**Building Mindful Bridges for Kids and Armchair Travelers through Sister Libraries**

Workshop for DC Metro Area Librarians

April 2, 2011, 10 am-1 pm

Southeast Neighborhood Library, Washington DC

**Sponsors**

District of Columbia Library Association

District of Columbia Public Library

DC Chapter Special Libraries Association

**AIM:** The workshop will encourage DC metro area librarians, particularly in school and public libraries, to reach out to overseas libraries by forming Sister Library partnerships. Speakers at the workshop will introduce the tools available on the Sister Libraries wiki, provide guidance on programming and other ideas for building relationships, and build a local community of Sister Library supporters.

**RATIONALE:** Both ALA and IFLA actively support and promote the development of Sister Library partnerships to build international ties among libraries and overcome the barriers. The new tools provided by the Internet have driven down the costs of international collaboration. Overseas partners have used the Sister Libraries website to register their interest but few American libraries have registered. The knowledge and experience that is shared at a local workshop can help create partners for Sister Libraries matchmaking.

**AUDIENCE:** Registration is limited to 30 participants. Registration is free to members of DCLA, DC/SLA, and DC school librarians. Non-members registration fee: $5.00.

**LOCATION:** Southeast Neighborhood Library, 403 7th St. SE, a branch of the District of Columbia Public Library located very near the Orange Line’s Eastern Market station. Check here for directions: <http://www.dclibrary.org/southeast>

**AGENDA**

**10:00 Welcome to Workshop and Introduction to International Ties for Local Libraries**

**Richard Huffine**, President DCLA, Washington DC

**Carol Brey-Casiano**, Information Resource Officer (IRO), U.S. Dept. of State, Washington DC

**10:20 Overview of Sister Libraries Resources and Organization**

**Meaghan O’Connor**, Program Officer, Global Libraries, IREX, Washington DC

**10:45 Collaborating Across the Miles: Partners, Programs, Resources**

Panel will share ideas about locating partners, innovating with collaborative programs, and identifying resources for staff and patrons

**Anne Johnson**, American Corners Coordinator, and **Henry Mendelsohn**, Middle East Region, IROs, U.S. Dept. of State, Washington, DC

**Nancy Davenport**, Director of Library Services, District of Columbia Public Library, Washington, DC

**Hannah Miller**, Past Volunteer for *Libraries for All*

**Jessica Haglund**, Past Volunteer for *Libraries for All*

**12:00 Brainstorming, Networking, and Lunch**

Breakout sessions led by workshop speakers to capture ideas for next steps in building institutional support for Sister Library partnerships

**12:50 Wrap-up and Summary of Take-away Big Ideas**

**Barbara Conaty**, Secretary, DCLA, Falls Church, VA

**Richard Huffine**, President, DCLA, Washington, DC

**Thanks to Sister Library Program Supporters for Participation**

**April King**, Manager, Southeast Neighborhood Library, Washington, DC

**Nancy Bolt**, Nancy Bolt & Associates, Golden, CO

**Carol Kem**, co-chair, Sister Libraries Committee, IRRT, ALA, Gainesville, FL

**Paul Hover**, co-chair, Sister Libraries Committee, IRRT, ALA, Blacksburg, VA

**Megan Shiels**, vice/president-elect, DCLA

**Andrea McGlinchey**, IRO, Latin American Region, U.S. Dept. of State, Washington, DC

**Mary Nell Bryant**, Consultant, Nat’l Democratic Institute for Library Development, Arlington, VA