

With ninety-five contributors, there is a danger that the writing might be uneven, but Shontz and Murray have done a fine editing job. Each entry retains the individual flair and character of the contributor, yet the detail and quality of writing is even throughout.

Several other books, such as *Straight from the Stacks* (ALA, 2003) and *What Else You Can Do with a Library Degree* (Neal-Schuman, 1997), explore the variety of library work, but they generally focus more on individual librarians (their personal backgrounds and experiences) whose jobs are being described than on the jobs themselves.

*A Day in the Life* focuses more directly on the various jobs and less on the individuals who hold them. Each chapter consists of a three- to five-page entry that includes a job description, information on how one could obtain a similar position, and a brief bibliography of related resources, as well as a description of a typical workday and the pros and cons of that particular position.

This book would be an excellent source for library and information science students and is recommended for libraries in institutions that grant library and information science degrees.—*Heather Hill, doctoral student, University of Missouri, Columbia.*

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***Graphic Novels: A Genre Guide to Comic Books, Manga, and More.*** Michael Pawuk. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2007. 633 p. \$65 (ISBN 1-59158-132-X).

Graphic novels are everywhere right now, but because of their popularity it can be overwhelming to know where to look when adding them to library collections. Pawuk's guide provides just what is needed: a place to find summaries of more than 2,400 titles and to gain insight into which graphic novels that are worth reading. Not since D. Aviva Rothschild's *Graphic Novels: A Bibliographic Guide to Book Length Comics* (Libraries Unlimited, 1995) has a bibliography of this scope been released. This book is not an introduction to the format or a volume of recommended titles, but it will provide librarians with many choices when updating their collections.

The volume covers titles in nine topical categories. Each entry includes descriptions of major plot points, characters, and an age recommendation. For those interested in learning more about the format, *Graphic Novels* contains appendixes on additional resources, publishers, and Web sites where librarians and readers can find more information. Titles included in this bibliography are indexed by author, illustrator, title, and subject, which makes easy work of finding a particular volume when needed. In the author's attempt to remain neutral when presenting titles, sex, violence, and language are not discussed. Librarians may need to find professional review sources for volumes of interest to better assess these qualities.

*Graphic Novels* provides a valuable introduction to this format for librarians and readers who don't know where to start. It summarizes the classic titles and little-known treasures that should be in every library collection, and also

covers an amazing variety of topics and characters. One drawback of the bibliography format is that it will become outdated as more graphic novels are published. Beyond that, though, the biggest weakness of *Graphic Novels* is its organization; multiple fonts and levels of indentation confuse the reader and make the text look messy. Even after viewing page after page of this book, it is difficult to understand the reason for all the variation. Aside from this distraction, however, this volume is recommended for public libraries, as well as school and academic libraries looking to add graphic novels to their collections.—*Katy Herrick, Manager, Kettle Falls Public Library, Kettle Falls, Washington*

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***The Guy-Friendly YA Library: Serving Male Teens.*** Rollie James Welch. Westport, Conn. Libraries Unlimited, 2007. 196 p. \$40 (ISBN 1-59158-270-9).

Welch, currently the Teen Coordinator for the Cleveland Public Library, has worked with teens for twenty-six years. His purpose with this book is to give every librarian working with male teens a game plan for engaging this normally underserved population. Beginning with how to redefine the attitudes of library staff, the author also suggests strategies to sell teen services to administration. Welch discusses male teen development and shares insight on how teens respond to others. This chapter alone makes the book well worth its price. Welch then delves into the diverse reading habits of these readers. Starting with the important characteristics of books that appeal to male teens, the author discusses the type of genre reading this group is interested in. Included are "Quick five" boxes, highlighting five titles of interest to teens in each category. Another great resource is the appendix of "Essential Fiction Titles or Series for Males." By discussing what doesn't work for teens, Welch examines how to engage teens through programming and how to develop gender-friendly teen advisory boards. Outreach through booktalking and school visits are discussed as means to get teen readers into the library. Welch finishes his discussion by focusing on how and what makes the teen area appealing and welcoming to guys. Although other books cover some of this same area, none give the insights Welch provides by focusing his book on the male teenager.

*The Guy-Friendly YA Library* is not just for the teen or YA librarian. The material in this book ought to be read by any librarian who comes in contact with teens in the library. The author suggests ways for public and school librarians to work together and how school librarians can specifically engage this age group. This book will give the experienced librarian new and fresh ideas, and the new librarian a great strategy to follow in building a "guy-friendly library."—*Jenny Foster Stenis, Coordinator, Children's Services, Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma*

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***Libraries and Librarianship: Sixty Years of Challenge and Change, 1945–2005.*** George S. Bobinski. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. 203 p. \$40 (ISBN 978-0-8108-5899-2).

## SOURCES

Library historians have long wished for a twentieth-century counterpart to Elizabeth Stone's *American Library Development* (H. W. Wilson, 1977), a thick chronology that covers colonial times through 1899. Although George Bobinski's *Libraries and Librarianship* does not provide that level of detail, it is a very welcome outline.

Technology is an obvious theme for this time period, yet Bobinski reminds us that other "core" areas of librarianship have also changed. Themes include the growth of state libraries and interlibrary cooperation, federal funding, intellectual freedom, diversity in library employees, standardization, and LIS education. Reading the book, one realizes that many features of our everyday work evolved only recently.

The author is well qualified to write on this subject. Bobinski's other books, *Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development* (ALA, 1969) and the *Dictionary of American Library Biography* (coedited with Bohdan Wynar and Jesse Hauk Shera, Libraries Unlimited, 1978) are still favorites. Like the Carnegie book, *Libraries and Librarianship's* brief text is peppered with names, organizations, dates, and tables. For instance, a list of "Prominent Leaders in the Field of Libraries and Librarianship" comprises one chapter, and a ten-page chronology appears in an appendix. In compiling the book, Bobinski drew upon the *ALA Yearbook*, *Bowker Annual*, and the *Whole Library Handbook*, as well as published articles and handbooks. One only wishes that there were endnotes in addition to the bibliography.

Recent works examine some of Bobinski's topics in much greater depth. Examples include John Y. Cole and Jane B. Aikin's *Encyclopedia of the Library of Congress* (Bernan, 2004), Robert S. Freeman and David M. Hovde's *Libraries to the People: Histories of Outreach* (McFarland, 2003), and Toni Samek's *Intellectual Freedom and Social Responsibility in American Librarianship, 1967–1974* (McFarland, 2001). Yet there does not appear to be a broad survey of the intellectual, financial, organizational, social, and technical history of the profession for the second half of the twentieth century. Therefore *Libraries and Librarianship* may be a good student text for graduate courses covering recent American library history. It is also a worthwhile read for new historians and practitioners who wish to understand their colleagues and environment more deeply.—Bernadette A. Lear, *Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania*.

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**Library Board Strategic Guide.** Ellen G. Miller, Patricia H. Fisher. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. 236 p. \$35.00 (ISBN 0-8108-5689-1).

Written for public library board members, this book lays out the basic issues facing public libraries in clear language for easy reading. This guide will appeal to busy board members needing specific information on a specific topic, such as disaster planning, and library directors wanting to clarify the relationship between directors and boards. The book address

the most crucial issues facing library boards, such as risk management, materials challenges, and funding. Chapters are filled with current examples, such as the fate of libraries in Hurricane Katrina's path and what this has taught us about library disaster planning. The authors do not shy away from the thorny problems of boards in conflict or contentious relationships with directors. They address these difficult topics head-on and give practical advice that library boards and directors would do well to follow. The companion Web site provides downloadable forms to use in conjunction with the book.—Rebecca Montañó-Smith, *Librarian, Village Branch, Lexington (Ky.) Public Library*

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**Library Collection Development Policies: School Libraries and Learning Resource Centers.** By Frank W. Hoffmann and Richard J. Wood. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. 203 p. \$40 (ISBN 0810851814).

This useful book is the second volume in the *Good Policy, Good Practice* series edited by Kirsti Nelson and Martin Dowding. It expands upon the issues and practices the authors explored in their 1996 book, *Library Collection Development Policies: A Reference and Writers' Handbook*. As collection development is one of the most intellectually challenging components of librarianship, it comes as no surprise that the expansion of the topic has gone from being covered by a single title to becoming a part of a series on the subject (the first title in the series is *Library Collection Development Policies: Academic, Public and Special Libraries*). Additionally, the ubiquity of electronic resources and their many collection development issues also merits extended coverage.

In writing this book, the authors examined hundreds of collection development policies from school library media centers across the country. For all issues involved in collection development, the authors first provide an overview of the collection development issue and provide sample policies taken from among the many school library media centers policies examined. These issues include collection development policy, selection aids, weeding, and collection evaluation, among others; also included is a bibliography for a collection development policy.

This section of the work is followed by chapters concerned with the ethical and legal issues arising from the use of electronic resources. This chapter also includes sample policies. The chapters on virtual collection development and policy components of virtual resources are longer chapters that both provide background information and address the issues from a broader perspective.

The work has two appendixes: one is a list of the schools (including contact information) that were used as sample policies in the work, and the other lists ALA documents often included in collection development policies.

Because it includes information on the unique issues related to electronic resources, this title would be useful for both experienced and new librarians responsible for collec-