

Invest in yourself in 2010 by attending *PNLA Leads*, the Pacific Northwest Library Association's Leadership Institute October 17-22.

PNLA is a bi-national library association whose mission includes meeting continuing education needs and developing stronger library networking between members within the region.

PNLA Leads, is a biennial project offering leadership institutes in even numbered years. The institute facilitates weeklong training to both degreed and non-degreed staff working in any type of library throughout the states and provinces within PNLA. It is designed to develop and enhance skills and aptitudes such as visioning, conflict resolution, commitment to community, personal introspection and growth, mentoring, team building and risk taking.

PNLA Leads facilitates personal and professional development while it endeavors to build a library network, reach otherwise isolated rural library staff, and address the important issue of succession planning through retention and development of talented staff within all types of libraries in the PNLA region.

This unique institute offers participants an opportunity to: examine their personal leadership style and clarify personal and professional goals; work together to assess the environment, create a vision for the future of the library community and publicly express their thoughts; feel confident in taking leadership action in one form or another e.g. publishing, association board/committee work, or mentoring another library worker; feel empowered to work together to build collaborative relationship and address common issues within the profession.

PNLA Leads The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) Leadership Institute is designed to provide opportunities for emerging library leaders in the Pacific Northwest to cultivate their leadership skills and potential. Library leaders come in all forms and from all levels within libraries. They may be support staff or professionals, with or without library school degrees.

If you are an emerging leader serving in any capacity in a library in the Pacific Northwest and have a desire to network with other leaders and increase your skills, this institute is for you.

FACILITATORS: Becky Schrieber & John Shannon, Schrieber Shannon Associates

SCHEDULE: Participants will arrive Sunday afternoon, October 17th prior to supper and opening activities. Intensive day long activities Mon-Thu. Departure will be at noon on Friday, October 22nd after closing activities.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS:

- Currently employed in a library organization (preference given to those within PNLA's member state/provincial region: Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Washington)
- At least five years work in any library setting
- Current member of PNLA or of a state/provincial library association supporting *PNLA Leads* (Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Washington). Nonmembers are also invited to apply
- A completed application which will be evaluated via the process outlined below
- Recommendation, based upon leadership potential and abilities, by sponsoring library which also indicates level of support

SELECTION PROCESS: The application will be available via the PNLA website www.pnla.org beginning March 1, 2010. Application period closes on May 7, 2010.

Applicants will be evaluated by the leadership institute committee consisting of the institute coordinator and PNLA board which includes state/provincial representatives to PNLA. The 32 attendees will be joined by eight mentors, also recommended and selected by state/provincial representatives.

LOCATION: Schweitzer Mountain Resort, 10000 Schweitzer Mountain Road, Sandpoint, ID, 83864. Schweitzer Mountain Resort is nestled at the base of the Selkirk Mountains, in the Idaho panhandle, and overlooks Lake Pend Oreille - one of the largest freshwater lakes in the West. The resort is 86 miles outside of Spokane, Washington and about 45 miles south of the Canadian border. The retreat atmosphere ensures release from the demands of everyday professional life and guarantees minimal distractions in order for participants to make the most of the week long intensive institute. *PNLA Leads* participants are expected to attend the week-long institute without family members. Information about the facility is available at www.schweitzer.com.

COSTS: Registration for PNLA and supporting Association members is \$1300 (may be reduced if major support funding is obtained before August, 2010). Registration includes: lodging, meals, institute materials and activities. Attendees pay their own transportation costs. Roundtrip shuttle to Schweitzer from the Spokane airport will be available at an estimated cost of \$40.

Individual libraries, state/provincial libraries and state/provincial associations may be able to assist attendees with registration and/or transportation costs. It is up to the individual attendee to pursue these or other sources of financial assistance.

For questions about the *PNLA Leads* leadership institute or the application process, contact Mary DeWalt: mdewalt@adalib.org

An investment of one week and \$1100-1300 plus travel really can change your life. Here's what past participants had to say:

"This is a powerful and empowering potentially life changing experience. I cannot thank you all [enough] for the opportunity and experience. I trust my future actions will reflect the great work being done here."

"I didn't know what to expect – but I know that this process will be transformational."

"I have made many lasting connections."

"As long as I keep my commitment to myself and our vision – I will be a leader."

"Thank you for a wonderful growth experience."

"Reinforces and motivates me to act as the leaders I know I am."

"Thanks! I think this is by far the most valid and practical "training" I've ever taken."

"This has given me the courage and inspiration to step out of my safe environment and know I can fly higher and further."

"Oh, the possibilities!"

"Although my institute paid for my involvement, if given another opportunity to be involved with this institute, I would gladly pay for it myself. Thank you for changing my life."