Spotlight on: Library Operations Section, Hawai‘i State Library

By Marya Zoller

Located in the historic Capitol District of Downtown Honolulu on the corner of South King and Punchbowl Streets, the Hawai‘i State Library is comprised of individual, but interdependent sections that blend together to provide information and services for the public. This information covers a broad spectrum of topics in various formats: books, electronic databases, microfilm, print serials, and online services. In addition, library reference staff will delve into the past, present and future on any topic you might ask about. Librarian subject specialists focus on specific subject areas such as art and music, business and science, government documents, Hawai‘i and the Pacific, language and literature, social sciences and philosophy, and youth services.

If you applied a mathematical equation to the day-to-day operations of the Hawai‘i State Library, which section do you think would be the common denominator? If you guessed the sciences and philosophy, and youth services, you are right.

The “LO” Section is responsible for the overlapping areas in the daily operations of the Hawai‘i State Library - the motions, functions, tasks, and building matters that affect everyone who works in, or visits the library. This encompasses acquisitions, circulation, interlibrary loans, maintenance, supplies, repair, security, and telephone reference and information services.

Did you know that the Library Operations Section is not the largest section in the library, but also the largest in the entire state library system! When fully staffed, there are 33 employees: four librarians, three library technicians, 21 library assistants (including five part-time workers), and five janitors. In addition, there are two security guards and 12 student helpers, for a grand total of 45 employees.

The LO staff provides a variety of services on all four levels of the 105,000-sq.-ft. library. If you have ever called the main telephone line (800-586-3621), stopped in the lobby for information, checked out a book at the Circulation desk, admired displays in the common areas, used the clean restrooms, or called for telephone reference (800-586-3621), to name a few, you may have experienced a part of or met a staff member of the Library Operations Section. So whenever you’re in the downtown area, come visit us!

Gates Foundation Awards HSPLS $84,000 Grant

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded the Hawai‘i State Public Library System an $84,000 “Staying Connected” grant.

The “Staying Connected” grant will provide three years of staff training for HSPLS in technology and front line staff. “We are confident that the training our staff will receive through this grant will translate into a stronger and more reliable technological infrastructure for our public library system, better trained technical support and front line staff, and ultimately better service for our public,” said State Librarian Jo Ann Schindler. “HSPLS is actively expanding digital resources to in-library and remote users, and is investigating effective ways to use technology to deliver library services and to increase access to our collections.”

Mark Your Calendars

Jan. 12 – Friends of the Library of Hawaii Legislative Breakfast. 8 a.m., Hawai‘i State Capitol. By invitation only; RSVP requested. An opportunity for the Friends, other library supporters, and staff to meet legislators and discuss the value of public libraries to the community.

Jan. 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday; all libraries closed. Most libraries will reopen on Jan. 18. Visit www.librarieshawaii.org or call your local library for their reopening date.

Feb. 21 – Presidents Day Holiday; all libraries closed. Most libraries will reopen on Feb. 22. Visit www.librarieshawaii.org or call your local library for their reopening date.

Mahalo for supporting the Hawai‘i State Public Library System.

This Tax Season Support Your Public Libraries

By Paul H. Mark

If you love your public libraries, show your support this tax season by contributing to the Hawai‘i State Public Library System’s Special Fund. A $2 or $4 check-off box on State individual income tax return forms, which allows taxpayers an opportunity to support the Hawai‘i State Public Library System. Taxpayers may designate $2 of their refund ($4 for a joint return) to the Hawai‘i State Public Library System’s Special Fund. Your tax donation will benefit Hawai‘i’s communities statewide through the purchase of library materials for all ages. Here’s how you can help:

• If you use Form N-11 (see example below). Residential Federal Return, check off line 44 “Contribution to the Hawai‘i Public Libraries Special Fund.” Enter $2 or $4 if your spouse also agrees and you file jointly.

• For users of Form N-12, Resident Non Filing Federal Return, check off line 59 “Contribution to the Hawai‘i Public Libraries Special Fund.” Enter $2 or $4 if your spouse also agrees and you file jointly.

• Form N-13 users. Resident Short Form, check off line 25 “Contribution to the Hawai‘i Public Libraries Special Fund.” Enter $2 or $4 if your spouse also agrees and you file jointly.

Get State Tax Forms @ Your Library

Need State tax forms? Later this month, public libraries statewide will be distributing State tax forms, thanks to a continuing partnership between the Hawai‘i State Public Library System and State Dept. of Taxation. Library staff will supply the forms, but will not answer tax questions. Check with your library for a list of agencies that offer help in filing tax returns.

For tax questions, call the Dept. of Taxation: on O‘ahu, at 587-4242; from Neighbor Islands, call toll-free at 1-800-222-3229; for the hearing impaired: on O‘ahu, call 587-1418; from Neighbor Islands, call toll-free at 1-800-887-8974.

For more information, visit the State Dept. of Taxation website: www.state.hi.gov/tax. Need Federal tax forms? Libraries have reference binders with Federal tax forms for customers to photocopy. Call your local library for more information on the tax forms that you need.
Harry’s Hit Single

By Sally Walstrom

Harry’s latest hit single is back with his fourth pop album. From flamenco to full-blown ballads, each song soars higher than the last. Check out Go Where Love Goes, a breath-taking duet with 11-year-old prodigy Holly Stell.

Roy Charles
RAT ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK Soundtrack from the biographical feature film starring Jamie Foxx. Includes 17 tracks of vintage Charles’ performances such as the Grammy Award-winning songs of Black Jack, Georgia On My Mind and I Can’t Stop Loving You.

Elton John
PEACHTREE ROAD
The title of Elton John’s 43rd album includes 17 tracks of vintage Elton’s performances such as the Grammy Award-winning songs of Black Jack, Georgia On My Mind and I Can’t Stop Loving You.

HPLS Nominee Wins National Health Award

The Hawai‘i Medical Library, a Queen’s Health Systems Company, is the recipient of a national Consumer Health Information Award. Sponsored by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLS), the 2004 NCLS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Libraries honors libraries that do the most to promote a healthy lifestyle. Nominated by the Hawai‘i State Public Library System, the Hawai‘i Medical Library’s Consumer Health Information Service (CHIS) is a community service project available statewide, reaching all communities through a service partnership with the public library system. The Hawai‘i Medical Library, selected as the Hawai‘i winner, was among 37 libraries/information delivery organizations nationwide to receive the award. Winners were chosen based on the overall success of the library’s consumer health information services program, with particular emphasis on the program’s potential impact, innovativeness, and replicability.

For the past seven years, HPSLS and Hawai‘i residents have benefited tremendously from this partnership with the Hawai‘i Medical Library. Through grants garnered by CHIS, HPSLS has received five Internet workstations dedicated to providing medical information for customers and staff as well as public workshops on accessing reliable and authoritative health information on the Web.

The purpose of CHIS is to assist Hawai‘i residents with a personal health question in locating authoritative health information, which assists them in making informed decisions about health care or lifestyle. Hawai‘i’s public librarians as well as physicians and other health care professionals refer customers to CHIS for assistance with their medical informational needs.

For more information, visit the CHIS web site: http://hawaiianhealthportal.org which provides links to vital health information such as to authoritative Native Hawaiian Health web sites.

Recent Grants and Donations to HPSLS

Hawai‘i Library Foundation Grants:
• 2005 Fall Programs and Award Books, $28,925: (Teen Read Week, $4,000; Talespinner and Mini-Talespinner Festivals, $10,525; Children’s Book Week, $9,900; Newbery/Caldecott Award Books, $2,000; Michael Printz Award Books for Teens, $1,000; and Ka Palapala Po‘okela Award Books, $1,500).

Donations to the Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped:
• $5,000 from Hawai‘i Foundation for the Blind
• $137 from Hui ‘O VIP (Visually Impaired Persons)
• $50 from Leil ‘U Nani (Visually Impaired Persons)

Recommended Children’s Books

By Maile Davis, Velcy Dreierkin, Colleen Lawrson and Linda Ongly

U’i‘ulani Goldbrey
THE SHARK MAN OF HĀNA (Gr. K-4) This exciting adventure retells the Hawaiian legend of the Shark Man of Hāna, Maui. Written in English with the Hawaiian translation by librarian Dave Del Rocco of the Hawai‘i State Library. Colorful watercolor illustrations by Roy Chang include a hidden shark on each page.

Diane Staedel
THE GIANT AND THE BEASTWAL (Gr. 1-3) Otto the giant, who dreads his pet hen Clara, is horrified when a human boy steals her and escapes down a beanstalk. Otto gives chase and learns that the thief’s name is Jack. He meets other Jacks before he finds the right one and comes up with a happy solution for everyone.

Jeanne Baker
HOME (Gr. 2-6) A wordless picture book shows the changes in an urban neighborhood over the life of a child, from her birth to the birth of her child. A dreary, rundown, slum-like setting is rechristened as an urban community, with native plants replacing cracked cement, fresh paint and murals replacing graffiti, and pocket parks replacing junkyards.

U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka (right) presented the 2004 NCLS Blue Ribbon Consumer Health Information Recognition Award for Libraries to John Breinholt, Hawai‘i Medical Library Director, in a ceremony at the Hawai‘i State Library on Dec. 29, 2004. HPSLS had nominated Hawai‘i Medical Library for this prestigious award.

Virginia Hamilton
THE PEOPLE COULD FLY: THE PICTURE BOOK (Gr. 3-up) A hauntingly powerful folk tale, first retold by Hamilton in 1985, in her collection The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales, now re-issued in her memory as a picture book with stunning new illustrations by Leo and Diane Dillon. Legends of people who could fly were prevalent in Africa.

Sue Stanfield
DONUTHEAD (Gr. 4-6) Narrator Franklin Delano Donuthead deals with all the normal pressures of fifth grade, as well as a fairly advanced case of obsessive-compulsive disorder, and a most unfortunate name. Franklin’s engaging narration will keep readers enthralled. A 2005 NPB Award Recommended Book

Don Martin
DING THE ESSENTIAL DEAN MARTIN This 30-track compilation includes the classic Capitol recordings that made Martin a vocal idol. Includes Everybody Loves Somebody, Volare, That’s Amore, and more.

Patience Street, nearly 100 years old and a library user of the Hawai‘i Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped, received a plaque last month that inducted her into the 10th Talking Book Club Hall of Fame. Patience Street, originally from England and Canada, has resided in Hawai‘i for the past 35 years and has been a customer of LBPH for the past 10 years. She is among more than 1,600 centenarians nationwide who use talking books and are being inducted this year into the 10th Talking Book Club. The club recognizes the accomplishments of the national reading program’s centenarians for each state. For more information, call LBPH at 733-8444.