### **Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center/ Fayetteville, NC**

- • Already with plans in the school library to host a Cadets Teaching Program where students providing programs for elementary students to learn about their Sister city, the library will develop a pen pal program and a Culture Club for patrons offering diverse programming for the entire family.

### **Helen Morgan School/ Sparta, NJ**

- • Students will use a mailing list to share information and opinions on books and then they will manipulate the data, draw conclusions, form hypotheses and report back to the Sister Library. The library has an "open library" policy.

### **Queens/ Jamaica NY**

- • Connecting children and schools (CALSP) where outreach librarians work with connecting students (k-8) and their parents with local neighborhood libraries
- • KidsWorld Queens, partnership with 20 cultural institutions in Queens that serve youth Digital video teleconferencing where interactive video teleconferenced meetings between children and teens –have conversations, ask questions and experience watch others programs

### **White Plains Library/ White Plains, NY**

- • Program objectives include promoting communication and understanding between children of different cultural backgrounds through global dialogue, and providing children with fun and safe online international penpals, CYBER PEN PALS.

### **Washoe County Library System/ Reno, NV**

- • As one of ten libraries in the country to receive a planning grant from DeWitt Wallace Reader's Digest Fund to address the library's role in expanding and enriching services for young people and improving their educational and career development, Washoe County will use information from this grant to implement activities into an active Sister Libraries program. They have an on-going Library Youth Council, and plan a Spanish Dial-a-story, tutoring and storytelling.

### **St. Ursula's Academy/ Cincinnati, OH**

- • SUA's existing library club will partner with the Sister library to include students in coffee houses, events during the school year that allow students to read original or other's poetry, prose and performance arts in a small relaxed group setting. Email Internet Chat sessions and other distance learning technologies will be incorporated. Students may travel to the Sister City to meet student with whom they communicate.

### **Toledo-Lucas County Public Library/ Toledo, OH**

- • Toledo, with six existing Sister City relationships and additional five developing ones, will use an international Sister Cities theme for the year 2000 Summer Reading Club. They will plan programs with an international theme for children and teens and utilize community resources and local people with ethnic backgrounds. They will send Book Buddy, the library's mascot to all Toledo Sister Cities during the Summer Reading club.

### **Shaler North Hills Library/ Glenshaw, PA**

- • The Book Bugs Club, (grades 4-8) communicates about literature and share thoughts about books, videotapes and computers. Sharing with the community and hosting international programs for families are also part of this program.

### **Fort Worth Public Library/ Fort Worth, TX**

- • Fort Worth has already initiated a pilot project this year with Fort Worth Sister Cities to encourage children and youth to learn more about their six sister cities. Already approximately 110 youth have participated as pen pals with youth in one of their sister cities.

### **Virginia Beach Public Library/ Virginia Beach, VA**

- • Plans are underway for activities during Children's Book Week focusing on children's authors. Teen volunteers will offer suggestions that will help Miyazaki Public Library start its own teen volunteer program.