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ALA American Library Association

January 15, 1997

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of The First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

*Holly -
HRC can't
do. Let's
over video.
Patti*

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

As president of the American Library Association, I have greatly admired and appreciated your advocacy on behalf of our nation's children and your generous support for the Born to Read project of our Association for Library Service to Children.

Next month, some 8,500 members of the American Library Association will gather in Washington for our Midwinter Meeting. As part of these activities, I am hosting a reception for about 200 heads of organizations who share our concern for children and would very much like to recognize you for your leadership. We will also be honoring Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley. The reception will be Thursday, February 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St. N.W., Independence Rooms B-E.

You might also be interested to know that the Clinton Administration will be represented at the ALA President's Program, from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, February 16, also in the Grand Hyatt, Independence Ballroom. Both Secretary of Education Riley and FCC Chairman Reed Hundt will speak on the topic "The Road We Must Travel: Paving the Way for Children on the Information Highway."

You, of course, are welcome to join us as guest of honor at either program. I have included a position paper, which focuses on my own presidential message about why children need good libraries -- "Kids can't wait. . ."

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions, please contact Linda Wallace, director of the ALA Public Information Office at 312-280-5042.

Sincerely,

Mary R. Somerville, President
American Library Association
Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

50 EAST HURON STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611
312-944-6780 800-545-2433

NEWS

Contact: *Linda Wallace*
312-280-5042

MIDWINTER MEETING - AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The American Library Association (ALA), the oldest and largest library association in the world, holds its annual business meeting - the Midwinter Meeting - usually each January. The annual event is attended by **some 10,000 librarians** as well as leaders in the library and information industry who participate in approximately 2,000 meetings and events. **More than 500 exhibiting** companies feature the latest in books, videos, computers and other materials vital to today's libraries and librarians.

Winners of the "Academy Awards" of children's literature -- the **Newbery and Caldecott Medals** -- are announced. Other awards announced include the **Coretta Scott King Awards**, the **Batchelder Awards**, the **Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video** and the **Margaret A. Edwards Award** recognizing a lifetime of writing books for young adults.

Also released during the meeting are the ALA's lists of **Notable Books for Adults**, **Notable Children's Books**, **Filmstrips and Recordings**, **Notable Films and Videos for Children**, **Selected Films and Videos for Young Adults** and **Best Books for Young Adults**.

Various topics affecting libraries and librarians are addressed during the **President's Program**. The program generally features a prominent speaker addressing the ALA presidential theme. Past speakers have included author **David McCullough**.

Candidates for ALA offices discuss platforms during a **Candidate's Forum** open to ALA membership and the public.

The **ALA Council**, the governing body of the association, acts on resolutions to set policy in areas such as intellectual freedom and access to government information.

The **ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources** provides a **placement service** for job seekers and employers operated by the ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources is available. Interviewing facilities are provided.

The **ALA Store** offers a wide variety of items for sale including celebrity "Read" posters, featuring **Barbara Walters**, **Mel Gibson**, **Michelle Pfeiffer**, **Tim Allen**, **Antonio Banderas**, **Danny Glover** and others, ALA publications, t-shirts, videos, bookmarks and reading lists.

Conference Dates:

February 14-20, 1997 - Washington, D.C.

January 9-15, 1998 - New Orleans

January 22-28, 1999 Philadelphia, PA

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ALA American Library Association

NEWS

*For Immediate Release
December 1996*

*Contact: Joyce Kelly or
Linda Wallace
312-280-5043 or 5042*

1997 ALA Midwinter Meeting highlights

Announcements of the 1997 Newbery and Caldecott medals and other youth media awards will be among highlights of the American Library Association (ALA) 1997 Midwinter Meeting to be held February 14-20 in Washington, D.C., at the Washington Convention Center.

Reed Hundt, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will speak at the President's Program titled "The Road We Must Travel: Paving the Way for Children on the Information Highway" hosted by ALA President Mary R. Somerville on Sunday, February 16, from 3 to 5 p.m. The FCC recently took the first step toward establishment of telecommunications discounts for public and school libraries as part of universal service proceedings authorized by Congress. Hundt will address key issues involving children, libraries and the Internet.

Winners of the Newbery and the Caldecott medals will be announced Monday, February 17, at a 9 a.m. news conference. Other awards to be announced are the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video, the Coretta Scott King Awards, the Margaret A. Edwards Award and the Mildred Batchelder Award.

The ALA traveling exhibition, "The Many Realms of King Arthur," will be on view February 14-18 at the Convention Center. The exhibition, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities,

1997 ALA Midwinter Meeting highlights add one

explores the legend of King Arthur through illustrations from medieval manuscripts, paintings, films, comic books and other genres. The exhibition recently completed a tour of 64 public and academic libraries.

About 8,000 librarians, educators, publishers, trustees and library supporters are expected to attend the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Approximately 400 exhibitors will showcase the latest in books, videos and information technology. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday. Visitor's passes are available at the Exhibits Only registration desk. More highlights follow:

Friday, February 14:

"Shaping the Debate: Influencing Decision Makers," a new program to help librarians and library advocates win new friends and influence decision-makers at all levels of government, will be held from 2 to 5:30 p.m. The deadline to register is January 15. A \$10 fee includes the cost of materials and a "decadent dessert." To register, send a check to the American Library Association, Chapter Relations Office, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

"Voices from Near and Far: Two Perspectives" will be sponsored from 8 to 10 p.m. by the U.S. Board on Books for Young People. Susan Kuklin, author of "After A Suicide: Young People Speak Up," and Guatemalan-born Omar S. Castaneda, author of "Among the Volcanoes," will speak and autograph copies of their books.

Saturday, February 15:

The Chapter Relations Committee and the ALA Legislation Committee will hold a briefing on universal service from 8 to 9 a.m. Speakers will include a state public utility commissioner and the focus of the session will be the impact of the FCC ruling at the state and local levels.

The ALA Chapter Relations Committee will host a candidates forum with ALA presidential candidates Ken Dowlin and Ann Symons from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The ALA and the Fund For America's Libraries will host the first ALA Grants Showcase on from 3 to 5 p.m. Beginning at the Midwinter Meeting, the showcase will provide an opportunity to meet with project directors and

1997 ALA Midwinter Meeting highlights add two

participating librarians for the latest information on ALA's special grant

projects. ALA currently has 42 active grant projects totaling more than \$15 million. These include the ALA/Microsoft Libraries Online!, the ALA/Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund Adult Literacy Initiative, the traveling exhibitions and cultural programs supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"Why Your Library Needs an Emergency Preparedness Plan," will be the topic of discussion from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. David Fortin, of the ITT Hartford Insurance Group, will address types of emergencies that can happen in libraries and trends in emergency preparedness planning. The session is sponsored by the ALA Membership Committee and ALA library champion Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Sunday, February 16:

An "Intellectual Freedom Briefing" will provide an update on ALA's challenge to the Communications Decency Act and other issues. The briefing will be sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Committee from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Contributors of \$250 or more to support ALA's legal battle against the CDA will be invited to a private reception with the suit's legal team. For information, contact Renae Brantley at the Fund For America's Libraries. Telephone: 312-280-5050. E-mail: rbrantley@ala.org.

A workshop to help youth librarians be effective advocates will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. The workshop titled "Library Advocacy Now 101" will focus on how to be an effective library spokesperson, how to deal with the media and other techniques for delivering the library message.

Monday, February 17:

William Miller, president of the Association of College and Research Librarians, will lead a discussion on the role of academic librarians in the new "learning communities" developing on their campuses. The session is scheduled for 9:30 - 11 a.m.

"Stop Talking and Start Doing: Recruitment and Retention of People of Color at the State and Local Levels" will be sponsored by Chapter Relations from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The program includes a discussion of ALA's new diversity initiatives and methods of recruiting young people to the profession.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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50 EAST HURON STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611
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FACT SHEET

Contact: Linda Wallace
312/280-5042

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The American Library Association (ALA) is the oldest and largest, and most influential library association in the world with some 57,000 members, primarily librarians, but also trustees, publishers and other library supporters. The association represents all types of libraries—public, school, academic, state and special libraries serving persons in government, commerce, armed services, hospitals, prisons and other institutions. Its mission is to advocate for the American people's right to a free and open information society and the highest quality library and information services.

A Rich History

ALA has influenced the course of America's libraries since its inception in 1876, when such early library luminaries as Melvil Dewey and Justin Winsor issued a call to librarians to form a professional organization. Meeting in Philadelphia during that city's gala Centennial Exhibition, 90 men and 13 women came from as far west as Chicago and from England. For more than a century, ALA has been a leader in promoting and developing library and information services via a broad-based program of legislative advocacy, professional education, publishing, awards and public awareness.

ALA Today

ALA is headquartered in Chicago and maintains another office in Washington, D.C. The association is governed by a 175-member council. An executive board, made up of elected officers and eight council members, is responsible for management of the association, subject to review by council. The association is served by a staff of 275 and is administered by an executive director.

In 1995, ALA adopted ALA Goal 2000, a five-year initiative to position the association and libraries for the 21st century. During year one of this effort, the association expanded the Washington Office, established the Office for Information Technology Policy, intensified its advocacy efforts and created the Fund for America's Libraries, an independent, charitable foundation to seek and distribute resources to promote and improve libraries in America.

Much of ALA's success results from its keen interest and active participation in every type of activity related to libraries.

Legislation. The ALA Washington Office educates and works with legislators to obtain the federal support necessary for libraries to flourish. In 1995, ALA expanded its Washington Office to increase its ability to influence national policy issues. The Office for Information Technology Policy was established at the Washington Office to address complex policy issues. Each year, during National Library Week, the Washington Office, and the D.C. Library Association cosponsor National Library Legislative Day to provide a forum for library representatives across the country to speak to federal legislators.

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Intellectual Freedom. The ALA maintains a vigorous program to defend libraries' rights to shelve and circulate materials representing all points of view to all people regardless of race, religion, age, national origin or social and political views. A "Library Bill of Rights" was first adopted by ALA in 1939; the present ALA policy statement, dating from 1948, serves as a librarian's interpretation of the First Amendment to the Constitution. The Office for Intellectual Freedom is charged with implementing ALA policies concerning the concept of intellectual freedom as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights. The goal of the office is to educate librarians and the general public about the nature and importance of intellectual freedom in libraries.

Publishing. Journals, monographs and reference works are among ALA publications sold all over the world. Some titles have been translated into Japanese, Hebrew, Spanish and Portuguese. The official membership publication is **American Libraries** monthly magazine. **Booklist** is a leading review publication of current books and nonprint materials; **Choice** reviews new books of importance to academic libraries and **Book Links** explores how literature can enhance the learning experience for children.

Accreditation. The Office for Accreditation provides planning and leadership in national and international accreditation, and is the authoritative source for the profession and public on library and information studies accreditation. ALA's Committee on Accreditation is recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation as the agency authorized to review, evaluate and accredit library and information studies graduate programs.

Public Awareness. The Public Information Office directs a year-round public awareness campaign for libraries and librarians at the national level, develops promotional materials to assist librarians with their public relations programs at the local level, coordinates media relations for the Association and provides public relations counsel to members and communications support services to ALA and its units.

Library Outreach. The ALA Office for Literacy & Outreach Services promotes the provision of library service to the urban and rural poor, the elderly and to people who are discriminated against because they belong to minority groups. The office encourages the development of user-oriented information and education library services to meet special needs and to ensure that librarians and others have information, technical assistance and continuing education opportunities to assist them in developing effective outreach programs.

Personnel. The ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources provides programs, publications and counsel related to the rights, interests and obligations of library personnel. The office serves as a career education and recruitment resource for the profession of librarianship.

Research. The Library and Research Center provides information needed by ALA staff and to members and others who contact ALA with questions about libraries, librarians and ALA programs. The center also provides expert advice to ALA staff, members and the public on all matters related to research and statistics about libraries, librarians and other library staff, represents the Association to federal agencies on these issues and initiates projects to expand the knowledge base of the field through research and the collection of useful statistics.

- more -

Preservation. The preservation of library materials in order to maintain our nation's cultural heritage and ensure access to the full range of available knowledge and information is a strategic goal of ALA. The Preservation and Reformatting Section of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) actively promotes the use of permanent paper and other measures to ensure longevity.

Awards. ALA presents more than 100 awards, grants and scholarships. Perhaps the best known are the prestigious Newbery and Caldecott medals, recognizing superior quality in children's literature. These, and other ALA awards, are intended to stimulate achievement in library science and publishing. Citations recognize excellence in every field from school media center programs to library architecture to public relations.

Conferences. ALA holds two conferences each year: a Midwinter Business Meeting (usually in January) and a general Annual Conference (June). About 20,000 attend the Annual Conference from all parts of the country and abroad. Conference programs include exhibits and displays, guest speakers and presentation of awards. Numerous lectures, panel discussions, workshops and debates address topics related to libraries, library services and information science.

Public Educational Programs. The ALA Public Programs Office promotes and supports library cultural and educational programming for the public. These programs include: library traveling exhibitions; reading and discussion programs about literature, history and other topics; and literary programs featuring writers. Through grants from funders such as the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, the office offers seminars, publications, program materials, funds and other resources.

Different Divisions for Different Interests

ALA has 11 membership units, called divisions, focusing on specific types of libraries or library services. Activities include developing standards and guidelines, evaluating materials and improving and extending service. Most divisions maintain active publishing programs and several offer regional institutes, workshops and continuing education opportunities and national conferences. ALA divisions are:

- American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
- American Library Trustee Association (ALTA)
- Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)
- Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)
- Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
- Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)
- Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA)
- Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)
- Public Library Association (PLA)
- Reference and Adult Services Division (RASD)
- Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

The ALA Extended Family

Fifty-six independent library associations promoting libraries and librarianship in states, regions and territories of the United States are chapters of ALA; 22 independent national and international organizations having purposes similar to ALA are affiliates. ALA sends official representatives to meet with more than 75 organizations sharing mutual interests with the association.

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT EVENT
AT GEORGETOWN MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, DC
JANUARY 10, 1997**

I am delighted to be here today and to be in the company of a very special guest. Yesterday, the President honored some of America's finest artists, writers and thinkers with the National Medal of Arts and the Charles Frankel Prize. One of them, Maurice Sendak, arranged his busy schedule so that he could stay one more day and meet with some of Washington's youngest citizens.

As many of you know, Maurice Sendak is one of our country's most beloved authors and illustrators of children's books. His stories and characters have captured and stimulated the imaginations of generations of children -- and, as the President said yesterday, the imaginations of countless parents, too.

When Chelsea was little, Bill and I used to take turns reading *Where the Wild Things Are* and many other of Mr. Sendak's stories to our daughter. Soon, Chelsea began to read along with us. And before long, she was reading that story -- and others -- on her own. Like many parents, we owe Maurice Sendak a debt of gratitude for helping us to spur our daughter's imagination and reading skills. Later, some of the children here will have the chance to hear him read one of his stories. I thank him for taking the time to join us today. I am also grateful to his publisher, *Harper Collins*, for donating 75 of his books to the medical center.

Today, thanks to advances in science, we know much more about the importance of intellectual stimulation for children in the first three years of life. We know how critical it is for children to hear words, listen to stories, and develop their imaginations. We know that children who have been read to at a young age have an easier time developing language and communications skills as they progress in life.

The earlier we expose our children to books and stories and learning the better off they -- and we -- are. That is one reason the President is accelerating his Administration's efforts to strengthen early childhood education and to raise awareness about the importance of developing our children's intellects even in their first years of life. It's why he's challenged Americans to get involved in a volunteer literacy effort to make sure that every boy and girl in America can read on their own by the third grade. And it's why he is working on ways to encourage parents to be involved in their children's learning, whether it's telling a story to an infant or reading a book to a toddler at bedtime.

Over the years I have met parents who have told me they never really talked to their babies because they thought the infants were too young to understand what they were saying. I've met parents who believed that they could not read well enough to read a book to a child.

We have to help parents understand that, no matter their educational level or reading

ability, they can stimulate their children's intellectual potential by talking to and reading to their children, even if they stumble over a few words here or there. Most likely, their children won't even notice. But they *will* notice the power of reading and books to take them on fascinating adventures and introduce them to interesting characters.

We have to help parents acquire the skills and confidence they need to become their children's first teachers.

All of us can join in this effort -- as parents, as business people, as physicians.

We're delighted to be joined today by representatives of two organizations that have committed some of their resources to wonderful projects that promote the importance of reading and books in children's lives. The American Library Association has sponsored a program that brings libraries and health care providers together to help low-income parents and those with poor literacy skills improve their own reading abilities and read to their children. And the Association of Booksellers for Children is encouraging pediatricians to "prescribe" reading aloud for both parents and children.

We are also heartened that at hospitals, clinics, and doctors' offices around the country, soon including the National Children's Medical Center here in Washington, literacy development is becoming integrated into pediatric care. Doctors know the importance of these early years. Regular office visits present doctors with wonderful opportunities to instill good learning habits - along with good health habits -- in parents and children. I encourage pediatricians all across our country to use the authority and influence vested in those white jackets and stethoscopes to convince parents and children to read aloud as often as possible. And I encourage them to begin prescribing as many books as they do medicines and to create waiting rooms where, instead of worrying about upcoming shots, children will be engrossed in tales by Dr. Seuss and the Brothers Grimm.

These are significant, and relatively easy, steps we can take to promote the intellectual and creative potential of children. Now we need to spread the word and make sure that, across America, parents are talking to and reading to their children -- and discovering that even the youngest among us responds to words, language, and learning. We all have a role to play, whether by donating books to doctors to give to children, or volunteering to read in a doctor's office, or tutoring in a school. I thank the representatives of Georgetown Medical Center and Children's Hospital who are with us today and are committed to helping this effort.

And thank you all very much.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce Dr. Constance Battle of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
MIDWINTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 1997

Welcome to Washington. Thank you very much for inviting me to be a part of this year's American Library Association Midwinter Meeting. I'm sorry that I won't be joining all of you in person, but I did want to take a few minutes to thank you for your commitment to providing all Americans -- especially our children -- access to the world of knowledge and information. And I am delighted to join you in honoring Education Secretary Richard Riley for his dedication and hard work these past four years. Mr. Secretary, you have been a true champion for America's students, their parents, and our common future.

As we prepare to meet the challenges of the Information Age and the new millennium, your continued leadership will be crucial. Over the past few years, technological developments have revolutionized information science and created an almost boundless virtual library. We will look to our librarians to help guide us on this new information superhighway.

But librarians can also be important partners in another task whose impact on our country is just as great ~~and even more fundamental~~: Inspiring adults to read to our youngest children. Last month I announced, along with representatives of the ALA, ~~a national campaign~~ ^{efforts} to help ~~adults~~ ^{citizens} of all educational levels read to their children and to encourage pediatricians to prescribe daily reading to patients and their parents.

New research has shown that reading to young children is vital to their neurological, intellectual, and emotional development. Time spent sharing a favorite book not only strengthens the bond between a parent and child, it enriches a child's vocabulary and literally helps a baby's brain grow. When our daughter Chelsea was little, Bill and I took turns reading to her every night. It wasn't long before she was reading on her own and -- in her mind -- traveling to kingdoms and countries far beyond the shelves of the main library in Little Rock.

Unfortunately, too many children are still missing this early stimulation. That is why library-sponsored efforts such as pre-school story hours, summer reading challenges, and the Born to Read program are so critical and urgent.

My husband likes to talk about building a bridge to the 21st century, and reading is an important link in preparing our children to cross that bridge. He has made it our national goal to make sure that every boy and girl can read on his or her own by the third grade. And every time an adult opens a book to read to an infant or a young child borrows a book from library, we come that much closer to achieving that goal. ^{the}

Thank you for ~~you~~ doing your part to help our children fulfill the promise of the future.

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ALA American Library Association

Public Information Office
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Chicago, IL 60611

Fax Message

Please deliver the following page(s) to:

Attn: June Hill

Fax: 202-456-5209

From: Linda Wallace, Director
Public Information Office
Tel: 800-545-2433, ext. 5044
Fax: 312-944-8520

Total number of pages, including cover:

5 Page(s) Date: 2-4-97

Message

If you do not receive all of the pages listed above or if transmission is not legible, please call 312-280-5044.

Key Dates

February 14-20, 1997
Midwinter Meeting, Washington, D.C.

April
School Library Media Month

April 13-19, 1997
National Library Week

April 16, 1997
Log on @ the Library Day

June 26-July 3, 1997
Annual Conference, San Francisco

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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M E M O

To: June Shih
Fax: 202-456-5709

Date: February 4, 1997

From: Linda Wallace, PIO

Re First Lady script for American Library Association Video

Here is some draft copy I hope will be helpful. The program on February 13 is a reception with members of ALA and leaders of other youth advocacy organizations. Secretary Riley will be honored as a "Library Champion." The program on February 15 is the ALA President's Program where Riley will be a keynote speaker. The audience will be mainly librarians.

"Kids can't wait!" is the theme for the conference and our current public awareness campaign. "Kids who aren't logged on and literate will be lost in the 21st century" is one of our key messages.

I can e-mail this if you wish. Let me know if you need anything -- and thanks for your help!

ALA

**SCRIPT FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
FOR VIDEO TO BE AIRED FEBRUARY 13 AND 16 DURING THE MIDWINTER
MEETING OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Greetings to members of the American Library Association and to all of you working to make better lives for our children.

Everyone knows that food, clothing, health care and good schools are important for children. But there is one thing that will help to ensure children's success in life more than anything else. One they won't outgrow and can't break. One that is good for a lifetime of learning and enjoyment. That is a love of reading.

A love of reading is the foundation for all learning. It is what makes children *want* to read and learn. And it starts in the home -- in the first three years of life. Anyone who's shared a story with a child knows what a special time this can be. It's easy. It's fun. And there is no better way for a parent, grandparent or guardian to show their love and caring.

Parents are their children's first and most important teachers. This can be a frightening thought -- but we are not alone. Librarians have always been partners in enticing children to read with their wonderful collections of books, preschool storyhours, summer reading and other programs for children and their families.

(personal anecdote from her childhood or Chelsea's about how the library made a difference)

Programs like the American Library Association's Born to Read are an excellent example of how librarians are reaching out in their communities to help parents raise children who are healthy in body and ready to learn. We need more doctors who prescribe reading and library cards the same way they do vitamins and tetanus shots. We need more parents who spend at least 15 minutes a day reading to their children.

Reading is a basic survival skill in our information society. But it is no longer enough. Today our children must be wired. They must be able to use computers and surf the 'Net.

Kids who aren't logged on and literate will indeed be lost in the next century.

Our nation's public and school libraries provide books, computers and much more for children from babies to teens -- at a price every family can afford. All it takes is a library card.

It's up to us to make sure our children connect with the wonderful world of learning and fun at our libraries - and to encourage those most in need to take advantage of these resources.

Secretary of Education Richard Riley has been and will continue to be leader in this effort. I applaud him -- and all of you -- for your hard work and dedication. With your continued support, we will make a brighter future for our children and nation -- one where every child is a reader and lifelong learner. Kids can't wait!

SCRIPT FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
FOR VIDEO TO BE AIRED FEBRUARY 13 AND 16 DURING THE
MIDWINTER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
MIDWINTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 1997

Welcome to Washington. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to all of you at this midwinter meeting of the American Library Association. And I am delighted to join you in honoring Education Secretary Richard Riley for his dedication and hard work these past four years. You have been a true champion for America's students, their parents, and our common future.

As we prepare to meet the challenges of the Information Age and the new millennium, the continued leadership of the American Library Association will be crucial. Over the past few years, there has been a lot of excitement about the Internet and the World Wide Web. With good reason. These developments have revolutionized information science and created a virtual library that is almost limitless in scope. We will look to our librarians to help guide us on this new information superhighway.

But librarians can also be important partners in another task whose impact on our country is just as great and even more fundamental -- encouraging adults to read to our youngest children. The earlier we expose our children to books and stories and learning the better off they -- and we -- are. New research has shown that reading to young children is vital to their neurological, intellectual, and emotional development. Time spent sharing a favorite book not only strengthens the emotional bond between a parent and child and enriches their vocabularies, it literally helps the baby's brain grow.

In turn, reading to children also sparks curiosity and creativity. When our daughter Chelsea was little, Bill and I took turns reading to her every night. It wasn't long before she was reading on her own and -- in her mind -- traveling to kingdoms and countries far beyond the shelves of the main library in Little Rock.

Unfortunately, too many children are still missing this early stimulation. That is why library-sponsored efforts such as pre-school story hours, summer reading challenges, and the Born to Read program are so critical and urgent. I thank you for reaching out to parents and helping them gain the tools they need to raise children who are healthy and ready to learn.

The President and his administration share your goals and have challenged Americans to get involved in a national, volunteer literacy campaign to make sure every boy and girl can read on his or her own by the third grade. If we are to fulfill the promise of the future, we need to give our kids the skills they need, and reading is one of the most important.

Thank you for your commitment to meeting this challenge.

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June

HRC VIDEO REQUESTS

[AS OF FEB. 4, 1997]

DATE OF EVENT	DATE TO BE REC'D	ORGANIZATION	EVENT	RECOMM'D BY	APPRV'D BY	CONF'D	CC: B&S	NOTES
Feb. 7	Feb. 6	Arkansas Easter Seal Society	Arkansan of the Year Award Dinner (Jimmie Lou Fisher)	Blanch Lambert Lincoln	Yes/PSD	Yes	Yes	HRC requested HRC & POTUS do together. Can't get schedu so most likely POTUS will do alone. Pending per PSD asking HRC
Feb. 9	Feb. 6	National Multiple Sclerosis Society	Books for a Better Life Award	Melanne Susan Thomasas	Yes/PSD	Yes	Yes	
Feb. 13	Feb. 6	American Library Association	1. Midwinter Meeting 2. Reception honoring Sec. Riley	random	Yes/PSD	Yes	Yes	video to be used for both events -- approved by Neel Lattimore NOTE: ALA wanted to use video for Web Site --absolutely NOT
Feb. 27	NO	Inaugural Home and Community Care	Conference	random	No/MV	No		Regret--gived to Karen Fahle to send letter 2/5
March	Feb. 6	Dept. Of the Army/Walter Reed Army Medical Center	National Nutrition Month Video	random	Yes/MV	TBD	Yes	Confirmation pending--we will do, but cost is an issue (approx. \$975 for vid
Mar. 6	Feb. 6	National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations	Celebrate Life Luncheon	Lisa Caputo	Yes		Yes	Confirmation pending --Holly waiting for call back from NABCO
Mar. 20		YWCA of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County	Leadership Luncheon				Yes	
Mar. 20-22		National Crime Prevention Council	National Youth Conference	Melanne	Yes		Yes	
April 7		USIA/CIVITAS	CIVITAS Board of Directors' Spring Meeting	Joyce Kravitz	Yes		Yes	

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
MIDWINTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 1997

Welcome to Washington. Thank you very much for inviting me to be a part of this year's American Library Association Midwinter Meeting. I'm sorry that I won't be joining all of you in person, but I did want to take a few minutes to thank you for your commitment to providing all Americans -- especially our children -- access to the world of knowledge and information. And I am delighted to join you in honoring Education Secretary Richard Riley for his dedication and hard work these past four years. ~~Dick~~; you have been a true champion for America's students, their parents, and our common future. *Mr. Secy*

As we prepare to meet the challenges of the Information Age and the new millennium, the continued leadership of the ALA will be crucial. Over the past few years, technological developments have revolutionized information science and created an almost boundless virtual library. We will look to our librarians to help guide us on this new information superhighway.

But librarians can also be important partners in another task whose impact on our country is just as great and even more fundamental -- encouraging adults to read to our youngest children. New research has shown that reading to young children is vital to their neurological, intellectual, and emotional development. *Time* Evenings spent sharing a favorite book not only strengthen the emotional bond between a parent and child, *it* they enrich a child's vocabulary and literally help a baby's brain grow.

Over time, reading to children can spark curiosity and creativity. When our daughter Chelsea was little, Bill and I took turns reading to her every night. It wasn't long before she was reading on her own and -- in her mind -- traveling to kingdoms and countries far beyond the shelves of the main library in Little Rock.

Unfortunately, too many children are still missing this early stimulation. That is why library-sponsored efforts such as pre-school story hours, summer reading challenges, and the Born to Read program are so critical and urgent.

My husband likes to talk about building a bridge to the 21st century, and reading is an important linking in preparing our children to cross that bridge. He has made it our national goal to make sure that every boy and girl can read on his or her own by the third grade. And every time an adult opens a book to read to a toddler or a child borrows a book from library, we come that much closer to achieving that goal. *infants*

Thank you for you doing your part to help our children fulfill the promise of the future.

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