1. **2012 Summer Reading Programs Set Records for Participation, Books Read**

Participation in the Hawaii State Public Library System’s (HSPLS) Summer Reading Programs set records again this year for both number of participants and books read. The graphs below show the remarkable growth of participation in all three programs since 2009, as Children’s participation rose from 15,554 to 19,500; Teen from 2,911 to 3,307; and Adult from 2,124 to 6,204.

![Graphs showing growth of participation](image1)

2. **Bess Press Donates New Books to HSPLS**

Buddy Bess, founder of Hawaii Publisher Bess Press, donated 168 copies of 30 different titles to Hawaii’s Public Libraries. His generous donation allowed libraries to add extra copies of popular Hawaiiana titles and to replace worn or lost copies. The value of this gift exceeded $2,000. A sample of the titles includes Father Damien, Hawaii’s Saint; The USS Arizona; Family Traditions in Hawaii; Opihi Baby; among others. Mr. Bess also donated books to the Friends of the Library of Hawaii for their annual Book Sale.

3. **Makawao Public Library Author**

Molokai Kehlor, staff member at Makawao Public Library, wrote a new book titled “Alanui: Kahea ka Makani,” which was featured in the Honolulu Star Advertiser’s “Read All About It” column in the Sunday, August 12 Today Section. From the Star Advertiser review: "Alanui: Kahea ka Makani (Pathway: Wind Calls)," by Moloka'i Kehlor (self-published, $21.95): The first in a series of four books by the Maui author that follow the adventures of a half-Caucasian woman who is trying to learn from a secret society of kahuna as she tries to find out who’s behind the poisoning of the Hawaiian people with a strange illness. The keys may be found in a journal and a healing plant.” "Molokai" is an extraordinary woman of many talents. She staged her play, Man of Her Dreams, at the historic I'ao Theatre in 2008. She also creates hand-painted ornaments, farms the only Mountain Apple orchard in the state, and has served as a custodian for the Hawaii State Public Library System since 2008.