



## STREAMING NEWS - JUNE 2009

The Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) is evaluating public library services and will issue a report by January 2010. The evaluation is a result of a vote by the 12 members of a joint state House and Senate commission that annually selects topics for the OLA to review.

The evaluation will use data and reports at State Library Services supplemented with interviews and site visits statewide.

In a background paper prepared as part of the commission selection process, OLA stated possible evaluation issues include funding, oversight and governance, the role of the Minnesota Department of Education **State Library Services**, effectiveness and efficiency of the 12 regional public library systems, and comparison with other states' organization and funding. The Discussion Section of the background paper states, "Although the regional system of public libraries has existed for 50 years, public library services have received little legislative scrutiny. . . . [An evaluation is timely] in light of reduced state funding for local governments, which may indirectly affect local library funding and services." [Access the background paper here.](#)

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Improved school library media centers at **Bryn Mawr Elementary School** and the **Anne Sullivan Communications Center/Annishinabe Academy**, Minneapolis Public Schools, and **Maxfield Magnet Elementary School**, St. Paul Public School District, supported by the Target Corporation, demonstrates why the national retailer will receive the Crystal Apple of the American Association of School Libraries (AASL).

President Ann M. Martin, on behalf of AASL, has awarded Target the recognition because of its Target School Library Makeovers program. The company program, in partnership with The Heart of America Foundation®, refurbishes elementary school libraries, improves their equipment, including new technology, shelving, carpet and paint, and provides volunteer time. Additionally, each library media center receives 2,000 new books and each student receives seven books to begin a home library.

"It is because of Target's dedication to dynamic school library media programs led by certified school library media specialists that it is the 2009 Crystal Apple recipient," Martin said. "The Target School Library Makeovers is a program that provides students with exciting school libraries that have up-to-date collections and facilities that encourage equal access to the 21st century skills and contribute to academic achievement for all students." Target will receive the award at a presentation during the American Library Association Conference in July in Chicago.

In 2008, the first year of Target School Library Makeovers, eight schools nationally, including Bryn Mawr Elementary School, received complete library makeovers. Fifteen additional elementary school libraries received a refresh, which included new paint, furniture and books.

In 2009, 17 elementary school libraries nationally, including Annishinabe Academy and Maxfield Magnet, are receiving complete library makeovers. Additionally, more than 1,750 Target stores and distribution centers nationwide will lend a hand donating new books and renovating libraries in local elementary schools.

To be eligible for a Makeover grant, more than 65 percent of the students must be on meal assistance and more than 25 percent of the students must be reading at or below basic levels. [Access information about the Target School Library Makeover program here.](#) Target makes other school library grants through Community Outreach Programs. [Access Community Outreach information here.](#)



**Barbara L. Golden**, Minnesota's State Law Librarian at the Minnesota State Law Library since 2002, retired on June 9, 2009; a date proclaimed as "Barbara L. Golden Day" by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. She began in 1983 as Head of Outreach Services. She also served as Electronic Services Librarian.

During her career, Ms. Golden was president of the Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL), served on the Executive Board of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and chaired the AALL State, Court, and County Law Libraries Specialist Interest Section. For her law librarianship services, Ms. Golden received local and national awards, including the MALL Law Librarianship Award (1985),

*Minnesota Lawyer's* 2008 Unsung Heroes Award, and the AALL Bethany J. Ochal Award (2009) for distinguished service to the profession. She co-authored the first edition of *Minnesota Legal Research* and created the *Minnesota Legal Periodical Index*. She has taught legal bibliography as an adjunct professor in the St. Catherine University's Library and Information Science Masters Degree program.

Ms. Golden received her undergraduate degree from Hamline University (1970), her library degree from the University of Minnesota (1971), and her law degree from William Mitchell College of Law (1981).

A national search to fill the vacant position will be conducted.

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The Duluth Public Library welcomed new **Library Manager Carla Powers** on May 18, 2009. She most recently was director at Rice Lake, WI, Public Library for seven years. She has also worked in the Eau Claire and Superior Public Libraries, in positions ranging from Circulation Clerk to Reference Assistant to Technical Services Manager.

Ms. Powers received her library degree from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in August 2000. She was a distance education student at a time when online courses were just getting started and did most of her coursework from her home in northern Wisconsin.

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*Natural Rhythm*, an exterior sculpture at the new **St. Cloud Public Library**, Great River Regional Library System, received recognition as one of the 40 best public art projects of 2008 by Americans for the Arts, a non-profit arts advocacy organization. The organization announced the honor list of "the most exemplary, innovative permanent or temporary public art works created or debuted in 2008" during its annual conference this month. A two-person panel made the selection from more than 300 entries.

Chicago artist Lucy Slivinski created the piece, which hides mechanical boxes from public view. A public art committee chose the sculpture along with other art pieces for the library building.