



March 2009

To the President and Members of the Board of Trustees

Greetings:

On behalf of the American Library Association (ALA), we are pleased announce the creation of ALTAFF, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations.

This new division of ALA was formed through the merger of Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) into our Trustee division, combining top-quality resources that support library boards and the best tools to align citizen-advocates with your library's mission and purpose. We believe that this new division will be a vital resource for you and your director as you pursue fundraising and advocacy initiatives in your community.

During this merger, members of ALA and ALTAFF will see enhancements to member benefits, including our premier newsletter for Trustees, *The Voice*. Friends groups will be converted from FOLUSA to ALTAFF member or Affiliate status, depending on the desire of each group. Full details are published on the ALTAFF website at [www.ala.org/altaff](http://www.ala.org/altaff). Over the next several weeks, we will be in contact again to discuss new, affordable membership options for boards, Friends groups and library directors.

America's libraries are critical to a democratic society. For well over 100 years they have been entrusted to people just like you to ensure that they stay viable and responsive to the communities they serve. Today's libraries face many more challenges than they did in the last century and your role has become even more critical. We hope you will join with us so that, together, we can work to keep your library well funded and well governed in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Rettig".

James Rettig  
ALA President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Danhof".

Margaret "Peggy" Danhof  
ALTAFF Co-President

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Barber".

Peggy Barber  
ALTAFF Co-President

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ALA Public Programs Office  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2795  
USA

Telephone 312 280 5289  
Fax 312 280 5759  
Toll Free 800 545 2433  
TDD 312 944 7298  
Toll Free TDD 888 814 7692  
E-mail: [publicprograms@ala.org](mailto:publicprograms@ala.org)  
<http://www.ala.org/publicprograms/>

# ALA American Library Association

April 2, 2009

Dear "Pride and Passion" Exhibit Applicant,

We are pleased to inform you that your library is one of 25 libraries selected to participate in the second tour of "Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience."

The "Pride and Passion" exhibit and tour have been developed by the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Cooperstown, N.Y., and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. Funding for the traveling exhibition has come from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The second copy of the exhibition will begin its tour in July 2009. We are currently working on an itinerary and will contact you if we have any questions about your itinerary requests. We will try to give you your requested dates, but we cannot guarantee them. You can expect to receive the proposed itinerary for the exhibit by the end of April.

The planning workshop for "Pride and Passion" will be held from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y. The exhibition coordinator from your library is expected to attend the workshop. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate any other participants from your institution at the workshop because meeting space is limited. The traveling exhibition and the larger exhibition upon which it is based will be available for viewing during the workshop in Cooperstown.

Workshop expenses (including travel, accommodation, and some meals) for the exhibit coordinator must be covered either by the NEH \$2,500 grant to your library for this exhibit, or by other funds from your library. The NEH will contact you separately with information on how to have the grant funds transferred to a library account.

I'd like to point out that the site support notebook for Pride and Passion is already online at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/pridepassion/ppssn00.cfm> Please take a look at it, browse around, and contact Sofiana Peterson at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5045 or [speterson@ala.org](mailto:speterson@ala.org) if you have questions about the workshop, tour or exhibit.

Once again, congratulations and welcome to the "Pride and Passion" exhibition tour. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely yours,



Susan Brandehoff  
Program Director for Traveling Exhibitions  
ALA Public Programs Office

# A CULTURAL EXCHANGE



A literacy based non-profit multicultural  
arts organization for children

April 27, 2009

Dear Cleveland Public Library Board of Trustees,

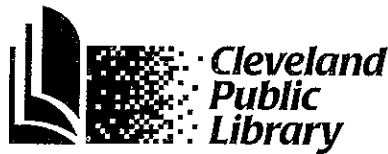
On behalf of A Cultural Exchange, it is our privilege and honor to once again celebrate our Read, Baby, Read! Book Club program, in partnership with the Cleveland Public Library. On Thursday, May 28, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Public Library Lake Shore Facility, Read, Baby, Read! Book Club members and educators from across the city will gather to celebrate reading for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Read, Baby, Read! Book Club Year-End Reading Celebration. We wanted to be certain to extend you a special invitation, with our hope that you will be able to join us this year as we welcome Director Thomas.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you might have. We look forward to seeing you on the 28<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you for helping us to Build Communities Where Children Read.

Sincerely,

Deborah E. McHamm  
President and Chief Executive Officer



"The People's University"

FOUNDED IN 1869  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

325 Superior Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1271 • (216) 623-2800 • www.cpl.org

April 28, 2009

Mr. Peter J. Roth  
10905 Bernard Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

Dear Mr. Roth:

Thank you for your recent letter sharing your feelings about the floating collection concept and how you believe it could impact the Cleveland Public Library. It's clear that you are an avid Library user and that you recognize and value the collections, programs, and services that the Cleveland Public Library provides. I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns with the members of our Board of Trustees.

The title of the wonderful book *Open Shelves, Open Minds* references the fact that the Cleveland Public Library was the first public library in the country to offer the public open access to its collection, thereby establishing a policy of making information as easily available as possible to all who sought it - a philosophical principle that the Library has adhered to throughout its history.

No decision has been made regarding implementing a floating collection for the Cleveland Public Library. However, it is a concept that the administrative team is exploring in an effort to: (1) increase the availability of materials by housing them at the facility where they are most likely to be requested based on customer demand, and (2) reduce the costs of transporting materials among buildings.

A floating collection is "customer-centered" in that collections move where customers want them to go and the movement of materials is generated by hold requests. This provides better browsing, continuously refreshed collections, and collections based on what customers actually check out.

As you note in your letter, the Cleveland Public Library, like all public libraries, is facing significant economic challenges. We are searching for new ways in which to continue to offer "5 Star Customer Service" while at the same time reduce costs and make the most effective use of our resources. As with any potential initiative, the floating collection concept will be discussed thoughtfully and fully before moving forward with a decision - a decision will be driven by what is in the best interests of our customers.

Thank you again for your letter and for your continued support of the Cleveland Public Library - "The People's University."

Sincerely,

Felton Thomas, Jr.  
Director



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