STATE LIBRARIAN’S REPORT
August 7, 2012

1. 2012 Summer Reading Programs Set Records for Participation, Books Read
All three Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) Summer Reading Programs set records again this year for both total participation and for number of books read. In 2012, 29,011 readers of all ages read more than 300,000 books during the five week programs (see attachment). From 2009 to this year, participation in the Hawaii State Public Library System’s Summer Reading Programs has grown an astonishing 41%, from 20,589 to 29,011! The Programs, which are sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and their year-round sponsors, are offered for children (including infants), teens, and adults.

2. Email Notices Saving HSPLS $$$
More than 136,000 HSPLS patrons are now registered to receive hold and overdue notices via email, an increase of more than 50,000 people, and up 61% over the total from a year ago (84,700). During the week of July 11 to 17, 2012 (Wednesday – Tuesday) HSPLS sent nearly 60% of our notices via email, 7,558 email notices and 5,386 print notices. Annualizing the number of email notifications sent, and using the current post card price of 32 cents each, we anticipate that HSPLS will save well over $125,000 in postage fees during the current fiscal year, and additional savings will be accrued from reduced paper and printing costs. You may register for e-mail notifications at any HSPLS library.

3. Library Internet Sessions Hit All-Time High
More than 600,000 internet sessions were recorded in our public libraries in fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012), an increase of more than 116,500 sessions. Because more than 50 percent of our libraries are the only source of free internet access in their communities, this is an important service for HSPLS to provide for our patrons throughout the state. The 24 percent increase is due in part to an additional 140 computers purchased with grant funding provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the federal Broadband Technology Opportunity Program.

4. The Hawaii Internment Experience at Manoa Public Library
A display on the Hawaii Internment Experience, developed by the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai’i (JCCH), will be available for viewing at the new Manoa Public Library from July 25-September 19, 2012. In conjunction with the display, the JCCH will present an educational program featuring a 10 minute film about Honouliuli Camp and the history of Japanese internment in Hawai’i at Manoa Public Library on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 6:30 pm. The exhibit is open to the public during library hours, which are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Saturday; 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Friday.
5. Intellectual Property Seminar for Inventors, Small Businesses and the Public at Hawaii State Library
Hawaii State Library will host a Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights on August 9 in the Library’s first floor reading room. The Seminar will introduce various forms of intellectual property including trademarks, copyright and patents; how to protect intellectual property rights, such as online registration and federal forms; and information on recent changes. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

6. Testing and Education Reference Center Database
The Testing and Education Reference Center (TERC) is a comprehensive database that includes more than 300 practice tests and courses, and dozens of eBooks filled with valuable study material and practice tests. To access TERC, visit www.librarieshawaii.org, click on “Services,” “Books, Articles & Media” then the “Online Databases” button, scroll down and select “Testing and Education Reference Center.” You will need your valid HSPLS library card number and PIN (personal identification number, usually the last four digits of your home phone number) in order to access these subscription databases from outside an HSPLS library. Students can visit the DOE website (http://doe.k12 hi.us/college_testingdates.htm) for a list of test dates for the PSAT/NMSQT, ACT, SAT and AP examinations. Funding for these electronic services is provided by the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

7. Library Bags Price Increase Sept. 4
The price of the popular quilt pattern library bag sold at Hawaii’s public libraries will increase from 35 cents to 50 cents on Tuesday, September 4. The 15-cent increase is due to the continually rising cost of obtaining the bags. In the meantime, the Hawaii State Public Library System is exploring the feasibility of offering reusable cloth bags.