“NERDS” Wins 2011 Nene Award

By Paul H. Mark

The children of Hawaii have chosen “NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society” by Michael Buckley as the winner of the 2011 Nene Award. “NERDS” is a humorous story about a group of unpopular fifth graders who run a spy network from inside their school. With the help of cutting-edge science, they transform their nerdy qualities into incredible abilities to battle an array of James Bond-style villains, each with an evil plan more diabolical and more ridiculous than the last. The Nene Honor Book Award (runner-up) is “The Lemonade War” by Jacqueline Davies.

Margaret Peterson Haddix won the 2010 Nene Award for “Found,” book one of “The Missing” series. She was the special guest speaker, and announced the 2011 Award March 24 before a large audience of invited dignitaries, students, teachers, and other guests at the 46th Annual Nene Award Presentation Ceremony, conducted this year at the Consolidated Theatres’ Ward Stadium 16.

In addition to “Found,” Haddix has written more than 25 books for children and teens. Her books have been honored with “New York Times” bestseller status.

The annual Award is presented to the favorite fiction book based on a vote by the children of Hawaii in grades 4 through 6. This year, a total of 5,129 students voted statewide cast their ballots at public libraries, private and public schools.

This year’s Nene Award corporate sponsor Perma-Bound Books is celebrating “Found” in persuasive and interpretive essays and posters. Visit http://nene.k12.hi.us for a listing of the winners and honorable mentions. Nene Award corporate sponsor Perma-Bound Books presented a copy of “NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society” to each participating public library or school.

The Nene Award is supported by the Hawaii State Public Library System and State Department of Education. The Kamehameha Schools’ Parent Fund, Hawaii Library Association, Hawaii Association of School Librarians, the Hawaii State Teachers Association, Perma-Bound Books, Scholastic Book Fairs, Follett Library Resources, Title Wave, Barnes & Noble-Kahala Mall, and, with a special presentation and concert, the Ka‘anapali Science and Engineering Academy.

By Don Horner, Director

Lanai Library will Remain Open while Roof and A/C Replaced

Lanai Public & School Library is scheduled to undergo an air conditioning and roof replacement project beginning April 11. The Library and book drop will remain open, however access to some collections where repair work is being done will be restricted.

Patrons will be able to borrow available books and DVDs, as well as items on hold. Some computers with Internet-access will be available during the renovation.

Patrons may also log-on to the HSPLS website: www.libraries.hawaii.org to browse the HSPLS Catalog, use the “Ask-A-Librarian” E-Reference service for answers to brief informational reference questions, and use “My Account” to check in items such as “Hold Requests” and “Items Out.”

Lanai Public & School Library’s public service hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Thursday, from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Library is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Oahu Libraries will Offer Special Family Story Time

A special Family Story Time series will be conducted at six Oahu public libraries in April 2011, in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. The Child Abuse Prevention Planning Council and State Department of Health are sponsoring these free story times.

Police Chief Louis Kealoha of the Honolulu Police Department and Miss Hawaii 2010 Jalee Fueseler, will be featured as Special Guest Readers at the kick-off event on Saturday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. in the Hawaii State Library-Edna Allyn Children’s Room.

Children ages 3 and older, accompanied by a parent or caregiver, are invited to listen to a variety of age-appropriate stories at the kick-off event, as well as at other participating public libraries. Each child will receive a free goody bag filled with treats including a McDonald’s coupon, and fun and informational materials for parents, while supplies last. For more information, please call the Hawaii State Library-Edna Allyn Room for Children at 586-3510.

Other public libraries that will host the Family Story Time program include:

• April 3 (Sunday), 10:30 a.m. at Kaimuki Public Library (1041 Koko Ave., 733-8422)
• April 5 (Tuesday), 9 a.m. at Kalibi-Palama Public Library (1325 Kalibi Street, 733-8422)

Several of the Nene Award student contest winners will read from the Nene Award-winning books. The Nene Award student contest judges will be from the University of Hawaii-Manoa and the University of Hawaii-West Oahu.

Hawaii’s public libraries will host free programs throughout the month to celebrate National Library Week. Featured performances include:

• “The Slack Key Artistry of John Keawe,” presented by John and Kea‘au Public Library’s Peterson will perform at three selected Oahu and Maui libraries: April 9, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Kapolei Public Library; April 20, 6:30 p.m. at Makawao Public Library; and April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Wailuku Public Library.

• John Keawe, “A Tribute to Slack Key.” Keawe is a multiple Na Hoku Hanohano Award winner, and has been recognized as one of Hawaii’s most versatile musicians and is at the heart of today’s Hawaiian music scene. Peterson will perform at three selected Oahu and Maui libraries: April 9, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Kapolei Public Library; April 20, 6:30 p.m. at Makawao Public Library; and April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Kailua-Kona Public Library; and April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Keaau and School Library.

• I. Made Widiana and Anna Reynolds, “The Music and Dance of Bali.” Performers Widiana and Reynolds will demonstrate traditional Balinese music and dance using gongs, bronze drums, and gongs.

Hawaii’s public libraries are places for new beginnings. Whether you are applying for your first library card, learning new computer skills or planning a trip, the public library is the place where your story begins. National Library Week is April 10-16, 2011; join our public libraries and librarians to “Create your own story @ your library,” this year’s theme chosen by the American Library Association.

“Every day, Hawaii’s public libraries are helping people create their own unique stories,” said State Librarian Richard Burns. “Whether it is by opening a book to explore distant lands, or learning how to use new technologies to find a job, people in our libraries are creating new stories for themselves.”

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• “The Slack Key Artistry of John Keawe.” Peterson, a multiple Grammy Award and Na Hoku Hanohano Award winner, recognized as one of Hawaii’s most versatile musicians and is at the heart of today’s Hawaiian music scene. Peterson will perform at three selected Oahu and Maui libraries: April 9, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Kapolei Public Library; April 20, 6:30 p.m. at Makawao Public Library; and April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Wailuku Public Library.

• John Keawe, “A Tribute to Slack Key.” Keawe is a multiple Na Hoku Hanohano and Hawaii Music Awards recipient and a contributing artist on Hawaii’s first Grammy Award. See Keawe perform at three selected Oahu and Maui libraries: April 12, 6:30 p.m. at Kiholo Public Library; April 16, 1 p.m. at Kailua-Kona Public Library; and April 21, 6:30 p.m. at Keaau Public and School Library.

• I. Made Widiana and Anna Reynolds, “The Music and Dance of Bali.” Performers Widiana and Reynolds will demonstrate traditional Balinese music and dance using((gongs, bronze drums, and gongs.

Open April 22 – Good Friday and April 24 Easter Holiday. All libraries closed.

Some libraries will be open on April 23. Visit www.libraries.hawaii.org for public service hours or call your local library.
The most popular Bestsellers and DVDs borrowed from Hawaii’s public libraries in March 2011:

**Bestseller**
1. **Tick Tock** by James Patterson & Michael Ledwidge
2. **Gideon’s Sword** by Douglas J. Preston
3. **The Sentry** by Robert Crais
4. **La Femme Nikita** by Jayne Ann Krentz
5. **Pirate’s Island** by Tami Hoag
6. **Secrets to the Grave** by Douglas J. Preston
7. **Girl with a Pearl Earring** by Michael Ledwidge
8. **Call Me Irresistible** by Patricia Daniels
9. **Damage** by Stuart Woods
10. **Out of Africa** by Paul H. Mark

**DVD**
1. **1 Iris** (Korean drama)
2. **2 O Brother, Where Art Thou?**
3. **Hong dou nu zhi lian (My love Patzzi)**
4. **La Femme Nikita**
5. **Princess Mononoke**
6. **Hearts in Atlantis**
7. **Girl in a Pearl Earring**
8. **The Notebook**
9. **Out of Africa**
10. **The Passion of the Christ**

**Recommended Children’s Books**

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| **COUNTRY FROG** | (Preschool-Gr. 2) | This well-illustrated book features Komodo dragons to learn about their season. 
| **HEART OF A SQUIRREL** | By Curt Fukumoto, Children’s Librarian, Salt Lake-Moanalua Public Library | This book is written for beginning readers, as winter approaches. The changes encountered in life. Watercolor illustrations masterfully capture the meaning of friendship and the changes encountered in life. 
| **MYSTERIES OF THE KOMODO DRAGON** | By Martha L. Crump | This well-illustrated book features high-quality color photographs of the Komodo dragon in action. 

**Free Comic Book Day is coming to Libraries on May 7**

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<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hawaii Kai Public Library</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kapolei Public Library</td>
<td>12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liliha Public Library</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</td>
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*Please visit the HSPLS website: www.librarieshawaii.org or call the hosting libraries for updated information, including special library appearances by other costumed character groups.*