HSPLS Awarded $1.1 Million IMLS Federal Grant

The Hawaii State Public Library System is the recipient of a $1.1 million federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Each year, the IMLS distributes these funds through state library agencies across the Nation, as part of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). In turn, the states provide at least $1.00 for every $2.00 of federal support.

“We anticipate using these funds to pay for continuing access to online databases and for recurring network costs, in accordance with our 2008-2012 LSTA Five Year Plan,” said State Librarian Richard Burns.

National Library Week – a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools, campuses and communities nationwide – is the perfect time to discover how you can join the Circle of Knowledge @ your library.

The 50th Anniversary of National Library Week will be from April 13-19, and public libraries statewide are scheduled to host special free programs throughout the month in celebration. Each year the American Library Association selects the theme for this special week, and for 2008 they have chosen “Join the Circle of Knowledge @ your library.”

Patrick Ball, one of the world’s premier Celtic harp players and a highly-acclaimed storyteller in the Celtic tradition, and The Muses, a Celtic musical group from Colorado, will be featured performers at selected public libraries statewide, April 12-22.

Ball, a native Californian, artistically blends the exquisite sound of the rare, wire-strung Celtic harp with his intriguing tales of Ireland. He has recorded nine instrumental and three spoken word albums, which have sold well over one half million copies internationally. Ball has won national awards in both music and spoken word categories.

The Muses - Tanya Brody, Matthew Gurnsey and Lindsay Jensen - play an orchestra of exotic instruments such as the bodhran, concertina, harp, hammered dulcimer, psaltery, pennywhistle, flute, and zil. This trio adds new life to old songs and includes original material to enhance the Celtic repertoire.

You won’t want to miss “Celtic Tales with Patrick Ball” and The Muses’ “Celtic Music with Zing!” Both of these 45-minute programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Hawaii, and the UH-Manoa Outreach College, Statewide Cultural Extension Program, and are recommended for ages 5 through adult. 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 a current listing of these and other National Library Week 2008 programs, visit the HSPLS website: www.librarieshawaii.org. You may also call your local library to find out what programs they will offer.
sorrow, and courage of New Orleans musicians as they struggled to return to their homes, rebuild their careers, and revive their devastated community.

**PIXAR SHORT FILMS COLLECTION, VOLUME 1**

Pixar’s unprecedented string of hit animated features was built on the short films in this collection. A total of 13 spectacular Pixar shorts are featured, including Oscar winners “Tin Toy” (1988); “Geri’s Game” (1997); and “For the Birds” (2000).

**Essay Contest Winners Chosen**

The state winners of the fifth annual Letters about Literature essay contest will be honored at the Hawaii Center for the Book’s Award ceremony at the Hawaii State Library on Saturday, April 19. The public is invited to attend the 11:30 a.m. ceremony to meet the State winners and runners-up.

**Sarah Jenkins,** a 5th grader at Akaula School on Molokai, **Ben White,** a 7th grader at Le Jardin Academy, and **Roy Franco,** an 11th grader at Kamehameha Schools, will read aloud their winning essays in the library’s main lobby. A reception in the courtyard will follow.

The three winners will receive cash prizes and Target gift cards. They were selected from 61 state semifinalists in the national contest, which is sponsored by the Center for the Book of the Library of Congress and Target stores. Entrants wrote a personal letter to an author explaining how his or her book affected the student’s perception of life.

Students competed in three levels: Level I for children in grades 4 through 6, Level II for grades 7 and 8, and Level III for grades 9 through 12. Hawaii’s winning entries will be sent to the national competition in Washington, D.C., which will be held in May.