



For immediate release  
31 March 2006

## **Treasured Libraries Found in the USA and Canada**

### **Libraries Selected for Prestigious *Libraries We Love***

Great Barrington, MA—Eighty-four libraries from the USA and Canada have won spots in *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love*, the first book to sing the praises and show the beauty of America's beloved public libraries. A complete list of selected libraries is attached.

Chosen from hundreds of nominations, each library was noted as a powerful asset in its community. The libraries selected, as a group, display the full range of the diversity, potential, style, history, and contributions of libraries in the United States and Canada. These libraries will be honored in *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love*, a beautiful full-color coffee table book that will be published in October 2006. Copies of the 200 page book will be available at libraries and bookstores nationwide.

Library reference publisher Berkshire Publishing Group spent four months searching for libraries that are the cherished centers of their communities. The key selection criteria were: the library is of historical significance; the library is associated with an important event; the library is associated with an important person; the library is distinguished by its architectural design; and the library is of special significance to its community.

The advisory board for this prestigious publication includes Leslie Burger, President of the American Library Association; Barbara Clubb, President of the Canadian Library Association; Nancy Kranich, Past President of the American Library Association; Mary Pope Osborne, acclaimed author of the *Magic Tree House* books; and Sally Reed, Executive Director of Friends of Libraries U.S.A.

The people at Berkshire Publishing Group love libraries. They're not alone. Sixty-two percent of adults in the U.S. have library cards at our 16,220 American public libraries. Libraries are not only beloved, they also are important to our way of life. Since Benjamin Franklin helped to start the first libraries, Americans have used public libraries to get the information they need to enjoy and expand their lives. In fact, 83 percent of Americans believe libraries and librarians play an essential role in our democracy and are needed now more than ever. Libraries are a cornerstone of American democracy and by ensuring free access to information are of vital importance, as they have been for nearly three hundred years.

Additional members of the Advisory Board for *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love* include Clara Bohrer, Director of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library; Dana Cummings, Coordinator of Electronic Services, Simon's Rock College of Bard; Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian, State Library of Louisiana; Kathleen R. T. Imhoff, Executive Director of the Lexington Public Library; Deborah Jacobs, Director of the Seattle Public Library; Kathleen de la Peña McCook, University of South Florida Professor; Thomas Phelps, Director of Library Programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities; Loriene Roy, University of Texas Professor; Jervey Tervalon, author of *Understand This*; Nancy Tessman, Director of the Salt Lake City Library; Bernard Vavrek, Director of the Center for Rural Librarianship at Clarion University; and Peter Young, Director of the National Agriculture Library.

---

For further information contact

Karen Christensen [karen@berkshirepublishing.com](mailto:karen@berkshirepublishing.com) Tel +1 413 528 0206

For an html version of this document, go to: [http://berkshirepublishing.com/assets\\_news/libraries/media.asp](http://berkshirepublishing.com/assets_news/libraries/media.asp)



**BERKSHIRE PUBLISHING GROUP**

*a global point of reference*

Berkshire Publishing Group is pleased to announce the beloved libraries selected for  
**Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love:**

Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System, Ernie Pyle Branch Library, Albuquerque, NM  
Annapolis Valley Regional Library, Wolfville Memorial Library Branch, Wolfville, NS  
Athens-Clarke County Library, Athens Regional Library, Athens, GA  
Aztec Public Library, Aztec, NM  
Bainbridge Public Library, Bainbridge Island, WA  
Barrington Public Library, Barrington, RI  
Barry Lawrence Regional Library, Pierce City Branch Library, Pierce City, MO  
Batavia Public Library, Batavia, IL  
Bayliss Library, Glenn, CA  
Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham, AL  
Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, Bismarck, ND  
Boston Public Library, Central Library, Boston, MA  
Boulder Public Library, Boulder, CO  
Brockway Memorial Library, Miami Shores, FL  
Brookdale Area Resource Library, Brooklyn Center, MN  
Cabell County Public Library, Huntington, WV  
Camden Public Library, Camden, ME  
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Main Branch, Pittsburgh, PA  
Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque, IA  
Clinton-Macomb Public Library, Clinton Township, MI  
County of Los Angeles Public Library, East Los Angeles Library, Los Angeles, CA  
Cross Plains Public Library, Cross Plains, TX  
Darby Community Public Library, Darby, MT  
Darby Free Library, Darby, PA  
Denver Public Library, Central Library, Denver, CO  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, San Jose, CA  
Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library, Eureka Springs, AR  
Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library, Oaklyn Branch, Evansville, IN  
Everett Public Library, Everett, WA  
Glendale Public Library, Brand Library and Art Center, Glendale, CA  
Grace M. Pickens Public Library, Holdenville, OK  
Harford County Public Library, Abingdon Branch, Belcamp, MD  
Highland Falls Library, Highland Falls, NY  
Honokaa Public Library, Honokaa, HI  
Houston Public Library, Julia Ideson Building, Houston, TX  
Howard Whittemore Memorial Library, Naugatuck, CT  
Howell Carnegie District Library, Howell, MI  
Ida Public Library, Belvidere, IL  
Johnson County Library, Central Resource Library, Shawnee Mission, KS  
Juliette Hampton Morgan Memorial Library, Montgomery, AL  
Lake Geneva Public Library, Lake Geneva, WI

## Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love/Selected Libraries continued

Lanconia Public Library, Lanconia, NH  
Lexington Public Library, Village Branch, Lexington, KY  
Library of Hattiesburg, Petal, and Forrest County, Hattiesburg, MS  
Los Angeles Public Library, Central Library, Los Angeles, CA  
Memphis Public Library and Information Center, Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, Memphis, TN  
Middle Country Public Library, Centereach, NY  
Multnomah County Library, Central Library, Portland, OR  
New Orleans Public Library, Milton H. Latter Memorial Branch, New Orleans, LA  
Newport News Public Library System, West Avenue Library, Newport News, VA  
Norfolk Library, Norfolk, CT  
Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock, VT  
North Adams Public Library, North Adams, MA  
Northwest Reno Library, Reno, NV  
Ocean County Library, Toms River Branch, Toms River, NJ  
Ohio Township Public Library System, Central Library, Newburgh, IN  
Orem Public Library, Orem, UT  
Phoenix Public Library, Desert Broom Branch Library, Cave Creek, AZ  
Princeton Public Library, Princeton, NJ  
Public Library of Brookline, Brookline, MA  
Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Corryville Branch, Cincinnati, OH  
Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County, Poland Branch Library, Youngstown, OH  
Queens Library System, Flushing Branch Library, Flushing, NY  
Regina Public Library, Regina, SK  
Rock Island Public Library, Rock Island, IL  
Round Rock Public Library, Round Rock, TX  
Salt Lake City Public Library, The City Library, Salt Lake City, UT  
Seattle Public Library, Ballard Branch, Seattle, WA  
Sedalia Public Library, Sedalia, MO  
Shepherdstown Public Library, Shepherdstown, WV  
Southfield Public Library, Southfield, MI  
St. Paul Public Library, St. Anthony Park Branch Library, St. Paul, MN  
Sturgis Library, Barnstable, MA  
T. B. Scott Free Library, Merrill, WI  
Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library, West Tampa Branch Library, Tampa, FL  
Thomas Hughes Public Library, Rugby, TN  
Toronto Public Library, Runnymede Branch, Toronto, ON  
Utica Public Library, Utica, NY  
Ventura County Library, Ojai Library, Ojai, CA  
Warren Public Library, Warren, PA  
West Bloomfield Township Public Library, West Bloomfield, MI  
Westbank Community Library, Austin, TX  
Westmount Public Library, Westmount, QC  
Z.J. Loussac Public Library, Anchorage, AK

---

For further information contact

Karen Christensen [karen@berkshirepublishing.com](mailto:karen@berkshirepublishing.com) Tel +1 413 528 0206

For an html version of this document, go to: [http://berkshirepublishing.com/assets\\_news/libraries/media.asp](http://berkshirepublishing.com/assets_news/libraries/media.asp)