



NMSU Library News Release

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New Mexico Library Association 2002 Conference in Las Cruces Features “The Human Factor”

“Libraries: The Human Factor” is the theme for this year’s New Mexico Library Association Conference, to be held April 17-19, 2002, in Las Cruces in the beautiful Mesilla Valley of southern New Mexico. Meetings, exhibits and registration will be located at Corbett Center on the New Mexico State University campus, while the Awards Banquet and some meal functions will be held at the conference hotel, the Las Cruces Hilton.



Nadine Strossen

Nadine Strossen, the president of the American Civil Liberties Union will give the keynote speech, on the topic of censorship issues. Strossen, a professor of law at New York Law School, has written, lectured and practiced extensively in the areas of constitutional law, civil liberties and international human rights. Since 1991, she has served as President of the American Civil Liberties Union, the first woman to head the nation’s largest and oldest civil liberties organization

Two pre-conferences will be offered on Wednesday, April 17, at the Hilton. “Trends in Publishing for Southwestern Children and Young Adult Readers” will be presented by Jeanne Whitehouse Peterson and Dan Zancanella. Both presenters are authors affiliated with the University of New Mexico, Peterson as a professor of children’s literature and Zancanella as a professor of language arts education and young adult literature. “Writing Grants for the Small Library” will be presented by Clare Gearhart, director of the Cochiti Lake Public Library; Joan MacNeish, a librarian at Raton Public Library; and Carolyn Kingson, a member of the Embudo Valley library board.

Workshops and presentations on literature and collection building, library technology and electronic resources, budgeting, library instruction, cataloging, fund-raising, the census, student assistants, publicity and much more will highlight the conference theme. There will be several presentations on legal issues: “Keeping

Kids Safe on the Internet,” “What to Do When the FBI Calls,” “The Aging Workplace,” “Safety in the Library,” “Sex, Privacy and the Single Librarian,” and “Seven Deadly Sins.” The New Mexico State Library is sponsoring a teleconference on virtual reference services that coincides with the conference. For more information on the teleconference, see the web site <http://www.cod.edu/teleconf/Virtual/index.htm>.

Presentations and book signings with authors Denise Chavez, Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, Michael Lacapa, Jeanne Whitehouse Peterson, Dan Zancanella, Daniel Chacon, and Jessica Dawn Palmer are scheduled. Chavez is also the speaker at the Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 18.



Denise Chavez

A variety of interests will be represented in the conference program. Evan Davies of the Institute for Historical Research in Las Cruces will do an historical presentation on “Padre on the Rio Grande,” the early twentieth-century Reverend Hunter Lewis, who took a single failing parish and turned it into seven churches and twenty-two missions from the Mesilla Valley to Belen. Carol Brey and Cheryl Bernero, both of the El Paso Public Library, will present “Life Management: How to Balance Your Life and Be Your Best.” Author Jessica Dawn Palmer will present “Animal Wisdom in the Human Equation,” a discussion of animal mythology with a special focus on Native American culture.

In addition to workshops and presentations there will be exhibits by publishers and library vendors, business meetings of the New Mexico Library Association and several other library organizations, and a job fair. On Thursday afternoon, April 18, a guided tour of New Mexico State University on an open-air trolley will acquaint visitors with the interesting history and buildings of NMSU’s campus.

The conference fee for Association members is \$95 and for non-members \$110. On-site registration on the third floor of Corbett Center is \$105 for members and \$120 for non-members. There is a special conference fee of \$40 for retirees and students. Free continental breakfasts, box lunches and snacks will be served. The pre-conferences, some meal functions and the tour are available for additional fees. For more information and for an online registration form, visit the New Mexico Library Association web site at <http://www.nmla.org>. Or call the Association at 1-800-898-6652 for further information.