RAILS Report

Consortia Staff In-Service Day

The next in-service day for consortia staff will be held November 10, 2017 at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove. All consortia staff throughout Illinois are welcome and encouraged to attend. The focus will be member engagement. Michelle Bradley, Member Engagement Manager from Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS) in Michigan, will be the keynote speaker. There will be discussion tables in the afternoon. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided. For more details and to register, see Library Learning (L2) at http://www.librarylearning.info/events/?eventID=25530. Staff planning to attend should register by October 27 so RAILS staff can get an accurate count for meals.

Museum Pass Program

RAILS is developing a partnership program between libraries and museums, using the software program hosted by Quipu and administered centrally by RAILS. The contract with Quipu was signed on September 14, 2017, with an effective date of October 16. Because Quipu is planning a software upgrade in a few months, rollout to libraries has been delayed to early 2018. However, implementation work will begin in a few weeks. Patrons will log into the web-based system directly to access passes and discounts, with the library's integrated library system providing authentication. RAILS will work with MAGIC initially to test authentication in a consortial environment and then work with other interested consortia on getting authentication in the works before the program is released to members.

OpenAthens Preview Demonstration

RAILS is hosting a RAILS preview demonstration of OpenAthens (https://openathens.org). Consortial staff are invited to this preview demo for feedback and questions on consortial integration and to determine if it would be a good group purchase for the membership. SWAN is a current OpenAthens customer. It will be held in November. RAILS will announce the date when it is finalized.

SkyRiver Demonstration

RAILS is offering a demonstration of SkyRiver, a full-service bibliographic utility for cataloging, for RAILS members at the RAILS Burr Ridge service center on Wednesday, October 25, at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday, October 26, at 2:00 p.m. Register on L2 to attend a demonstration. Contact Amanda Musacchio at amanda.musacchio@railslibraries.info or 630.734.5118 for more information.

FY2017 ILLINET Interlibrary Loan Traffic Survey

The FY2017 ILLINET ILL Traffic Survey, required for all system members, is now available for libraries to complete at https://il.countingopinions.com. Data submitted should cover July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. The deadline for completion is March 31, 2018. Completion guidelines are available at https://il.countingopinions.com/docs/il/FY17_ILLINET_Instructions.pdf to help you understand what data libraries will need to complete the survey. For more information, contact the Illinois State Library at 800.665.5576, ext. 2.