

**"Use the L4L Shift Key to Make the Shift; Paradigm, that is!"**  
**Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon and 1:00-3:00 PM**  
**Valerie Diggs and Sue Ballard co-presenters**

We are all familiar with the shift key on a computer keyboard. What does it do? The shift key can be used in combination with other keys to produce various modifications. It also gives other keys alternate meanings - in the case of L4L, hitting shift for the number 4, converts it to L\$! Susan Ballard, Chair of AASL's Standards and Guidelines Implementation Task Force, and Valerie Diggs, MSLA Coordinator for L4L, will provide participants with information and strategies to implement AASL's *Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner* and *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs*. Focus will be on examining existing programs in order to identify key areas to modify and will also address the need to identify and overcome perceived barriers – including economic challenges.

**Susan Ballard** is the Director of Library, Media & Technology Services, Londonderry NH School District. The Londonderry



program is a past recipient of the National School Library Media Program of the Year. Susan is a past-president of the NH Educational Media Association (NHEMA) and of the NE School Library Association (NESLA). She has also served as Secretary of the American Association of School Librarians and as a member of the AASL Board of Directors. Susan is cited in ALA's *Whole School Library Handbook* as one of the country's "103 Outstanding School Librarians" and in 2008 was a charter inductee to the NESLA Hall of Fame. She has taught at the graduate level for several colleges and universities and written numerous articles for professional publications. She is Chair of the AASL Standards and Guidelines Implementation Task Force.

**Valerie Diggs** Valerie Diggs is the Department Head of School Libraries for the Chelmsford Public Schools. She has most recently completed the transformation of the Chelmsford High School Library to a true *Learning Commons* space. Diggs' *Learning Commons* program and space was the feature article in the April 2009 *Teacher Librarian*. She also teaches *The Organization and Management of School Library Media Centers* for the Simmons' GSILS. Diggs is also a Doctoral candidate at the UMASS, Lowell. She is also on the MSLA Executive Board, as Standards Committee Chairperson. Valerie was recently published in *Teacher-Librarian*, writing about the Learning Commons at Chelmsford High School, and wrote an article in the May/June issue of *Knowledge Quest* on the inquiry process.



**Board Gaming and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacies**  
**Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon and 1:00-3:00 PM**  
**Beth Gallaway, presenter**

Learn how to launch tabletop gaming at your library, no matter what your size, space, staff or budget! Board games are a resource with curriculum tie-ins that library teachers can collect, circulate, and use in programming. The session includes justification for adding board games to your collection, advocacy tips for promoting games, an overview of home board games connected to educational standards, and a presentation of best practices in literacy based tabletop gaming in US libraries. Time to try hands-on board gaming will be provided; several games will be raffled off to participants.

**Beth Gallaway** was named a Library Journal Mover & Shaker in 2006 for her work in advocating for videogames in libraries. She is an independent library trainer/consultant specializing in gaming, technology, and youth services, and is a YALSA certified Serving the Underserved (SUS) trainer. Her book, *Game On!* is published by Neal-Schuman (2009).



2009  
 Conference:  
 Sunday  
 Workshops

**Books between Cultures**  
**Sunday, 10 AM-12:00 Noon and 1:00-3:00 PM**  
**Mitali Perkins, presenter**

A growing number of kids in our schools straddle two cultures. Author Mitali Perkins will start with a personal, humorous case study of growing up between cultures, discuss the "pop culture push," and show how stories help kids stay balanced. Participants will leave equipped with guidelines for evaluating and selecting fiction that empowers rather than alienates young people who might already be feeling marginalized.

**Mitali Perkins** was born in Kolkata, India and immigrated at age seven to the States with her family. She studied political science at Stanford University and public policy at U.C. Berkeley, surviving academia thanks to a steady diet of children's and YA books from libraries. Mitali's award-winning books for young readers include *Monsoon Summer*, *The Sunita Experiment*, *Rickshaw Girl*, *Secret Keeper*, and the *First Daughter* books. She also posts at Mitali's Fire Escape, (mitaliblog.com), a popular blog where she invites discussion about books and life between cultures, and speaks frequently at schools, conferences, and libraries. Mitali lives in Newton, Massachusetts with her husband, teenagers, Labrador retrievers, and ferret.



**Beneath the Moon and Among the Stars:  
A Novelist takes a Detour from His Wicked Orbit**  
Sunday, 1:00-3:00 PM  
Greg Maguire, presenter



**Gregory Maguire** received his Ph.D. in English and American Literature from Tufts University. His work as a consultant in creative writing for children has taken him to speaking engagements across the United States and abroad. He is a founder and co-director of Children's Literature New England, Incorporated, a non-profit educational charity established in 1987. The author of numerous books for children, Mr. Maguire is also a contributor to *Am I Blue?: Coming Out From the Silence*, a collection of short stories for gay and lesbian teenagers. Since *Wicked* was first published in 1995, millions of readers have discovered Gregory Maguire's Oz, a world filled with characters both familiar and new, darkly conceived and daringly re-imagined. In the much-anticipated third volume of the *Wicked Years*, we return to Oz, through the eyes of the Cowardly Lion—the once tiny cub defended by Elphaba in *Wicked*.

**MSLA Awards and Buffet Dinner**  
Sunday, 5:30 PM  
Mitchell Chester, Honoree    Janet Allison, Honoree

**Mitchell Chester** is the Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is charged with the responsibility of ensuring improved teaching and learning in all of the Commonwealth's public schools. A Connecticut native, Chester began his career as an elementary school classroom teacher and has worked at the state level in Connecticut and Ohio. In this role as Senior Associate State Superintendent for the Ohio Public Schools, he worked closely with Ohio State Superintendent Susan Zelman, and was responsible for education policy development, the state's accountability systems, alignment of federal and state policy and strategic planning for the agency.



**Janet Allison** is the Interim Director of the Commission on Public Secondary Schools (CPSS) for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) where she has served for more than twenty years. Previous to her work with the Commission, Janet was a Social Studies teacher and an assistant principal in New Hampshire and Georgia public high schools. She earned her Masters of Education in Administration from Northeastern University and her BA from the University of New Hampshire.



**Sunday Evening 7:30 - 9:00 PM: Job Alikes**

### **Groups: Elementary, Middle, and High School**

Have an after-dinner discussion with your colleagues on issues that are unique to your level. Share your best practices, ask questions and come away with some great ideas.

## **MONDAY KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**“Here Today, Gone  
Tomorrow?  
Key Challenges Today for  
Tomorrow’s  
School Libraries.”**



**Dr. Ross Todd** is associate professor in the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies at Rutgers. He is Director of the Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries (CISSL), at Rutgers. CISSL fosters the transformative role of school libraries in 21<sup>st</sup> century schools. His primary teaching and research interests focus on adolescent information seeking and use. The research is multi-faceted, and includes: understanding how children learn and build new knowledge from information; how school librarians and classroom teachers can more effectively empower student learning; and how the development of information and critical literacies through guided inquiry and constructivist learning approaches lead to deep knowledge and deep understanding. He has published more than 120 papers and book chapters and has spoken at many international conferences, most recently in Sweden, Trinidad, Croatia and Norway.