Learn Your Family’s History

The libraries launching these new software programs are: Hawaii State Library, Pearl City Public Library, Kaneohe Public Library, Waikele Public Library, and Molokai Public Library.

Mr. Monk Novel Features Kaneohe Librarian

“Mr. Monk and the Blue Flu” (Signet, Jan. 2007), the latest Mr. Monk mystery series novel by Lee Goldberg, features a Detective Cindy Chow who becomes a member of Mr. Monk’s squad. She is a paranoid schizophrenic who wears a foil cap and claims to have been abducted and impregnated by aliens.

Do You Use Our Online Databases?

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Hawaii’s public libraries subscribe to Ancestry Library Edition, an in-library version of the popular Ancestry.com Internet site. Thus, on most library computers, you can search for details about your family history.

One on of your public library’s computers, click on “Other Databases,” either on the tab at the top of the book catalog screen, or on the library’s homepage (near the top of the left column). Choose “Ancestry Library” from the alphabetical list.

Before you search, a good place to start is at the “Charts and Forms” link at the top of the home screen. Here you can print out blank ancestry charts, a research calendar, family group sheets and other forms to help you organize and document your search results. Blank census forms display only the small-print column headings in clear, sharp focus – images of the original forms, with family data, often have “fuzzy” column headings that are difficult to read.

Now that you’re ready to search, the easiest place to begin is back at the home screen. Notice that you’re now in the “Historical Records” section of the database (one of three tabs above the search box). By entering a person’s name and other information, if known, you will search all the historical record types at once (birth, death, marriage, census, etc.). Check the box labeled “Extension Search” only to limit your results at first. If you don’t get useful records this way, uncheck the box and browse results that are close matches – names spelling in the indexes are sometimes only best approximations (e.g. Queen Lilikalani is listed as “Lil-ikaulard” in the 1900 census index).

U.S. Census records are paid for each – every household is surveyed for occupants and their family relationships. Remember that Hawaii is included beginning with the 1900 census. Of course, branches of your family may come from elsewhere. As you build your family tree, census and other records earlier than 1900 may provide needed information.

In general, on-screen displays and options guide you through your use of this database – scan each screen for tips of information you can search for, and how. Screen tips are available, and often pay off with better (more successful) results. Patient and systematic effort often yields fascinating results!

In an upcoming issue of Holo I Mua (June 2007) we’ll feature another family research database – one you can search from home!

Ancestry Library Edition 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: Literature Resource Center
THE ANT BULLY
When you’re as small as an ant, the world is big and adventure is bigger! That’s what young Lucas learns in this animated film after he aims his water pistol at some hapless ants. They retaliate with a secret potion that shrinks him down to their size.

NACHO LIBRE
Jack Black stars as Ignacio ‘Nacho,’ a cook by day in a Mexican orphanage who moonlights as a hostage negotiator. "Oasis of the Pacific" is in danger of being washed ashore by a powerful undercurrent. This video program explores the world of life saving rescues. The hosts go along side-by-side with firefighters trying to contain a blaze; learn how a SWAT team handles a hostage situation; and trains with the LAPD.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: THE JAPANESE–AMERICAN INTERNMENT CASES
In the spring of 1942, more than 110,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry were uprooted from their lives and incarcerated in relocation camps. Their stories, along with those who refused to go, are told in this Oscar–nominated documentary film.

Kids, Vote for the Nene Award
Do you want to help select this year’s Nene Award–winning book – the favorite book of the children of Hawaii?

Students in grades 4 through 6 are eligible to vote at participating school or public libraries through Mar. 16, 2007. You may only vote once.

Go to the Nene Award website, http://nene.k12.hi.us/index.html to learn more about this award, find out what books are eligible, and what books are on this year’s recommended reading list.

In addition, March 16th is the deadline to submit entries to one of the four categories of Nene Award contests: essay, poster, performance, and digital arts. These contests are all centered around the children of Hawaii.

Recommended Children’s Books

By Children’s Librarians of Hawai‘i State Library
–Edith Alvin Room
Virginia Kroll ON THE WAY TO KINDERGARTEN (Preschool – K) Follows the milestone stories that a little bear cub has achieved during his first five years, leading up to the exciting day he is ready to start kindergarten.

Daniel Harrington WHAT AM I? A HAWAII ANIMAL GUESSING GAME (Preschool – up) Young children will enjoy figuring out the answers to riddles about animals that live in Hawaii. Colorful artwork will make them want to play this fun guessing game again with friends.

Margaret Read McDonald CONEJITO: A FOLKTALE FROM PANAMA (K – Grade 3) A little rabbit and his Tia Monica outwit a fox, tiger, and lion, all of whom want to eat him for lunch. This easy-to-learn tale makes a great read–aloud that easily invites participation and introduces Spanish words.

David Wiesner FLOTSAM (K – Grade 4) While exploring at the beach, a curious boy finds an old-fashioned underwater camera that has washed ashore. After developing the film, the boy is surprised to see amazing photographs of hidden underwater worlds. This wordless picture book won the 2007 Caldecott Medal for the best American picture book of the year.

Philip Pullman THE SCARECROW AND HIS SERVANT (Gr. 4 – 6) A hapless scarecrow on a quest to find and save his home takes on orphaned Jack as his servant. Together, they contend with “danger . . . followed by glory . . . leading to sorrow,” as a fortune-teller foretold. A 2007 Nene Award Recommended Book.

Graham Salisbury HOUSE OF THE RED FISH (Gr. 5 – 9) In this sequel to the award–winning Under the Blood–Red Sun (1994), 14-year–old Toshi is determined to raise his father’s fishing boat which was sunk after the attack on Pearl Harbor. His friends and grouchly grandfather help in this rescue effort that symbolizes hope and courage during a difficult time of racial tension in Hawaii during World War II.

Sense–National Show, from front page Lahaina at 2 p.m. Apr. 26, 3:30 p.m. at Kiehi
Oahu – Mar. 20, 10:30 a.m. at Hawaii Kai
Mar. 25, 2:30 p.m. at Kanehoe
Mar. 28: Ewa Beach at 10:30 a.m., Millilani at 3:30 p.m.
May 30, 10 a.m. at Kalihi–Palama
May 13, 10 a.m. at Kaimuki
May 23, 10:30 a.m. at Mililani
May 25, 10:30 a.m. at Salt Lake–Moanalua
May 26, 10:30 a.m. at Kalibi–Palama
May 30, 10:30 a.m. at Wahiawa
Kauai – Mar. 21: Hanapepe at 9 a.m., Waimena at 2 p.m.
Mar. 22: Princeville at 10:30 a.m., Kapaa at 2:30 p.m.
May 23: Lihue at 9:30 a.m., Kolau at noon

For a complete listing of the program schedule visit the HSPLS website: www.libraryhawaii.org. Program schedule is subject to change.

For more information, contact the hosting library.