Thomson Gale: Literature Resource Center
By Jim Long, Librarian, HSPLS-Language, Literature and History Section

This top-notch online literary research database from Thomson Gale, a leading publisher of electronic databases, gives students and other researchers access to more than 122,000 literary figures and their work from all time periods and all literary forms – poetry, essays, fiction, drama, criticism, biographies – and genres – gothic, romantic, epic, confessional – and much more. Among its sources, it includes the full text of several Thomson Gale print publications, such as Contemporary Authors, the Dictionary of Literary Biography and Merriam-Webster’s Encyclopedia of Literature, as well as selections from Contemporary Literary Criticism, Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism, Poetry Criticism, Literature and Its Times.

To access Thomson Gale Literature Resource Center, visit HSPLS’ home page at http://www.librarieshawaii.org and click on “Other Databases,” select “Literature Resource Center,” to enter the Infotrac website and then Thomson Gale Literature Resource Center. You will need a valid library card number if you are accessing this database from home.

This database can be searched six different ways from the main Search screen: the usual Author, Title, Keyword and Advanced searches, as well as a Literary-Historical Timeline search, which will enable you to find other authors and works within an historical period, and an Author-By-Type search, which enables you to narrow your search for authors or works by five different categories: by ethnicity, nationality, genre, theme or by literary movement or time period.

The results of your search are returned in as many as five tabbed folders: Biographies – links to biographical articles on the author from a variety of reference sources as well as scholarly journals; Literary criticism, Articles & Work overviews – these three subfolders contain links to critical articles and reviews; Bibliographies – two subfolders contain links to lists of “Works by the author” and “Works about the Author”; Additional resources – contains links to Internet Web sites related to the author or the work, as well as a Themes subfolder that contains links to material on other writers dealing with similar themes; Literary-Historical timeline – provides a timeline of the author’s life, providing an overview of the social and historical context of the author’s work.

A comprehensive “Guide to Conducting Literary Research” is included, designed to help you with all aspects of composing your research paper, from choosing a topic and crafting a thesis to compiling a bibliography and revising your final draft.

Literature Resource Center is provided through Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding, which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Next month: Ferguson’s Career Guidance Center.

Hawaii’s State Public Library System
Celebrate National Library Week
Come Together @ your library

By Paul H. Mark

April 2007

National Library Week – a time to celebrate the contributions of librarians, libraries, and library workers in schools, campuses and communities nationwide – and the perfect time for Hawaii’s communities to come together @ your library.

Hawaii’s 51 public libraries provide both physical and virtual spaces where people of all national, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds can gather to share and benefit from the collective ideas and creative works of the world’s authors, artists, and performers.

The Hawaii State Public Library System will celebrate National Library Week 2007 (Apr. 15-21) in April. Public libraries statewide are scheduled to host a variety of special free programs throughout the month.

Come Together @ your library is the theme of this year’s National Library Week. The American Library Association (ALA) selects the theme each year for this annual observance.

“Everyday, libraries in big cities and small towns, colleges and universities, in schools and in businesses help transform their communities,” said State Librarian Jo Ann Schindler.

Nyla Fuji-Babah, one of Hawaii’s premier storytellers, and dancer/choreographer Yukie Shirma will be featured in McDermott in Motion: Bringing to Life the Picture Book Art of Gerald McDermott a special performance showcasing the works of this Caldecott Award-winning author at public libraries statewide, Apr. 8 – 17. Fuji-Babah and Shirma will present a unique storytelling experience, enhanced with masks and dance, of three of McDermott’s picture books – Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti, Coyote, and The Stonemuter. At press time, the programs at three public libraries have been confirmed: Apr. 9, 5 p.m. at Hawaii Kai; Apr. 17, 6 p.m. at Wahiawa; and Apr. 20, 3 p.m. at Pearl City.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii and the UH-Manoa Outreach College, Statewide Cultural Extension Program, this program is recommended for ages 5 through adults. Log-on to the HSPLS website for a complete schedule of the libraries that are hosting McDermott in Motion: Bringing to Life the Picture Book Art of Gerald McDermott.

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A MYSTERY
Most Powerful People in the World

BY DARREN ROBERTSON

IN the cutting room, video editor EditorsChoice Edna Tran finds the rhythm of the film to be heightened with every edit. “I think the film is really moving now,” she says. “The story is really coming together.”

IN VINCIBLE
Inspired by a true story, Mark Wahlberg stars as Vince Papale, a down-on-his-luck swimming champ who’s more from Nanakuli High and Intermediate School, said that he picked up a grade from Aina Haina Elementary School, wrote to author Garth Carlson Levine about his idea of Ella Enchanted “helped me realize that I am not the only one out there” with similar feelings. She admitted to author Frederick Lenz that she is going to work with a psychological disorder. It’s the setting for Moran’s new Hawaiian story. Olds is about growing up on a Maui sugar plantation camp; call 693-7050. Pia Carlin, Cabcabin Moran, Calling All Children, at Waimea (Kauai), the Garden Island is the setting for Moran’s new Hawaiian Picture Book The Sleeping Giant: A Tale from Kuwait, call for program time (808) 338-6848. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the hosting library as soon as possible if a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is needed. For more program information, log on to the HSPLS website: www.libraries-hawaii.org or call your local library.