

LIBRARIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS SECTION

Newsletter
Issue 80 - June 2014

SPORT AND LIBRARIES





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Associations

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The Chair speaks

Dear Colleagues,

The first part of 2014 has been busy for IFLA section Libraries for Children and Young Adults.

First, our projects. “The World through Picture Books” continues to thrive. The exhibition of best books chosen by librarians, from 35 countries, was presented this year in different Japanese libraries and in Serbia, and will be shown in Lyon during IFLA conference (any library in the world can borrow the exhibition without other costs than those of shipping and insurance). New countries have been included - Turkey, Quebec (Canada), Australia and Togo. Maybe your country is missing and you wish to organize its participation? All information and the catalogue can be found [on line](#).

As for Sister Libraries, we are trying to make their action better known to library community. We are asking active libraries to share their experiences and to be in touch with us. In the meantime, there are new libraries registered that don't have a sister library yet, have a look at their [registration forms](#).

Then IFLA conference in France. Our sessions in Lyon's [programme](#) will explore a variety of questions: libraries creating content with/for young people (session 120), children's libraries in Africa (session 144), “transmedia storytelling” (session 168) and finally, the section participative projects, including a focus on French picture books (session 222). After Lyon, our [satellite conference](#) in Paris will focus on 15-20 year-olds' reading.

You may know all this (and much more), if you already are a follower of our Facebook page, [facebook.com/IFLACYA](#). We opened the page a few months ago, for the Section's news and information but also for any librarian wishing to share posts with colleagues from all over the world.

If you are coming to France, the Section looks forward to meeting you at sessions or at our work meetings that you can attend as an observer.

I hope you enjoy this June *Newsletter!*

All the best,



Viviana Quiñones

Paris, France

Chair, IFLA Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults



Editor's note

Writing this, we're living the last weeks of June. August and IFLA conference are just around the corner, as well as holidays for many of us.

This issue of IFLA Section *Newsletter* is the first with a theme and we kick off with a dynamic theme *Sport and libraries*. I hope you find the articles inspiring and interesting! We are planning to continue putting together thematic issues, is there any subject that you would like to see as the theme? Contact us with your suggestions or proposals for articles.

Me as Info Coordinator, and the whole Section Standing Committee have given a lot of thought to how to make communication between us, you and colleagues around the world even more active and informative. I understand everyone is busy with the daily job. But the way I see it, spending some minutes sharing ideas, challenges and innovations you can save someone else's time. And vice versa, you may find a solution to some work problem or question thanks to the experience of others. Certainly some other library has been thinking to run a similar campaign or activity. So do not feel shy to share, like, post and comment!

The Section Facebook page operates on two levels: we are sharing the information about IFLA's activities but we're also hoping that the page will become an active platform for sharing good practices around the world. If you have a reading promotion, a campaign or a celebration going on in your library, tell us about it. In addition to English, the link can be in your native language.

Sister Libraries program is getting a facelift: I will be working as a programme coordinator, trying to cooperate and help both existing and future Sister Libraries. We'll increase communication with the libraries, try to find new ways to attract new libraries to join. We're doing our best to support Sister Libraries and to make this fabulous programme as lively and useful as possible. The results will benefit the libraries taking part but also others, friends, colleagues and networks. So communication is playing a key role

also within Sister Libraries program.

For those the hemisphere with summer vacation, I wish a relaxing holiday season. I am hoping to see many of you in Lyon and Paris!



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Celebrating International School Library Month in Zimbabwe

Developing a culture of reading and encouraging the young to love the feel of a book is one of the best gifts a parent can give to young children. With the development of libraries and wider collections for readers, in the form of children's fiction and teenage novels, the onus is upon librarians to help readers to experience reading for leisure and educational value.

Although I work in a University Library I love school libraries and like to see them take on that role of introducing children to books. My first personal experience with primary and secondary school children and students thus dates back to the 29th of October 2010. I managed to successfully organize the first ever International School Library Month Celebration in the Midlands town of Gweru, in Zimbabwe. Realizing that International School Library Month is celebrated all over the world in honour of the important role that the school library plays in the lives of children during their early school years, as a dedicated librarian with a passion for enhancing children's reading and education I have now taken it upon myself to advocate for school libraries in the Midlands Province of Zimbabwe every year by taking advantage of this important event.

As a librarian organizing an event of this nature is no easy task. It involves juggling one's normal work responsibilities in order to make time to communicate with the relevant stakeholders. Traveling from work and distributing invitations to schools was not easy; there were trials and tribulations with some schools failing to respond whilst others did not even bother to just send ten pupils and a teacher to the event. These are experiences encountered the world over and I stood up to this challenge. In a developing country like Zimbabwe it is mandatory to obtain official authority from the Provincial Regional Director of Education as well as the Officer Commandant of the Midlands Province, who will sanction the marching. For the 2013 ISLM Celebrations I was grateful for the support of two members of the School Library Network (SLN-UK) who managed to send a few dollars in support of the event. Also Prof Albert Boekhorst kindly provided financial

support of more than 200 USD through the Da Vinci House Foundation. This contribution went towards the printing of t-shirts, stationery, banners and refreshments. At the local level am grateful to Mersfin Clothing for providing décor at the venue. This was rewarding to me for it helped to build good collaboration with those who also support school libraries the world over.



ISLM 2010 March in Gweru

The International School Library Month is an event that can easily open the doors to success for schools. Being employed in a University Library does not prevent me from fulfilling my passion to serve the schools. My passion to help local schools thus stems from responses from school teachers and teacher librarians who express interest in getting to grips with the way in which a library can be established and developed to serve the school. I realize that most schools are not equipped with libraries and it is this lack of information access that drives my passion to help schools develop their own libraries. In the local township some schools are without libraries and students travel to read in the local library, some sacrificing a dollar to spend the whole day in the Public Library.

After two weeks of planning and making all the necessary logistics, documentation, identification of venue and coordinating the librarians to assist on this event, on the 15th of November 2013 I awaited with bated breath for the arrival of the invited schools. Once again the procession started at Stanley Primary School. This time ten primary schools and five secondary schools

turned up for this event. Yes, another successful march took place causing a stir amongst early morning shoppers in this small town. The small town of Gweru momentarily came to a standstill as workers stared through windows, cars had to make way and a small crowd followed us to the venue. The venue was the CJR School, a Primary School two kilometers from the city centre. The marching school kids arrived at the school gate shouting their lungs out singing in celebration. To kick off the event was an opening prayer from a local pastor, followed by the Master of Ceremonies who took to the podium to introduce all invited guests.

The local Branch Chairperson of the Zimbabwe Library Association talked about the importance of school libraries and how they contribute to the teaching and learning process in the classroom.



Mr Tokwe, Mr Maisiri and Mr Fusire (ZIMLA President) prepare to hand out books

He touched on efforts the Branch Association has made in helping schools to establish and develop their libraries. The Guest of Honour, Zimbabwe Library Association President, Mr. L.R. Fusire delivered a speech in which he touched on the need for introducing information literacy skills to children at a very tender age. In the developed world countries the teaching of information literacy skills has reached a high level. However in Zimbabwe information literacy is only taught in university libraries. He thus emphasized the need for librarians and teachers to give guidance to the younger children so that they have that knowledge to identify information and read with a critical mind. He went further to add that the school library is the best institution to groom students to become effective information seekers. To add colour to the event, school pupils of various age groups tasted each other's poetic skills by reciting

exciting poems and for their credit the each went away with Student's Companions and novels. Schools present were also given books.

2013 International School Library Month was a challenging experience for me, I was rewarded for my resoluteness and perseverance in brining to the attention of schools that children's academic success is increased by giving them access to books. In Gweru such schools as CJR School, Anderson School, Fletcher High School, Regina Mundi School and Midlands Christian School have to date boosted their libraries and also gone a step further to employ professionally qualified librarians.



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First German conference for Children and Young Adults' librarians

February, 19 – 22th, eighty children's and youth's librarians met for the first German specialized conference at the Akademie Remscheid in Nordrhein-Westfalen. Thanks to the initiative of the dbv Kommission Kinder- und Jugendbibliotheken, the experts for reading promotion in libraries for children and young adults finally had their chance to exchange ideas and knowledge, to network and to receive new initiatives in various lectures and workshops. In Germany library directors meet every year for the Deutsche Bibliothekstag but questions concerning libraries for children and young adults play a rather minor role.

The short overview about the national initiatives for reading promotion – [Sommer-Leseclub](#), [Lesestart](#) and [Kultur macht stark](#) – was followed by a presentation by Jochen Dudeck, head of the Kommission Kinder und Jugendbibliotheken about the foundation [Haus der kleinen Forscher](#). The foundation sustains the regular dealings with science, mathematics and technology in schools and daycare facilities. Many libraries in Germany already profit from the organization of workshops on scientific questions for kids as well as training courses for multipliers in the library.

Lesestart is a national program to promote language and reading skills at an early age supporting educationally disadvantaged families with free books and information material. Pediatricians provide parents with the first Lesestart-set; the second set is available in public libraries at the age of 3, later children get their third Lesestart-set when they start school.

Via Kultur macht stark the Federal Ministry of Education and Research is supporting out-of-school cultural education programs for educationally disadvantaged children and young adults.

The conference issues dealt with trend themes like social reading, children's book apps, tablets, enhanced e-books and e-readers, which must become even more a part of our work with children.

Different methods of picture book presentation like the Japanese paper theatre Kamishibai or the animated digital Picture-Book Cinema [ONILO](#) by Oetinger-Verlag were tried out and discussed as well as exemplary projects such as the Youth Jury [JuLID](#), Blind date, Casting & Co, a project carried out by teenagers themselves or the excellent offer for young adults in the [Munich public library](#).

As a Standing Committee member of the IFLA section Libraries for Children and Young Adults I spoke about the excellent work of the médiathèques in Epinay-sur-Seine near Paris. During my visit to our partner town, I had been impressed by their efforts on behalf of underprivileged children and teens and I was keen to discuss with interested librarians how we could develop suitable concepts for German libraries. A summary of the workshop results is available [online](#).

The market of possibilities provided the chance to all librarians to present best practice examples of their work. The IFLA-Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults had a successful presentation with its Sister Library and The World in Picture Book projects. The second part of the conference was organized as an Open-Space-Event: The participants scribbled the topics of their choice on the paper table cloth of the respective group and each group then selected three main topics. Several working groups discussed about concrete goals and measures. Their task was to formulate 5 theses forming the basis for further discussions.

Hereinafter the main topics and the point of the respective goals and measures:

1. Measurability of our work

We need instruments and criteria helping us to measure the effectiveness of our work!

2. Staff / volunteers / freelancers

Trainings for staff, volunteers and freelancers have to be organized regularly. Organizing events and projects is the key business of libraries for children and young adults and have to be supported (personnel resources, space requirements, financial support)

3. Organization of events

Each library for children and young adults needs a leitmotif as the basis for events and projects.

4. Social reading

There is need for action and we urgently need training in this field. We would like to have a contact person for media pedagogy within the (library) associations or even a commission.

5. Networking

One single platform is required which would allow access for all librarians and reading promotion experts and which we can use for the publication of best

practice examples, conference results and news.

6. Multilingualism & Interculturality

We need a higher percentage of librarians from immigrant background in our libraries. The platform [Intercultural Library Work](#) should be expanded in order to publish best practice examples, sources of foreign books and translations.

7. The role of a children's and youth librarian now and in the future

We need a new national model setting standards for children's and youth librarians' work!

We finally all decided to join one of the groups in order to discuss the topics and to take appropriate measures even after the conclusion of the conference. Telephone conferences and working platforms google(mail) will help the working groups to communicate without having to meet in person.

The conference was a great success for all involved and all librarians asked for a repeat experience.



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Center of Excellence for Children in Brasov, Romania

Between 2009 and 2013, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has developed the Global Libraries Program in Romania. The program was called *Biblionet* in Romania and was coordinated by the International Research Exchange Board (IREX), in partnership with the National Association of Librarians and Public Libraries of Romania (ANBPR), the local and national authorities and the public libraries. Like the other countries where the Global Libraries ran, the *Biblionet* program intended to update the Romanian public libraries providing computers, training the librarians and creating library innovative services.

In 2012, IREX launched the competition *County libraries - centers of excellence*. In the category *Center of Excellence that provides services to*

children between 0-14 years, the application of the G. Barițiu Public Library Brasov was unanimously declared the winner by the commission of external experts. The project of the library in Brasov, which focuses on the activities of non-formal and informal education, gained a grant of 30,000 USD.

The competition was close and the project of the team in Brasov was selected given the activity of the Children Department, national, until 2012 (partnerships with schools and various non-governmental organizations) and international (successful cooperation projects, including under the auspices of IFLA, as *Sister Libraries Project*). Also, the diversity of the library services offered by the Children Library from Brasov mattered much. Finally, the project obtained the jury

unanimity, as an innovative library service focused on children's health education through sport (see Claudia Popescu's article about the project on this *Newsletter*).

The Center of Excellence for Children was officially opened 31.5. 2013 in the presence of the IREX delegates, local public authorities, librarians from our country and abroad, parents, educators, and children. The project launch intended to be a gift for the children on the occasion of the International Children's Day. The Children and Youth Branch Library in Brasov is the third center of excellence opened in Romania, along with those of the Public Libraries of Cluj (Center of Excellence for adolescents and young adults of 14-25 years) and Galati (Center of excellence for senior adults of 41-60 years).

The project of the Center of Excellence had several components: research and training. As a center of excellence for children, we conducted a survey about the library services and programs for children existing in Romania, based on responses to a questionnaire. Another educational product for librarians is a guide of how to design the best library services for children. They are available online [here](#). Workshops and demonstration sessions for the librarians who work with children have followed. Librarians were trained either locally or nationally. The first were recruited from the public libraries in the county of Brasov, the others were from the public libraries in Romania. Thus, over 50 people were trained in an intensive program of training, the workshops and the sessions scheduled monthly.

Summer of 2013 was a busy one in which the librarians from Brasov put into practice the project for children's health education through sports, a new library service, free and useful. With the new sports equipment purchased thanks to funding and with support from coaches and librarians, the children learned and applied the information about the health through exercise.

In the autumn of 2013, the work of the librarians of the Center of Excellence Brasov finished by purchasing the equipment necessary for the video conferences and the sessions for the presentation of the library services. The dissemination campaign included sessions in Bucharest – within the Future

Libraries Conference for concluding the Biblionet Program, October 31 - November 2, 2013 - and in the Public Libraries of Braila, Craiova, and Pitesti.

The Center of Excellence for Children in Brasov demonstrated its quality and performance and managed to communicate and stimulate the development of library services among the librarians trained within the program. The reaction of appreciation of our colleagues in the country was reflected in new partnerships and projects carried out by Brasov and other cities. By means of the video conference equipment, we'll continue the series of the professional meetings, further supporting the promotion of the library services



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SPORT AND LIBRARIES

– leading readers to sport, and athletes to reading

A welcomed recent trend in libraries is to take action for the physical well-being of children and young people. In addition to providing material - fiction and non-fiction - about sports, games, recreation and health issues, libraries also offer sport activities and campaigns directed to their young clientele. This issue of our *Newsletter* presents several successful library actions around the world, both on small and large scales.

Different library programs are intended to raise the awareness of sport and exercise. To start with, libraries can display relevant material on shelves and on their website. For example, it is easy to guess that during the football World Cup in Brazil hundreds of libraries put football-themed materials on display... Nevertheless, the most effective way to promote sport is to actually have readers practice it!

Sitting at school or at home in front of a computer or nose in a book most of the time isn't that healthy... There is scientific evidence that obesity and back problems have been drastically increasing among children and youth after the 1980s. Together with parents, schools, medical institutions and different associations, libraries can contribute to promote a healthy lifestyle for children and young adults.

On the other hand, young athletes and sportspeople often don't have time for or interest in reading, and sometimes they cannot develop full literacy skills... So, another perspective of the relation between sports and libraries is to highlight the importance of literacy and to take action in the competition for children's free time. Libraries have taken book talks and discussions to where the kids actually are, that is, into locker rooms or playing fields (remember the great, pioneer paper by Stig Elvis Furset, "[The Locker-Room Librarian](#):"

[The Maradona of literature dissemination](#)"?). Well-known sportsmen and -women can be great role models for sporty youth, introducing them to the pleasure of reading and to the importance of literacy skills. Keen footballers, for example, may find a totally new world of football-related literature such as biographies, novels, comics, manuals and videos on technical issues... When this is presented by a famous football icon, the success is granted!

And let's not forget another playful way to combine physical health and the wonderful world of imagination. Literature quizzes, meetings with athletes, multimedia presentations, but also competitions and sport activities based on a literary theme are a good way to promote books in a friendly competitive way. Many kids - certain older boys especially - enjoy competition, and reaching for a goal can be the best way to improve reading skills and habits. Book-Olympics, reading marathons and book steeples make book talks easy and enjoyable.

In the following pages we're proud to present sporting campaigns from libraries all around the world. In addition to these, there are countless similar promotions running (pun intended) at the moment. For example in Aalborg, Denmark a huge number of 2600 kids took part in a "Language Fitness" event in May 2014. [Take a look!](#)

So it is time to get up and get moving with reading kids!

Ulla Pötsönen

Sports and Health Education at Pre-school Level

- A project of the Center of Excellence for children in Brasov, Romania

Motto: "A moving child is a learning child!"

In 2012-2013, the Children's Branch of the County Public Library Brasov, Romania won the Global Libraries Foundation funding of 30,000\$ for this project. The project is developed within the Center of Excellence for Children aged 0-14 years, which opened on this occasion and provides services with a focus on the activities of non-formal and informal education.

Our project started due to the real needs for such education, identified both in preschool



and general education. The need for play and movement is a fundamental one for preschoolers. Exercise has many benefits for the physical and mental harmonious development of the child. However, in Romania, most of the activities designed and implemented for preschoolers focus on intellectual development to the detriment of physical development. A non-supportive attitude of the school authorities regarding the physical activity of children still persists and that leads to the absence of policies to promote sport, with reduced costs for the entire population, and also to the absence of a culture of promoting sport for health. Leisure time spent in front of the TV/computer, sedentary lifestyle, high prices at the specialized sports centers and the limited offer of educational programs explains once again the choice of this project. Our team thought it was necessary to involve the public library in creating new and innovative library services, in order to

change attitudes and promote a healthy lifestyle.

We believe that healthy living is one of the most important subjects to be taught to children and their parents, and it is well worth investing in. Good health not only impacts a child's long-term future and personal life, but also improves behavior, energy levels, concentration, attendance, academic ability, strength, growth and emotional health.

According to specialists at the Parhon Institute in Bucharest, over 40% of Romanian children are overweight and the main responsibility for childhood obesity lies with parents. Also, the statistical data showed that many obese children in Romania come from families with poor educational background and poor material circumstances. Our library and its partners used observation and other needs based assessment methods and found out that the number of the children affected by this problem is increasing, and the most vulnerable group is represented by children aged between 3 and 7 years old. We investigated this problem in more detail, and we found that there are no community educational



programs for a healthy lifestyle for children in this age group in Braşov. Also, there is a strong need for guidance among parents and educators who want to ensure a healthy development for children.

This is why the project was called SMS for Preschool - Sport for Maintaining Health. The program is

designed for children aged 3-7 years and aims to build children's participation and constant interest in practicing the systematic physical exercise. Our intention was to combine the practical activities for children with the development of knowledge and skills among parents and teachers.

The new education service for sports and health has been designed across all the services for children. Then, equipment and special sports facilities were purchased and the enrolling of the children



in the 10 one-week-series of 15 children each began. Recruitment of participants in the program was made through library users (children and parents), in cooperation with the kindergartens in the city. The practical activities with children took place between June and August, coordinated by sports teachers, coaches and librarians. The 150 children and their parents were instructed step by step, they practiced the moves, the good posture, the training rules, avoiding the risks of falling and hitting etc. In fact, all the exercises taught children useful things in life - how to keep their balance, the body posture, how to adjust their speed, how to keep an equal rhythm of breathing, how to be flexible and have reliable movements etc. The children also learned to be patient, ambitious, and persevering and how to work as part of a team.

In figures, the results are as follows: 150 children participating in the program, 2 workshops for parents, 2 online sessions for educators, 320 instructed adults, 10 partnerships with nurseries in Brasov, 1 online brochure and 1 video collection for parents. Beyond the numbers, the most important impact is on children. Trying to measure the program's outcomes, we recorded interviews with parents and children. The children were thrilled and excited by the motion games while

parents noticed their children's joy, the interaction with the other little colleagues and with the group coordinators, and the making of new friends. Educators noted the children's discipline and ambition, their desire to learn and how much they have achieved despite the young age. Everyone appreciated the usefulness of the new library service, they want to continue, and parents have recommended the new service to other parents. Interviews were posted on the [website](#) specially created within the project on the free platform, where there is also a video collection. Video materials, under the label of SMS Prescolar are posted on YouTube.

For us as librarians, it was important to appreciate correctly the interest towards the program and to be able to shape attitudes, encourage a healthy lifestyle, and to correct the negative behavior caused by the lack of information. Information was disseminated in training sessions on site and online, in workshops that librarians from children's libraries throughout Romania took part in, but also through the materials written in the project. On the project website both a guide for parents (with tips, learning strategies, activities, demonstrations and examples of exercise) and resources for librarians (studies, how-to-do guides, guidance etc.) are available online.

All of this demonstrates that our decision to boost health education was correct and the new service is a viable one, with a clear added value.



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Libraries meet sport

Russian libraries' experiences

Russian public libraries encourage practices that affirm the value of sport and a healthy lifestyle. Public library collections include books about sports and sporting achievements; exhibitions and presentations of books that promote sport are held along with a variety of other events: meetings with famous athletes, quizzes, reading marathons, educational programmes, Olympic lessons, lectures, flashmobs, promotion events, multimedia presentations and even hockey tournaments and biathlon races. Here are some examples of the work that Russian libraries carry out for the benefit of young adults.



In November 2013, the Kemerovo Regional Library for Children and Young Adults organized a week-long sporting event called Hope Starts Week. Between the 18th and the 24th of November the library's readers took part in the National Sochi-2014 Marathon. Each participant of this event had to run, walk, cycle, skate or ski (or use any other means of travel) for 20 minutes. The distances covered by all participants were added up, and the total distance was measured in the lengths of the Earth's equator (40 075 kilometres). The event attracted librarians, readers, and even literary characters – costumed performers.

The Komi Republic Library for Young Adults held the Readers&Librarians volleyball tournament as part of the Year of Sport activities in the Republic. A whole day, 3 September 2013, was devoted to sports in the library: young readers watched animated films, played tennis on Nintendo Wii, took part in intellectual exercises and read sports

periodicals and books on healthy lifestyle from the Happy Ball Championship book exhibition. Meanwhile, real sport was played in the library's courtyard: children and young parents took part in different sports games and competitions. In the evening, the first Readers&Librarians volleyball tournament for young people in Syktyvkar took place. Both teams were determined to win, and the match turned out to be interesting to watch and fun to play. The Librarian team eventually won 3:2. As part of the Year of Culture and Sochi Winter Olympics activities, the city of Oryol established a Library Information Centre in order to promote sport and healthy living to young people. Visitors to the Centre have access to multimedia resources about sports and the opportunity to work with Sports World – a database of sports articles and books. The Centre also organizes meetings with famous athletes and other events.

Every Wednesday is a sports day in Chelyabinsk Regional Library for Young Adults. The library's Sports Wednesday project is intended to support the XXII Olympic Winter Games and the XI Paralympic Games in Sochi; to teach Olympic history, traditions and values; to introduce more children, teenagers and adults to sports and active living; to promote sports and healthy lifestyle. The project's motto is "Health, sport and reading – that's what we like!" Various events are held on Sports Wednesdays: meetings with successful athletes, including local sports heroes from Chelyabinsk; book and magazine exhibitions; educational programmes for which the library prepares useful materials about staying healthy. Sports competitions for middle school students are always popular with



both children and adults: these events are fun, memorable and very inspiring.

A week before the opening of the XXII Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, libraries in 75 Russian regions launched the National Library Campaign for young readers with the tagline “From Book Pages to Olympic Achievements!”

The most active participants in the campaign were libraries in the Komi Republic, Chuvashia, Karelia, Bashkortostan, Kalmykia, Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug, Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous



Okrug, and Krasnodar Krai as well as Novosibirsk, Nizhny Novgorod, Saratov, Sverdlovsk, Belgorod, Bryansk, Irkutsk, and Kemerovo regional libraries. Educational programmes were designed to inform about the Olympic Games, their traditions and history, as well as Russia’s involvement in them. Many libraries invited athletes, politicians, writers and public figures to take part in the activities.

Especially interesting are the modern kinds of activities – flashmobs, promotion activities, multimedia presentations – that had never been held in libraries on such a large scale before. The Sverdlovsk Regional Library for Children and Young Adults arranged a videoconference with Malookhtinskaya Library in St. Petersburg. The A.S. Pushkin Regional Library for Children and Young Adults in Saratov held an Olympics Calling! videoconference with other children’s libraries in the region. The I.F. Varavva Library for Young Adults in Krasnodar organized three video links with young people in different parts of Russia: the Olympic City of Sochi, the town of Uray in Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug, and the village of Nikolaevka in the Ufimsky District of Bashkortostan. The A.S. Pushkin Central City Library for Children in St. Petersburg organized a

videoconference with twelve libraries in Saratov Region simultaneously.

Sports games are especially popular with library visitors. Some libraries get really creative: the M.A. Svetlov Central City Library for Young Adults in Moscow announced a best sports song, best chant



and best banner competition with the tagline “Brighter, louder, all together!”; the Library for Children and Young Adults in Penza hosted a sports-and-dance flashmob. Librarians at the Chuvashia Republican Library for Children and Young Adults swapped their usual clothes for sports clothes for one day and started the day with a workout, with the director becoming Head Coach. Their example showed that librarians are healthy, energetic and active people. The day culminated in a dance flashmob “Yes to Olympics, Reading and Sport!”, in which over 80 librarians and volunteers took part.

Sports, health and a healthy lifestyle are always relevant for libraries and consistently popular with young readers. Sports activities in the library are a great incentive to become fitter and learn more about sports culture and staying healthy.

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Be Fit, not Fat

Pietrari Local Public Library, Romania

This programme for exercise in the reading room and health information helps the community get back in shape.

'I look different, feel different, and my husband and child appreciate the difference! Without Pietrari Local Public Library I would not have succeeded!' said Ms Ileana Nitu, aged 32, who lost 22kg through Pietrari Public Library's "Be Fit Not Fat" programme.



Before and After: Ms Ileana Nitu

Pietrari Local Public Library serves Pietrari, a village with about 3,000 people in Vâlcea County in south-central Romania. For a number of years, the library has been offering a variety of traditional book-lending and information services, and some less traditional services, including computer and internet classes for schoolchildren, and online research training and ICT access for specific groups, like farmers, tourists and job-seekers.

But recently, one programme in particular has been attracting the attention. This is the library's "Be Fit not Fat programme", which aims to help the community get back in shape.

In Pietrari village, about 25% of people are overweight. There are many reasons for this: inactive lifestyles, lack of information about good

nutrition, poverty – which means good food seems less affordable – poor diet and stress. The introduction of buses, while useful for the village, has meant children are reluctant to walk or cycle to school. Playing outdoors is being replaced by computer games and watching TV and children are leading increasingly sedentary lives.

Concerned librarians decided to tackle the obesity problem and help the community get back in shape. After consulting with schools, doctors and health specialists, they launched "Be Fit Not Fat" in October 2012. With the help of teachers and volunteers, they publicized the programme through schools and by circulating pamphlets and posters.

Information, action and interaction

"Be Fit Not Fat" challenges lack of health knowledge, inaction and passive lifestyles through a combination of information, action and interaction.

Supported by teachers, the library provides a steady stream of health information to local schools during classes, reaching children from kindergarten to eighth grade, when children are 14/15 years old. The teachers also helped the library organize a 'Champions of health' contest, giving prizes to 50 children who can show sound knowledge about healthy lifestyles and the dangers of obesity.

At the time of the launch, a library survey of 200 people (adults and children) drew a positive response from 95% of respondents – and led to 180 people asking to sign up for fitness classes in the library. Before signing up, participants must undergo weight evaluations. Since the programme launch in 2012 the library has conducted weight evaluations for 245 adults, of which 35 mothers and 28 teenagers are participants in the intensive fitness programme. In addition, 210 children have undergone weight evaluations.

The exercise classes take place in the library's

reading room, using a Wii fitness console. This is a video gaming console programmed for fitness training. The console transmits a moving image of a 'virtual' fitness trainer to a television screen. With technical help from the librarians, exercisers create their own exercise programme by using a remote control device to manipulate the image of the 'virtual' trainer. Sixteen older students from local schools support younger children during exercise classes.



Children's exercise class, using a Wii fitness console

As a result of this intensive information campaign and exercise, 18 participants lost from one to three kilogrammes in a month, without dieting. More children are choosing to walk home from school, to use their bicycles and to play outside in their free time. Some children also reported that their meals at home had changed and were now healthier. As word about the weight loss spread, another 18 teenagers and a group of 25 mothers with weight problems signed up.

Ensuring weight loss is safe and lasting

To ensure weight loss is both safe and lasting, the programme draws on the support of local doctors and nurses, and encourages a variety of support activities. Using library computers, participants consult nutritionists at the Kilostop clinic in the capital city, Bucharest, many kilometres away, via the online communication tool, Skype. The Kilostop clinic has also donated pamphlets and booklets about the importance of regular exercise, healthy nutrition, losing weight safely and the dangers of obesity, which are now available at the library.

Participants in the intensive fitness and nutrition programme have also created a Facebook page and a blog for sharing experiences, giving encouragement and celebrating weight loss.

The programme is having an impact. In less than two years since the launch, the library has recorded about over 2,750 visits to the library for the "Be Fit Not Fat" programme. Librarians have recorded over 2,790 visits to the library for the programme, and have provided information about healthy lifestyles to over 2,560 people (statistics collected by the library, April 2014).

Participants in both the health education classes and the fitness training have high praise for the library, describing the project as 'pretty nice' and 'ultra awesome'.

'The doctor was amazed at how much weight I have lost. She had warned me for years to lose weight, but I failed until I joined the library's programme,' said Ms Alina Tapusi, aged 28, who lost 17 kg.

Recognition and awards

The library has won international and national recognition for the "Be Fit Not Fat" programme. In 2014, the library won an award for Creative use of ICT in public libraries from the international non-governmental organization, Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL). The library also won an Ideas for tomorrow@your library award, presented by the Future Libraries programme in Romania. Information about the service has been included in two Romanian library guidebooks about services for children, adolescents and young adults.

The programme was launched with support from IREX Bucharest, the Local Council of Pietrari and the Local Association of Retirement. Pietrari Local Public Library also participated in the Biblionet – Global Libraries Romania programme. For further information, contact Ms Crina Popescu, head of the Pietrari Local Public Library.

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Reading the Game in Oslo, Norway

Book presentations and football stadiums might not seem to be a perfect match. But when an author and thirty young football players meet prior to a top league match the result can be magical.



Former football player and manager, now an author, Arild Stavrum together with enthusiastic boys at Aaraasen stadium.
Photo: Vibeke Roegler/The Association Read

It is a Sunday afternoon in April 2014 at Aaraasen stadium outside Oslo, the capital of Norway. The home team Lillestroem is playing against Sandnes Ulf. Thirty girls and boys at age thirteen are one hour before kickoff invited to meet author Arild Stavrum. Stavrum is a former professional football player and manager and has recently published a children's book about football where magic's involved.

The meeting is part of the project "Hat trick" by the Association Read. Read is a non-governmental nationwide organization that works to encourage Norwegian people in general and teenagers in particular to increase their engagement in reading and their curiosity for literature. "Hat trick" is a co-operation between Read, The Norwegian Football Association and public libraries all over the country. The project aim is to make literature and book presentations available for football players and to establish meetings between local clubs, librarians and authors.

"I always enjoyed playing at this stadium", Stavrum says to the young listeners. "Almost every time I was here I scored. Also, Lillestroem has one of the best supporters in the league", he continues.

Nevertheless, Stavrum is not at Aaraasen this Sunday to play football but to talk about his book *Maradonas magi* (The Magic of Maradona, my translation). He tells the young players that he wanted to write about football but as fiction instead of nonfiction. "When I started to write this book I needed a hero and a crook", he says and shows the quiet public, on a screen, pictures of players that inspired him.

"This is Diego Armando Maradona. He was my big hero when I was your age. Have you heard of him?", he asks the young players. Yes, they have. "The idea for the bad guy is this man", he reveals and points at a photo of Claudio Gentile. "He played for Juventus and Italy national team. Have you heard of him?"

No one has so Stavrum starts to explain Gentile's style and especially his fights on the pitch with Maradona. "He was a very tough and ugly player. Every time he played against Maradona he went wild". Stavrum follows up with some stories about how Gentile injured Maradona during the World Cup in Spain in 1982 and goes on to explain how they both made a perfect match for writing a fiction story.

"But the story needs more than a hero and a crook, right?"

The young footballers agree. Stavrum plays them a YouTube-clip of two identical goals scored by Maradona and Lionel Messi, another great Argentinian football player. On the screen, Maradona's legendary goal, not the "hand of God" but the second goal against England during the World Cup in Mexico in 1986, is rolling beside Messi's magic for Barcelona against Getafé in 2007. The boys and the girls are laughing with surprised faces.

"Look at this". Stavrum's voice is getting louder as he starts to compare the two goals with each other. "Both players receive the ball on the right side at the middle of their own half. Then they dribble past the opponents using the outside of their left foot. They are both going in between the middle defender and the left back and past the goalkeeper and score. Maradona and Messi even fall at the same place and celebrate exactly the same way".

Messi scored his goal twenty-one years later than Maradona.

“How is that possible?”, Stavrum wonders. The players have some suggestions. Mostly logical explanations but no one related to the author’s idea.

“There must be some kind of magic here. Something that makes it possible to become as good as Maradona”, Stavrum indicates. The player’s don’t know what to believe. However, there is one thing they can all agree on.

“I want to read that book”.



Photo: Julia Naglestad/B13.no

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Sports at Bayside Libraries, Australia

Bayside Libraries in Victoria, Australia have hosted several sporting events in recent years.

A local Sports teacher provided us with his expertise and sporting equipment, for instance soccer balls, footballs and bean bags. This put a “professional” spin on our activities.

Brighton Library hosted a football activity which attracted boys and girls aged 7-10. Football and soccer drills were run outside as well as running races and tunnel ball. The children then went inside to make a football bookmark in their team’s colours and completed a sports quiz. The group assessed the events as *stimulating and exciting*.

In winter 2012 we used a large hall to host Olympic team events for children 7– 10 years. We used bean bags, hoola hoops and balloons. Hop Scotch and other games were played and races were held. The children also made an Olympic Torch with coloured cellophane as flames. Everyone enjoyed the event.

Feedback from Customer’s included:

Great for the kids to run around and exercise.

Excellent, well organized.

Loved the Torch making activity!

Fiction and non-fiction books that tie in with the programs’ theme are displayed at all holiday events and, satisfyingly, these get snapped up.



Janet Metcalfe
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Bookball

The game of reading

Rijeka City Library conducts the BookBall project that was created as a result of connecting interests and collaboration with Football Club Rijeka (FC Rijeka), one of the most influential and popular Croatian football clubs. This is a unique project in Croatia and it consists of intertwining FC Rijeka and Rijeka City Library's lives through various activities – all Football School participants (around 400 children and teenagers) have the opportunity to become members of the Library free of charge and borrow specifically chosen literature appealing to boys and sportsmen from the Little Library established at the stadium premises. Moreover we organize meetings with Croatian writers at the stadium periodically. The project evoked positive reactions of children, parents and society, but it brought up a list of challenges like fighting common stereotypes about footballers, education and culture, unadjusted sports infrastructure, lack of time for reading as the result of intense training process etc.



IFLA WLIC 2008 in Québec was swarming with interesting speeches and ideas, but one comes to mind as the most inspiring and provocative. The speech in question was presented by Stig Elvis Furset from Archive, Library and Museum Authority, Oslo, Norway, under the intriguing title: The Locker-Room Librarian: The Maradona of literature dissemination. His inspiring performance, describing the project of the Norwegian Association "Sports and Reading", set a spark in our minds that waited the long 5 years to

burst into something similar in Croatia. First, the conditions needed to be met.

At the moment the reputation of football in Croatian society is a very specific one. On one hand the public perception of domestic football and internal league is highly negative – football match-fixing, bad conditions of football stadiums, problematic football supporters etc., while on the other hand football is surely the most important national sport. Furthermore, the national football team matches are causing national delirium, the European league matches are extensively watched and football betting offices are highly visited. Such national attitude towards the sport also applies to people living in Rijeka and the surrounding areas, who support one of the most influential and popular Croatian football clubs – Rijeka Football Club.

After years of entanglements, unclear functioning and financial crises in FC Rijeka, a highly motivated foreign investor – Social Sport Foundation – approached the Club and the change in the Club functioning started from scratch. It was decided to reform the Club to become one of the life centres of the community, the point that gathers whole families, not only traditional supporters, and also offers additional content to championship football matches. For years now the successful FC Rijeka Football School has been gathering generations of children from 5 to 18 years of age some of whom grew to be successful football players playing at various Croatian football fields.



Throughout the years the Football School has been working with 400 footballers of different ages, taking care not only of their growth as sportsmen but as individuals on the whole. The common public opinion is that reading and enjoying books is an activity that is absolutely unnecessary for a footballer to be successful in his career. This prejudice has deep social roots and should be strongly challenged in the 21st century, and one of the best ways to do it is through connecting books, reading and football at concrete points that have never been known to overlap, until now.



The BookBall project was brought to life in 2013 through connecting interests of FC Rijeka to advance the Football School program and create additional content for the attendees, and the wish of Rijeka City Library to work more actively with boys, a population that, usually, through social prejudice, is not connected with the world of books. It is a challenging cooperation and the results are possible only through continuing persistence.

The Football School members are provided with one year membership and use of Rijeka City Library services free of charge with appropriate activities and programs complementing their physical training. Every FC Rijeka Football School member automatically becomes Rijeka City Library member with all library services included.

The Library has founded the Little Library corner at the Club premises, that consists of two book collections with 100 titles of children fiction and popular science literature aimed to this special user group. Titles are carefully chosen by librarians according to their knowledge and experience – librarians choose good quality titles that are fun and interesting to boys. The Little Library is also provided with a notebook for registering the

circulation of books from the collection. Once a week, at regular times, volunteer librarians are there to be at service to young footballers in borrowing the books.

In collaborating efforts of the Library and the Club, meetings with authors are organized from time to time. Popular authors are invited to the FC Rijeka football stadium as guests at the author-players meetings, and in return successful footballers present their books at Rijeka City Library. Other activities were also planned within the project, but during the realization it was found that further adjustments would take longer and would be more challenging.

We would like to highlight specific challenges that have shown to be relevant during the project so far:

Challenge 1: Social stereotypes about (dis) connection of reading and football

Social stereotypes about the connection of books and football/footballers are extremely strong – a book is not considered something of much interest to footballers or something needed in their professional development, while book lovers do not value football as something worth their attention. Such a complicated situation of mistrust and prejudice is an obstacle to children being brought up and educated to be happy beings – children who are not yet afflicted by adults' values and beliefs. The extent of the prejudice was shown right at the beginning of the BookBall project presentation as users of some local online portals wrote about the project as being destined to fail because investing in footballers was "investing in morons". Such individual attitudes are incredibly insolent and unproductive and in the long run harm the education of children who are interested and open towards the activities of the sort.

Task: Breaking social stereotypes and prejudice and developing affirmative attitudes towards educational projects

Challenge 2: Lacking spacial capacities

One of the problems FC Rijeka and Rijeka City Library have in common is inadequacy in spatial conditions they work with. Regarding that both

partners' Program Development Departments do not want to condition their work with special restrictions, the Small Library, with a book selection appealing to boys, was organized at the stadium and it is available in accordance with the training process. The problem is not only the lack of space, but also the fact that stadiums have never before been considered as potential cultural points. Therefore it is a substantial project challenge to find the exact place for establishing a zone at the football stadium that stimulates creativity and cultural development for children and young adults.

Task: Conceptual thinking and developing the creativity and cultural zone at the stadium

Challenge 3: Time

Football School attendees have very intense and precise daily schedules and it is a delicate task to burden them with extra activities. When author meetings are organized at the stadium it is not easy to determine a timing that suits everyone as each meeting means a change in the training activities and rhythm.

Task: Suitable methodological fitting of educational and creative activities in training schedules

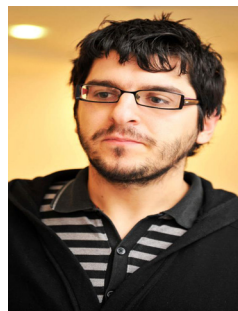
Challenge 4: Results

Wanting quick results and instant revolutions is one of the greater challenges and burdens of the project. Looking from the marketing perspective, a successful/unsuccessful project is usually evaluated by the number of users and by media visibility, but from the educational point of view those are not categories that should determine the value of projects like this one. As is the case with all library activities and projects, we know very well that the primary aim in the long run is education of new generations of readers, providing content to children who possibly do not have a distinctive everyday link to reading or this link isn't sufficient (for instance, some of the Football School attendees are excellent readers and have read the majority of chosen titles, proving that the stereotype about footballers not interested in books is wrong!)

Task: Long term planning and developing activities



In spite of many challenges yet to be overcome, in spite of a wish to break down the prejudice among sportsmen that reading is boring and to break down the social prejudice that sportsmen do not read and do not read to children, the beginning of this literary-football game showed us something we had never thought of earlier: due to regular trainings and the relation with the training coach, young sportsmen develop discipline, good behaviour, respect and reliability. And that is an extremely fruitful foundation for growth and cooperation of any sort.



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Sister Libraries programme

IFLA programme Sister Libraries for children's and young adults' reading has been active 4 years now. At the moment there are 73 registered libraries from 35 different countries and from all the continents. It is a wonderful cocktail of public libraries, school libraries and organizations dedicated to promote children's reading.

39 libraries have been reported to taking part of pairings, and altogether 28 pairs have been made. Some libraries have one Sister Library, but there are some libraries with even 3 pairings.

The latest positive turn of the future of the program is a grant from from Norwegian trade union [Fagforbundet](#). With the grant we can coordinate the programme better, and increase the support and communication between the Section and libraries. It is also a possibility to develop the program further.

We have started to approach all Sister Libraries and will keep contact with them. We will be supporting new libraries and trying to match-make them with other libraries. The goal is not to achieve a massive number of new libraries but rather to support the existing partners in their cooperation.

We're also asking Sister Libraries to share their experiences, whether on the blog, the mailing list or the Section Facebook page. The whole children and YA library community is waiting to hear the news from partnerships!

Note that there is a Sister Libraries poster (PDF) on the Section website that you can download and use!

If you have any questions, comments or remarks on Sister Library programme, please feel free to contact us!

SISTER LIBRARIES



International Federation
of Library Associations
and Institutions
www.ifla.org



共同建置姐妹圖書館來推廣兒童及青少年閱讀
مكتبات شريكة من اجل المطالعة عند الاطفال والناشئة
Bibliotecas hermanas para la lectura de niños y jóvenes
Bibliothèques partenaires pour la lecture des enfants et des adolescents
Sister Libraries for Children's and Young Adult's reading
Partnerbibliotheken für Kinder und Jugendliche weltweit
Библиотеки-сестры и детско-юношеское чтение

[Sister Libraries programme](#)

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**THE
WORLD
THROUGH
PICTURE
BOOKS**

Librarians' favourite books from their country

IFLA International Federation
of Library Associations
and Institutions
www.ifla.org

<http://www.ifla.org/en/node/6718>

The aim of The World through Picture Books project is to create an annotated list of picture books from around the world, recommended by librarians. All countries are asked to submit ten favourite children's picture books, chosen by the librarians in that country, against agreed criteria.

In 2013 the first edition of the multilingual catalogue was published. It is downloadable free of charge and printable. It is also published and sold as an IFLA Professional Report. Two exhibition collections of the books have been created, thanks to donations by the publishers. These are based in the National Libraries of Japan and France. They have been shown all around the world (Finland, Japan, France, Italy, Serbia, Reunion Island and Korea) and are available for loan free of charge to libraries in all countries wishing to exhibit them.

More information: <http://www.ifla.org/node/6718>

The World through Picture Books in Belgrade, Serbia



The international exhibition The World Through Picture Books was presented in Belgrade, Serbia from April 2nd to 26th, 2014. It was organised by the publishing house Kreativni centar (from Belgrade) and Belgrade City Library in cooperation with IFLA and the National Library of France.

Visitors in Serbia had the unique opportunity to see nearly 300 best picture books from 36 countries from around the world (librarians' favourite books from their country), which were on display in Belgrade City Library.

Serbia is present in the exhibition, since librarians from 27 Serbian cities voted for their favourites towards the end of 2012 and in early 2013, according to the IFLA's [criteria](#). Out of the 10 selected Serbian books, seven have been published by Kreativni centar.

The duration of the exhibition encompassed two of the most important dates related to books and publishing - the International Day of Children's Books (April 2nd), which was chosen for the opening of the exhibition, and World Book Day and Copyright Day (23th of April).

The Exhibition The World Through Picture Books in Belgrade was visited by a great number of children accompanied by their parents. Besides that, approximately 900 children from Belgrade schools and kindergartens visited the exhibition together with their teachers. All of them were welcomed

and guided through the exhibition by the editors from Kreativni centar. The children were delighted with the books and illustrations, they were very engaged and asked many interesting questions.

Educators and teachers who accompanied them, believed that the exhibition was a great way for children to learn about other cultures, customs, myths, legends, alphabets ... In a way, it was an opportunity for these children to travel around the world in less than one hour.

The exhibition was also visited by the Ambassadors of some of the countries that participated in this project, by students of illustration and design, and by other interested visitors who wanted to know whether further countries will join the program and if the extended exhibition will be shown in Serbia again.

With this excellent exhibition Kreativni centar took the liberty to mark the 25th anniversary of the release of its first picture book. We are very proud that we had a chance to organize this kind of cultural event and we hope we will have the opportunity to do other similar events in cooperation with IFLA in the future.

See also video clips about exhibition [here](#).



Jelena Dragojlović (on the left)

Jelena Dragojlović

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Section Standing Committee Midyear meeting in Moscow, Russia

Personal impressions about the meeting

The Standing Committee of IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section held its spring meeting in Moscow, between April 3rd and 6th 2014, hosted by the Russian State Library for Young Adults. In my opinion, Mrs. Irina Mikhnova and her entire team managed and delivered a successful and well-organised meeting with extremely useful professional exchanges and fruitful dialogue.

The working atmosphere of the committee meetings was intense as the members of the Standing Committee deeply immersed themselves in the packed agenda. The programme was a full one with the Chair's, Treasurer's and Information Co-ordinator's reports, the discussions on the present and future projects of the Section and the preparations for the IFLA conferences in August. At the same time, the participants discussed the *Newsletter* and its editorial policy, the statement on social media and privacy in the library and made proposals for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA).

In my opinion, some impressions of Moscow remain clearly outlined. First of all, I was sincerely impressed by the professionalism of the Russian librarians. Everything they presented, from the selected libraries, with their activities and programmes, to the meetings with Russian colleagues, all emphasized this professionalism. Well trained, the Russian librarians are open to their users' needs and they design activities and projects accordingly. They search for data and resources, initiate partnerships and show a real interest in international co-operation. They are also constantly striving to update their librarianship knowledge. Librarians from the public, school and state libraries meet and communicate frequently with each other.

I admired the enthusiasm and the involvement of the Russian librarians. The young librarians from the Russian State Library for Young Adults are enthusiastic about everything they do; the staff

from the Nosov Centre for Young People are keen to improve the activities designed for their public, making the space more and more adapted to the young people's needs whilst their colleagues from the Turgenev and Gaidar Public Libraries showed a real dedication and interest in their profession.

In conclusion, I would describe the working meeting of the Standing Committee held this spring as a productive, hard-working and ... colourful one. The libraries I visited had a colourful design, both modern and traditional. In fact, I would say that there were a variety of colours, from strong and vivid to soft and pastel, from an entire rainbow to just a few shades, all displayed in a personal manner throughout the library spaces. In a gray city, in a rainy or even snowy Moscow, the libraries were a splash of colour, like the bright roof of the splendid Vasili Blajeni Cathedral. Actually, I believe that Moscow's libraries are among the city's strongest cultural and professional spaces, full of attractiveness and many "colourful" initiatives.

Many thanks to Irina Mikhnova, the librarians and, especially, the translators, Irina and Maria!

Ruxandra Nazare

Member of the Standing Committee member
Brasov, Romania

Library visits in Moscow

“How are you?” - one of the two robots in Moscow State Central Children’s Library may ask children who come for a visit before showing them around the place. The two library robots can both talk with the kids and communicate with each other! Of course the two robots are the children’s best friends, and a library tour becomes an unforgettable experience if a robot goes ahead and shows them the place of the item they are looking for!

The Central Children’s Library, which we could visit during our stay in Moscow, is a showpiece for children’s libraries! We received an enthusiastic welcome (just as in the other libraries we went to!) and we were impressed about the great offer for children and families!

“Chuk and Gek” (*), the two library robots are not the only innovative attraction of the library: I was enthusiastic to get to know the technique of 3-D book presentation! Children’s books furnished with special codes are turned towards a 3-D monitor which immediately shows a perfect 3D picture of for example an Egyptian pyramid or the Kremlin. By turning the book children can view the picture from all sides and read the facts in a legend on the screen. Isn’t this a fantastic way to bring non-fictional books to life?

The library is located in four different buildings. The attendance is 31,000 attendees per year. The holding contains 271,000 exemplars, and 37,000 of them are electronic. 86 persons work at City’s Entral children’s library, 57 of them as regular staff and 16 provide library services Financing is provided by Moscow city government.

Thank you Svetlana Mitsul (and your team!) for such an inspiring and impressive visit!!!



(*) Editor’s note: “Chuk and Gek” is a short story by the famous Soviet children’s author Arkady Gaidar, first printed in 1939 and still in print.

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Highlights of the Standing Committee midyear meeting

The section held its mid-year meeting in Moscow, Russia in April. This was a very ambitious meeting with many important and interesting discussions. Nine SC members and several observers attended. This is a short version of the minutes (the complete version will be on our webpages after the Lyon conference). The Chair's, Treasurer's and Information Coordinator's reports September 2013-March 2014 were presented.

Some general information

IFLA library now contains all papers from all sessions, please have a look : <http://library.ifla.org>

Mailing list: We hope the mailing list will be more active now. The list can be used for all matters, regarding IFLA or not: questions, good ideas, general matters and conferences and more. You can subscribe here: <http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwwsympa.fcgi/info/child-ya>

Newsletter: Viviana suggests that an editorial board is necessary, with an editorial policy, so that the Newsletter is more than a compilation of different articles. It is suggested that there could be one theme per issue (and articles on other themes can be added) In Lyon we will discuss how to establish an editorial board for the Newsletter, and we will discuss the themes for December and June 2015 issues.

Facebook Page: The section's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IFLACYA>) will cover all activities connected to the section, projects, programs, news etc., and also include posts from any colleague in the world. We do want a very active page and therefore we have made a publishing policy and a calendar so we can see which SC member is in charge every week: to post, react, answer questions. Expectation: 2-3 posts with pictures during the week, responding/commenting on the posts.

Projects/ actions 2013-2014, reports and plans

Statement on Internet in the library/ social media and privacy: (or "Policy for the safe use of social media in libraries

for children and young adults") A proposal for a statement on the subject, based on input by most SC members, sent last year was discussed and the content was approved. But the paper needs a rearrangement under these three headings:

1. Targeting the children with advice
2. Targeting the parents
3. Targeting the professionals in the libraries, and other professionals working with children.

The paper will be presented in Lyon.

Sister Libraries: The database is now updated on our website and there is also an Excel file in a Wiki as a work document. 72 libraries are registered, 24 pairs have been made. The sister library blog is not working, no one is posting. *My preferred book* is still a gift to any sister libraries who want to use it. The sister libraries project is a network of libraries, where professionals collaborate in order to exchange experiences and good ideas in order to improve library services for children. We have achieved a lot, we have paired libraries who work together, we have a community of practice, and now we have to make new progress in the program. We discussed how to kick-start the program again. We devised a strategy, to be developed by a working group led by a project coordinator: a monthly letter to all participants, a new welcome letter...

The World through Picture Books:

The two sets of the exhibition have been presented in more countries (reports were presented on this) and the set in Paris will be exhibited in Lyon. We are still working on getting more countries to contribute to the catalogue. What is needed for each book is: picture of the front page, some cataloguing information and a short description in English and the original language. Annie Overall coordinates this project, which IFLA is funding for a second year. We have committed to IFLA to make a new paper edition of the catalogue. It cannot be ready for June, but we can finish it in October/November and publish it in December.

The section will work on a catalogue on ideas for using the catalogue: How can the catalogue be used in the libraries? Which activities can we suggest? This will be a part in the new paper edition and be

online.

New project to come, The World through Books for Young adults: A project similar to the one on picture books. We had decided to postpone it, for lack of resources both human and financial. Finland is interested in the project and Russia too. Our Russian colleagues are ready to work on the subject and together with Ulla (or another contact in Finland) they will make an outline for a new project. This draft will be discussed in Lyon.

What parts of the model used for picture books will be used? Shall the selection of books be made by young adults? Young adults and librarians? How can we produce something different and more innovative? Shall the target group for the catalogue be professionals or young adults – or both? The aim is to start a process in participating libraries, not just to produce a catalogue. Maybe there could be 2 categories, classics and books published in YA collections?

We also studied the revision of our *Guidelines for Children's services*, our nominees for ALMA award, collaboration with IBBY and other matters.

Lyon Conference 2014

The first SC meetings will be held on Saturday, August 16th at 9.45. Second meeting to be announced (NB it is now fixed for Thursday August 21st 9.45 to 11.15) Everyone is more than welcome to join us at these meetings.

The section has four sessions in Lyon, 3 on-site and one off-site:

1. Session together with Literacy and Reading is held on August 19th, 9.45 till 12.45. The theme arose from our satellite last year in Bangkok.

2. Session on Reading in Africa is held Tuesday, August 19th, 13.45 till 18.00 For the first time our section will collaborate with section Africa. We have 4 hours and will make a break in the middle. The session is very important as it is focusing on children's reading in Africa.

3. Off-site session held at the municipal library Wednesday, August 20th at 8.30 till 13.00. The session is on transmedia, there will be three tours after the papers, including one of the

exhibition on The World Through Picture Books

4. The session on our programs and activities is held on August 21st 13.45 till 15.45.

Paris Satellite 2014

The program is ready and is very interesting. See more on the website of the satellite conference:

<http://www.reseau-canope.fr/ifla-seminairebnf/en>



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Complement to new Section Standing Committee members' presentation

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I started publishing for children at Editorial Gente Nueva in 1974 and as a specialist in children's and

young adults' literature, I have been working with public and school librarians since. I have been a professor at the School of Communication of the University of La Habana since 1998 and, since last year, I also teach Reading Studies at its Information School. This activity has confirmed yet again my idea that it is necessary that community libraries, school libraries and the university work in close partnership, so as to foster children's reading from a very early age. I also give lectures and workshops for school and public librarians, mostly on children's literature – a writer myself, I have been vice-president of the section Children's and Young Adults' Literature of the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC) since 1994. In February 2014 I edited *Diccionario de Autores de la Literatura Infantil y Juvenil Cubana* (from the 19th century to 2012), a tool that should help Cuban librarians and teachers to work following our great José Martí's programme: "To be able to read is to be able to walk". It is an honour for me to have been chosen by my country to be a Standing Committee member of this IFLA section.