

Diversity: Continuing the Conversation

Lincoln Trail Libraries System is delighted to announce that we have received funding for the Diversity Initiative for the third year in a row! The success we encountered can be directly attributed to your continuous support and active participation as we planned and organized events. Special thanks go to the three Systems we partnered with in 2005/06--Lewis and Clark, Rolling Prairie, and Shawnee—who were instrumental in helping us achieve the goals and objectives of the project. To further expand this project, the diversity initiative will encompass the whole state of Illinois this year.

Diversity Forum

LTLS will organize and facilitate a statewide forum that focuses on library services for multicultural and diverse populations. Attendees will be encouraged to bring a community partner they are already collaborating with on multi-cultural issues, or a partner they would like to work with.

Programming Funds

After attending the forum, libraries and their partners will be able to seek funding for a collaborative program or project that helps build community bridges and promote diversity. Projects will go through a formal application process and will be reviewed on the basis of providing multi-cultural awareness via different avenues.

You can also check our diversity Web site at www.librarydiversity.info and start sharing your ideas on the discussion board or send us a diversity story to post.

Donna Schaal and Amani Fouad Ayad will continue to work with you and answer any questions. You can reach Amani at aayad@lincolntrail.info (217) 352-0047 ext. 228 and Donna at dschaal@lincolntrail.info (217) 352-0047 ext. 204.

Thanks again, and we look forward to a year full of learning, thought, wonder and fun!