

Alabaster, Carol. *Developing an Outstanding Core Collection: A Guide for Libraries*. ALA Editions, 2010. 978-0-8389-1040-5. 191p. \$60.00.

One of the most fun tasks in any librarian's job is book selection. Alabaster did so intensively for 13 years as collection development coordinator at the Phoenix Public Library, where the collection was haphazard and lacking in many places when she took the job. While giving specific guidance to those building an adult collection, Alabaster's advice and guidelines would apply to a librarian serving any age patron. The author begins advising us to write a mission or philosophy of our core collection and a policy statement before beginning the selection process and proceeds to give us lists of specific selection tools and guides us in evaluating and managing our collection going forward. Alabaster is a very practical guide who counsels that much of the core collection will contain classics, but that not every classic is suitable for your collection. The usefulness and likely circulation should be considered before making any purchases. Recommended.

Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher

Alessio, Amy J. and Kimberly A. Patton. *A Year of Programs for Teens 2*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2011. 978-0-8389-1051-1. 151p. \$45.00.

This slim but extensive book of program ideas to keep teens visiting the library is divided into two parts: Core Programs (Popular Booklists, Clubs and Reading Programs), and Guidelines for a Year of Programs for Teens. There is lots of energy and creativity in this great book of teen services. Includes an Appendix and Index. Recommended for grades 9-12.

BJ Neary, Abington Senior High

***Atlas of the Great Plains*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2011. 978-0-8032-1536-8. 352p. \$39.95. Gr. 9+.**

This reference work was designed as a companion volume to the *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains*, though it can stand alone. It displays and conveys what is significant and interesting about the region in maps. Immense in scope, its time span extends from early Native American occupancy of the region to contemporary political and social issues. More than three hundred maps and diagrams are significant analytically but are also considered works of art. Accompanying narratives provide the context. High school students with an interest in this region would find this atlas very useful. **Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School**

Bartel, Julie and Pam Spencer Holley. *Annotated Book Lists for Every Teen Reader: The Best from the Experts at YALSA-BK*. NY: Neal-Schuman, 2011. 9078-1555706586. 270p. \$70.00. Professional.

What a fun little YA librarian's handbook! The authors have given a lot of thought to "must haves" for those tough patrons: the manga-lovers, offbeat guys, picky senior girls, and detention home girls to name but a few. The first section contains list upon list of newer and classic titles well suited to a particular group, the same titles organized by format (graphic novel, audiobook, etc.), another section that lists by theme (bathrooms, chocolate, seasons, states, etc.), and the final section contains annotations for all of the books listed. Contains an index and BONUS: a CD is in a sleeve in the back of the book! Highly recommended. **Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher**

Bond, Ernest. *Literature and the Young Adult Reader*. Boston: Prentice Hall, 2011. 978-0-13-111695-5. 439p. \$98.20. H.S. and College.

This very thorough text delves into great detail about young adult genres, authors, librarians, the teen reader, and the many themes and issues in YA lit today. In many chapters there are technology links, literary theory, and author spotlights. Bond has created a helpful book for pre-service teachers, in-service teachers, media specialists, and students which is quite current, looking at the newest and best offerings of literature available for teens, ages 10-18. Highly recommended. **BJ Neary, Abington Senior High**

***Consumer Math*. Orlando: Steck-Vaughn School Supply, 2011. 160p. \$17.99 Gr. 9+.**

***The Mathematics of Trades and Professions*. 978-0-547-62556-0.**

***The Mathematics of Automobiles and Transportation*. 978-0-547-62562-1.**

***The Mathematics of Personal Finance & Investments*. 978-0-547-62568-3.**

***The Mathematics of Banking and Credit*. 978-0-547-62561-4.**

***The Mathematics of Work*. 978-0-547-62560-7.**

***The Mathematics of Housing and Taxes*. 978-0-547-62564-5.**

Teachers will be using the many books in this series with their students for different aspects of mathematics that are necessary in the real world. Business, Math, Special Ed and Guidance teachers found these books clear and helpful for covering math concepts students will need to know whether they go into a trade or other professions. In order to be more financially aware; gives great practice with pre-skill tests, vocabulary, word problems, worksheets, money tips, and problem solving strategies to insure student success. There is a plethora of topics covered: Full-Time Work, Buying a Car, Air Travel, Housing, Taxes, Personal Finance and Investment, Checking and Savings Accounts and Credit Cards. I can't keep these in the library, teachers love them; soon their

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students will be too. Recommended.

Lori H., Abington Senior High

Boulle, Michelle. Mob Rule Learning: Camps, Unconferences, and Trashing the Talking Head. Medford, NJ: Information Today, 2011. 230p. \$24.95. Professional.

This first major explanation of how the unconferece movement is changing the way professionals network, and grow. Boulle examines the drawbacks of traditional conferences and makes the case for taking the power away from the talking heads and valuing collective intelligence. She shares strategies for planning and executing successful camps, presents case studies, and applies new unconferece philosophies to the classroom. This is an important book that will help us spread word of important options for professional development in our schools.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

Cities in American Political History. Dilworth, Richardson, ed. Los Angeles: Sage/CQ Press, 2011. 087289911X. 775p. \$175.00. Gr. 9+.

Students and teachers often ask about the city in American history and until now I have had no solid source to recommend. Organized chronologically by period, this volume profiles the political history of the ten most populous U.S. cities. (The cities change depending on the era.) For each city, the chapters list: government and politics; industry, commerce, labor; and race and ethnicity. City profiles include Quick Facts boxes and black and white illustrations. The volume concludes with a detailed Chronology. Very useful for AP US History and more serious high school comparative projects on the political development of urban areas.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

The Civil War: A Visual History. NY: Dorling Kindersley, 2011. 978-0756671853. 360p. \$40. Reference. Gr. 6+.

Published to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, this book's illustrations, photographs, and maps were culled from the Smithsonian's vast collection. It is organized from the start of the Civil War through Reconstruction. The topics of slavery, economic issues, profiles of important people and eyewitness accounts are dispersed throughout the book. This is a wonderful coupling of text and visual information.

Sandra Krieg, The Haverford School

The Civil War and Reconstruction. Armonk, NY: Sharpe Reference, 2011. 3vols. 978-0-67656-8257-4 .749p. \$175. Gr. 9-12.

A thoroughly researched reference source covering a wide range of political, social, economic and foreign aspects of the Civil War and Reconstruction. This two volume set has entries in alphabetical order including biographies (Clara Barton and P.T. Barnum), essays (Abolitionism, Labor and Labor Unions, Plantation System, and Statehood) Chronology (1860-1877), Primary Source Documents (The Homestead Act, Black Codes of Mississippi(1865), and an excerpt from *Roughing It* by Mark Twain), Glossary, Bibliography and Index. There are many photographs, maps, tables, to complement the articles. An excellent text providing exhaustive treatment of an important time period in our nation.

BJ Neary Abington Senior High

CQ Press Guide to Interest Groups and Lobbying in the United States. Burdett A. Loomis, ed. Los Angeles: Sage/CQ, 2011. 1604264578. 490p. \$185. 00 Gr. 10+.

Organized thematically, this one-volume reference source covers lobbying in seven parts: Interest Groups from the Framing to the 20th Century; Theoretical Approaches to Interest Groups and Lobbying; Interest Groups and the Growth of Government; Interest Groups by Sector and Type; Lobbyists and Lobbying: Tactics, Techniques and Regulations; Interest Groups, Campaigns and Elections—and Money; Groups and Lobbying Beyond the Beltway. The editors recruited nearly 50 authors to write the 37 articles, which are accessible for scholars as well as high school students interested in the important aspect of American politics. The signed essays are accompanied by tables, images, and interesting sidebars. While you might think this tool would be used exclusively for AP US Government, so much of it is useful for student projects involving general US political history, civil rights, women's rights, religion in America, business and labor, education, energy, and more. Buy for larger academic high school collections.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

Crutchfield, James A., ed. The Settlement of America. 2 vol. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 2012. 978-0765619846. 601p. \$249.00 Reference. Gr. 6+.

A chronicle of the waves of westward movement across North America by the myriad of ethnic groups. From Captain John Smith's move 60 miles west of his initial landfall to the California Gold Rush, each article provides a good basis for students starting to research these topics. The Table of Contents are organized first alphabetically and includes a separate listing of primary documents. An extensive bibliography is included well as an index. Students will find this useful when they study the westward expansion of the United States.

Sandra Krieg, The Haverford School

***Cuba: People Culture, History.* Alan West Duran, ed. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 978-0-684-31681-9. 1200p. \$425.00. 2 vols.**

Cuba, the largest of the Caribbean islands, has probably received more political, scholarly and journalistic attention than any other island country throughout its history. The concept of this encyclopedia was to combine a panoramic portrait of Cuba through long “survey” essays with a series of shorter and more focused “counterpoint” pieces, thus operating as a mural and as a mosaic reference book. Some major topics presented as long essays are Economics, Food, Faith, Cuban Thought and Cuban Identity. A counterpoint associated with a big topic could be a date in history or a work of art or literature. Key works of Cuban society were selected as counterpoints. Contributors to this publication include Cubans living on the island and scholars from Latin America, Caribbean Nations, North America and Europe. A thematic outline, bibliographies, photographs and charts are also included. This is suitable for high school academic students.

Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School

***Encyclopedia of Pollution. (Facts on File Science Library)* New York: Facts on File, 2011. 978-0-8160-7002-2. 2 vols. 768p. \$170.00. Gr. 9+.**

This two-volume set addresses aspects of pollution, as well as the environmental profession. It is a source book for learning about types of pollutants, adverse health response to exposure, and environmental regulations. Arranged alphabetically, a cross-referencing system is also included for research on a specific topic. There are summary entries for various types of pollution. Charts and photographs add to its usefulness. Among the heavily studied topics the set covers are recent environmental disasters such as the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. This accessible and attractive encyclopedia provides depth, variety and currency and would be valuable for most high school collections.

Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Encyclopedia of the U.S. Census: From the Constitution to the American Community Survey.* 2nd ed. Margo J. Anderson, Constance F. Citro, and Joseph J. Salvo, eds. Los Angeles: Sage/CQ, 2012. 1608710254. 488p. \$175. Gr. 10+.**

This A-Z one-volume source updates and expands the first edition with content relating to new data collection and dissemination practices, fallout relating to issues from the 2000 census, and the 2010 release of the American Community Survey. The work includes 140 signed essays, accessible for high school students, as well as maps, tabular data and a photograph insert. The Appendix includes: a glossary, general census data from 1790-2010, links to web content, questionnaires, classification standards, an index, and more. Buy for high school collections where the Census is studied.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Encyclopedia of Water Politics and Policy in the United States.* Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2011. 978-1-60426-614-6. 510p. \$175. Gr. 10+.**

This encyclopedia delves into current and regional issues in water politics and policy in the United States. Included is an Alphabetical Table of Contents, Thematic Table of Contents, Law and Government, and Places and Projects. There is thorough coverage on water rights in the West. This would be a great resource for teachers.

Mary R., Abington Senior High

***Environmental Encyclopedia.* 4th ed. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 978-1-4144-8736-6. 1967p. \$270. 2 vols. Gr. 9+.**

A comprehensive meaning of environment – “the physical, chemical, and biological world that envelops us.” The 4th edition gives special attention to women and scientists of diverse ethnic and cultural differences. It is intended for a wide and diverse audience and designed to provide readers with basic information, resources and insights for greater understanding of environmental issues.

Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School

***Explore the Universe.* Chicago: World Book, 2010. 10 vols. 978-0-7166-9544-8. \$259.00. Gr. 5-10.**

Companion to World Book’s *Explore the Solar System*, this ten volume reference set covers celestial topics from the origin of the universe to curiosities beyond our solar system. Titles include: *The Universe—Mysteries and Marvels*; *Stars—The Inside Story*; *Stars—Birth and Death*; *Galaxies*; *The Milky Way*; *Alien Planets*; *Quasars and Black Holes*; *Observatories on Earth*; *Observatories in Space*; *The Universe - A Cosmic Tour*. Using a unique question and answer format, the information provided on each double-page spread is just right for middle school students. The occasional “Focus On” feature provides more in-depth information about particular topics. Stunning photographs and illustrations, plus informative charts and graphs, will make this set very visually appealing to students. The Q&A style makes this resource better suited for the curious browser than the focused researcher. While each volume includes its own glossary and index, no cumulative index is provided.

Jenny Roberts, Student Teacher/Librarian, Springfield Township Middle School

***Food: In Context.* Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 1414486529. 984p. \$270. 2 vols. Gr. 9+.**

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These books offer high school students a basic course in food-related science, politics and issues rather than information about gastronomy or cuisine. Entries on diverse topics are selected to provide insight into important and urgent topics associated with the study of food science and issues. Among the topics are: Agricultural Land Reform; Edible Schoolyard Movement; History of Home Cooking; Immigration and Cuisine; Junk Food, Truth in Labeling; and War, Conquest, Colonialism and Cuisine. The format includes entries that are arranged alphabetically, a chronology (timeline), an extensive glossary, a bibliography, and a general index. Entries include introductions, historical background and scientific foundations, impacts and issues, references to primary sources, *Words to Know*, *In Context* boxes, references and related websites. The numerous photographs add to the attractiveness of this very different food reference source.

School

Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

Fortriede, Steven Carl. *Moving Your Library: Getting the Collection from Here to There*. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2010. 978-0-8389-0994-2. 192p. \$72.00.

Fortriede is a librarian and collection moving expert who provides us with a richly illustrated guide containing step-by-step instructions and options for most librarians' worst nightmare, having to move your collection. He begins with an overview of this immense undertaking, the key timelines and decision points you'll need to consider, then gives options for methods and materials you will use to relocate materials, who should be involved in the moving committee, and how many people you'll need based on the size of your collection. This incredibly helpful book contains scores of photos showing different packing, storing and moving methods, and appendices include floorplanning charts and guides, box and cart specifications and sketches, and even signage for packing and day of the move. A must have for anyone facing the daunting task of moving their library!

Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher

Friedman, Lauri S. *The BP Oil Spill*. Farmington Hills, MI: Greenhaven Press, 2012. 978-0-7377-5833-7. 128p. \$32.75. Gr. 9-12.

Writing a critical essay has challenged many exceptional students. This Opposing Viewpoints Guide not only provides arguments for marine life effects, abandoning oil and our dependence on oil, but it also gives in-depth explanations of the different kinds of essays. There are step by step instructions showing students how to plan an essay and gather resources to help support their viewpoint. Students are being challenged in the earlier grades to formulate opinions and create essays to express opinions. In the wake of expository writing on achievement

and aptitude tests, this book is an invaluable resource.

Kathy Gilbride, North Pocono High School

***Gale Encyclopedia of Children's Health: Infancy Through Adolescence*. 2nd ed. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 978-1-4144-8641-3. 262p. \$712. 4 vols. Gr. 9+.**

This encyclopedia offers the reader medical information covering common and rare diseases and medical conditions, immunizations and drugs, procedures and developmental issues. It is a health reference product designed to inform and educate about a wide variety of topics related to children's health. It particularly addresses parents' concerns about their children. As it avoids medical jargon, it makes it easier for the layperson to use. It is enhanced with color photographs, illustrations and tables. I think it would be a valuable asset to a family library and useful for high school health projects.

Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School

School

***Illustrated Dictionary of the Muslim World*. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. 978-0-7614-7929-1. 192p. \$59.95. Gr. 7+.**

This useful but sparsely illustrated reference source opens with an extensive glossary of terms and concepts important in the Muslim culture. A detailed timeline traces the history of Islam from 570 to 2010. Dictionaries of persons and places include substantial entries that will give students a solid start to research. A fact file giving statistical details about nations with large Muslim populations and sources for additional research complete this volume which is a must for any school libraries where information about the Muslim world is needed.

Ro Becker, Springfield Township Middle School

***Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia: Evolution*. 2nd ed. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 978-1-4144-8669-7. 371p. \$195. Gr. 9+.**

This volume attempts to summarize the current knowledge about the evolutionary process and the evidence that has accumulated over the time since Darwin's writings on this subject. The discovery of genetics and DNA has become the unifying theory in all of biology. *Evolution* is one of a 17-volume set, covering the entire animal kingdom. I would recommend this volume for academic high school students.

School

Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School

***Hot Topics*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2012. 56 p. \$536.00 Gr. 6-10.**

- Bliss, John. *Designer Babies*. 978-1-4329-4870-2.
 Friedman, Mark. *Assisted Suicide*. 978-1-4329-4867-2.
 Friedman, Mark. *Legalization of Drugs*. 978-1-4329-4872-6.
 Hunter, Nick. *Cyber Bullying*. 978-1-4329-4869-6.
 Hunter, Nick. *Immigration*. 978-1-4329-5175-7.
 Hunter, Nick. *Internet Safety*. 978-1-4329-4871-9.
 Hunter, Nick. *Offshore Oil Drilling*. 978-1-4329-5176-4.
 Hunter, Nick. *Terrorism and Security*. 978-1-4329-4873-3.
 Knight, Geof. *Cosmetic Procedures*. 978-1-4329-4868-9.
 Lassieur, Allison. *Violent Crime*. 978-1-4329-4874-0.

Controversial topics made accessible to the younger grades and the students who struggle with reading. There is a glossary in each book that defines any term that appears in bold in the text. There is a great deal of informative text interspersed with photographs and charts for the students. The authors pose questions to make the reader think about what really matters to them, questions that will make an essay or an informative paper easier to write. Timely topics make this a great pick. This set would be very beneficial to a middle school collection.

Kathy Gilbride,

North Pocono High School

***Heroes and Heroines of Greece and Rome*. NY: Marshall Cavendish Reference, 2011. 978-0761479529. 320p. \$85.64. Gr. 6+.**
Heroes and Heroines contains articles on ninety-four (94) of the most well-known of the Greek and Roman heroes and heroines, as well as the demigods, sorceresses, and many other beings that live in the mythological world. Abundant illustrations, a bibliography, a pronunciation guide, resources for further study and an index round out this very helpful resource.

Sandra Krieg, The Haverford School

***Human Body from A to Z*. NY: Marshall Cavendish Reference, 2012. 978-0761479468. 480p. \$114.12. Gr. 8+.**

This volume will provide your students with concise, accessible information about medical concerns and general information about the human body. It included questions and answers for each of the entries as well as clear illustrations and more.

Sandra Krieg, The Haverford School

Intner, Carol F. *Homework Help from the Library: In Person and Online*. Chicago: ALA, 2011. 978-0-8389-1046-7. 202p. \$50.00. Gr. 7-12.

Intner has fashioned an in-depth, thoroughly researched homework help manual for both public and school libraries working to promote a program helping students with their homework, whether at home or on their computers. The reader is guided through the planning stages and

the services to be offered; training staff; what will be offered in terms of technology to meet the needs of ALL students. The Homework Help

web page contains any and all links which are essential and most important- how to handle the many students who will come for assistance.

Questions and strategies are delineated; student behavior problems are addressed, and planning a marketing program that will reap rewards. Included are Appendices with *Sources that Review Online Databases and E-Products*, *Graphic Organizers*, References, and Index. Recommended.

BJ Neary, Abington Senior High

***Islamic Beliefs, Practices, and Cultures*. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. 352 p. \$79.95. Gr. 8+.**

With emphasis on the cultural and geographic diversity of Muslim people, this presentation in fourteen detailed chapters covers virtually all aspects of the Muslim world. From definitions, history, beliefs, and religious practices to arts, media, philosophy, and science, this comprehensive reference book will fill most students' need for information related to Muslims. High quality photos, glossary, and websites for further research complete this valuable resource. Recommended.

Ro Becker, Springfield Township Middle School

***Junior Worldmark Encyclopedia of World Cultures*. 2nded. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning (UXL), 2012. 978-1-4144-8671-0. \$556. 9 vols. Gr. 4+.**

This nine-volume set explores the lifestyles of many of the world's diverse cultural groups from A (Afghanistan) to Z (Zimbabwe). This encyclopedia focuses on the traditions, living conditions, and personalities of many of these groups. Most chapters begin with an article on the people of the country as a nationality group. However, there are separate articles on the major ethnic groups within the country. Among content covered is: language, folklore, religion, rites of passage as well as living conditions and social problems. Colorful photographs and maps illustrate the diverse and fascinating life in these countries. Each chapter covers a specific country and a mini table of contents is included. The outline structure allows users to make comparisons between the various cultures and enhances the accessibility of the

information. Recommended for most middle school and some high school collections.

Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Mammals of the Northern Hemisphere.* New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. 978-0-7614-7936-9. 208p. \$59.95. Gr. 6-8.**

***Mammals of the Southern Hemisphere.* New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. 978-0-7614-7937-6. 206p. \$59.95. Gr. 5-8.**

Each of these books presents thirteen different mammals using clearly written text, well-organized fact boxes and diagrams, and attractive photographs and illustrations. The information on each mammal is extensive and includes key facts presented in sections: profile, anatomy, habitat, behavior, and survival. Eye-catching layout will entice researchers as well as animal-loving browsers.

Ro Becker, Springfield Township Middle School

McDermott, Irene E. *The Internet Book of life.* Medford, NJ: Cyberage Books/Information Today: 2011. 978-0-910965-89-7. 296p. \$19.95.

McDermott is a pioneer "cybrarian" and human Google-advanced-search who brings us this beautifully organized, fact filled compendium of the most trusted sites on the web. Each section -Relationships, Parenting, Money & Home, Amusements, Health - is broken down into further,

more specific categories for fast reference. I grabbed several new links and used sticky notes so I can refer back to other goodies. Fun book to dip in and out, no need to read it in order or in its entirety. A must have! **Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher**

***Milestone Documents of World Religions: Exploring Traditions through Primary Sources.* Texas: Schlager Group, 2011. 978-0-979-7758-8-8. 1500p. \$325.00. Gr. 9 and up.**

This comprehensive, three volume set is an overview of world religions from 2404BCE to 2002. There are overviews, time lines quotes and questions for further study included in this set. This set is packed with essential information that will enhance your library's collection. Included with the purchase of this set is a complimentary online access that contains access to the printed information from the set.

Jill Toye, Jenkintown High School

Moore, Patrick and Robin Rees. *Patrick Moore's Data Book of Astronomy.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011. 978-0-521-89935-2. 576p. \$55.00. Gr. 10+.

Patrick Moore's Data Book of Astronomy is the new standard reference for astronomy. The volume provides updated data about all of the stars, planets, comets, galaxies, and other important aspects of astronomy. Each chapter focuses on a particular topic in astronomy and includes explanations of the topic, numeric data, explanations of the data, charts, graphs, tables, images, and photographs. The volume is very detailed and scientific, but will interest any budding astronomer and is useful for an Earth and Space science course.

Erin Parkinson, Lincoln Jr/Sr High School, Ellwood

City

***New York Times On Gay and Lesbian Issues.* Susan Burgess, ed. Los Angeles: Sage/CQ, 2011. 1604265930. 512p. \$49. Gr. 10+.**

Gender studies professor Susan Burgess carefully selects *news stories, editorials, and letters to the editor to present the major political, social, and cultural issues that have affected gays and lesbians.* Articles (from 1851 through 2010) are organized into 12 chapters, for instance: Stonewall Uprising; AIDS; Gays in the Military; Same-Sex Marriage and the Family; Violence Against LGBT People; Coming Out,

Outing, and the Closet. Chapters are introduced with comprehensive overview essays. Writings are introduced with very helpful contextual explanations. Researchers are led to additional readings both within and outside the New York Times archive. If your students have interest in GLBT research, you will want this useful title in your high school collection. This volume adds to the other *NYT* collections on *The Presidency, The Supreme Court, Critical Elections, and Emerging Democracies in Eastern Europe.*

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Nutrition and Fitness.* New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2011. 978-0-7614-7939-0. 208p. \$59.95. Gr. 6-8.**

This appealing reference book presents 125 articles on topics ranging from acupuncture, to yoga, to sport injuries. It contains helpful diagrams, illustrations, and sidebars with questions and answers on specific topics. The book was edited by a biomedical writer and editor. The articles provide a starting point for students who are conducting research on a nutrition or fitness topic. I recommend it highly.

Wendy Hopf, Springfield Township Middle School

***Pirates Through the Ages.* Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning (UXL). 2011. 978-1-4144-8662-8. \$225. 3 vols. Gr. 6+.**

Just as the other UXL reference sets, *Pirates* is organized in three volumes: *Almanac, Biographies, and Primary Sources.*

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A *Cumulative Index* is included as a separate paperback. *Almanac* presents the history of piracy from ancient and medieval times (2000 BCE) to modern times (2010). *Biographies* profiles twenty-six pirates, privateers, and buccaneers. *Primary Sources* includes full or excerpted works and/or documents that were influential throughout the history of piracy. This reference series is suitable for upper middle school and high school students and should feed the needs of researchers for this high interest topic. **Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School**

Rheingold, Howard. *Net Smart: How to Thrive Online*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2012. 0262017458. 322p. \$24.95. Gr. 10+. (Professional)

While authors like Nick Carr warn us of the long-term dangers of the time we spend online, Rheingold, author of *Smart Mobs*, and coiner of the term *virtual community*, acknowledges the issues and presents strategies for mindful use of technology. Rheingold believes that we must be empowered participants rather than passive consumers. That *the emerging digital divide is between those who know how to use social media for individual advantage and collective action, and those who do not*. His strategy centers on five critical new literacies: attention, participation, collaboration, critical consumption of information (what Rheingold calls *crap detection*); and network smarts. This is essential reading for professionals responsible for teaching digital/media literacy, because as Rheingold says, *educational institutions cannot change swiftly and broadly enough to match the pace of change in digital culture*. **Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School**

***Settlement of America: Encyclopedia of Westward Expansion from Jamestown to the Closing of the Frontier*. James A. Crutchfield, ed. Armonk, NY: Sharpe, 2011. 978-0765619849. \$249.00. 2 vol. 672p.**

This two-volume authoritative, yet friendly, reference on the heavily-studied topic of expansion, will be welcomed by high school history students and teachers. The set opens with eight contextual essays on such topics as the Military Establishment, Overland Trails, Fur Trade, Railroads, Gold Rushes, Arts and Letters. An A to Z treatment follows and presents 500 signed articles with advice for further reading.

Topics include the multiple viewpoints (women, native Americans, immigrants, etc.). The set includes photographs, maps, a generous selection of primary documents, a chronology, a helpful topic finder, bibliography, and index. Buy especially for AP US History.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

Smallwood, Carol, editor. *Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook*. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2010. 978-0-8389-10061. 204p. \$55.00.

Librarians have been hearing for years that we need to advocate for our profession, become PR specialists, and make ourselves known outside our schools and libraries. This fabulous little book contains articles by experts sharing ideas we may not have thought of before: a bake sale offering prizes for the confection that best depicts a favorite book, starting a memoir writing club for older patrons, reaching out to prisoners and partnering with prison librarians, creating a homework club for ESL students, and establishing a special collection based on a unique partnership, with a longstanding local business to document their history. Each article presents a concept authored by a librarian, and all different facets of the practice are represented, from school and public librarians to academic and specialty librarians. Highly recommended.

Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher

Smallwood, Carol, editor. *Writing and Publishing: A Librarian's Handbook. ALA Guides for The Busy Librarian*. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2010. 978-0-8389-09966. 204p. \$65.00.

Who better to become a writer than one who is immersed in literature and scholarship? A key way librarians can advocate for the profession is through writing and publishing new ideas, but this book takes that idea a step further. This is a wonderful collection of essays by librarians in various types of practice sharing advice on writing for everything from professional journals, newsletters, blogs, newspapers, and reviews, to tackling fiction, children's books, history, and becoming a book editor. Some great insight is offered into how to hone your writing skills, making time for writing, collaborating with others, and getting published. Highly recommended.

Kathie Jackson, Springfield Township H.S. student teacher

***Sports in America from Colonial Times to the Twenty-First Century: An Encyclopedia*. Armonk, NY: Sharpe Reference, 2011 978-0-7656-1706-4. 1,224p. \$349. Gr. 7-12.**

This three volume set does an exemplary job of giving the history of sports as well as the social impact of sports (integration, social policy and gender). There is a Table of Contents by Volume only in Volume 1, followed by a Topic Finder. There is so much to explore in the essays

and biographies offering detailed analysis and interpretation and factual information. Included is a Chronology; a Directory of Institutions,

PSLA TITLES FOR 2011

REFERENCE/PROFESSIONAL

Organizations, and Governing Bodies; Bibliography and Index. Highly recommended.

BJ Neary, Abington Senior High

Stefon, Matt, ed. *The Britannica Guide to Religion Series*. New York: Britannica, 2012. \$59.90. Gr. 11-Adult.

Christianity: History, Belief, and Practice. 978-1-61530-493-6. 384p.

Judaism: History, Belief, and Practice. 978-1-61530-487-5. 366p.

These scholarly titles offer thorough, in-depth coverage of Judaism and Christianity. Students with background knowledge or a special interest in the study of the religion will find them helpful for research. Some photos and fine art reprints compliment the text. Each volume includes a brief glossary, bibliographic references, and an index.

Michelle Stone Hankin, Sandy Run M S

***Supreme Court Decisions and Women's Rights*. Washington D.C: CQ Press, 2011. 978-1-60871-407-0.**

351 p. \$67.00 Gr. 9-12.

Protecting women's health and morals, single-sex schools, discrimination in the workplace, and reproductive rights are some of the titles of chapters in this extensive volume. Case law is presented in an easy to follow manner; while the impact of the Supreme Court decisions is broken down for the high school level student. Relevant cases are also arranged in a timeline at the end of the volume, in addition to an index and a glossary.

Kathy Gilbride, North Pocono High

School

Tomaiuolo, Nicholas G. *UContent: The Information Professional's Guide to User-Generated Content*. Medford, NJ: Information Today, 2012. 1573874256. 340p. \$49.50. Professional.

This book offers librarians quick professional development on a movement that has forever transformed how we search for and use Web content. Tomaiuolo covers such timely topics as blogs, wikis, self-publishing, citizen journalism, tagging, folksonomies, social bookmarking,

cybercartography, and custom search engines. An important primer for librarians on mining, participating and teaching about participation in new information landscapes. The author promises to update his moving-target content with a website.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Twenty-First Century Novels*. Ed. Jeffrey W. Hunter. Detroit, MI: Gale, 2011. 978-1-4144-8761-8. 3 vol. 1338p. \$400.**

Gr. 9-12.

This A-Z encyclopedia set of 21st century novels covers everything from *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* to *The Yiddish Policemen's Uniform*. Titles for inclusion were chosen based on what high school and college students read, both academically and recreationally. Each entry is broken down into an introduction, literary and historical context, characters, themes, style and critical reception. An added bonus is the related picture that accompanies each section. A thorough works cited including books, articles and web links wraps up each entry to aid students with further research. This set would be a great addition to every high school library collection.

Chrissy Sirianni - Springfield Township Library

***Twenty-First Century Novels: The First Decade*. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2011. 978-1-4144-8761-8. 3 vols. \$400.**

Gr. 9+.

Some of the most important fictional works published from 2000 to 2009 are examined in this collection to help the reader develop a deeper understanding of their style, characters, critical reception, and cultural and historical aspects. The selection is suitable for high school and college readers as well as readers of literary fiction. Awards and genres were some of the criteria for selecting these works. An extensive bibliography of works cited, additional resources, and suggestions for further reading are included for each selection. This is a valuable resource for high school lit crit, for English teachers planning new reading in their programs, and for fiction readers in general.

Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield

Township High School

***WorkSkills: Situational Judgment and Active Listening*. Orlando: Steck-Vaughn, 2012. 978-0-547-53655-2. 173p. \$29.95.**

Gr. 10+.

To prepare students for the workforce, this workbook will assist them in making the connection between what is learned in school and how to use that information in the workplace. The information is presented in a manner that is easy to read, therefore students can spend the time thinking about the scenario. The pros and cons format is helpful for decision making. Also available online are pre-tests and assessments, and downloadable scenarios and audio scripts for listening.

Pam D., Abington Senior High

***The World Book Encyclopedia of People and Places*. Chicago: World Book, 2011. 7 vols. 978-0-7166-3758-5. \$349.00.**

Gr. 4+

Now in its second edition, *The World Book Encyclopedia of People and Places* is comprised of seven attractive and well-organized volumes. Volumes 1 through 6 include information about 194 countries; describing their geography, history, people, culture and current political climate. Each entry is at least 2 pages long and includes a political/physical map, a fact box, and a “locator globe.” Countries with large populations or prominence in world affairs are covered in more detail and include a timeline of major events. An abundance of vibrant photographs, complete with captions, add visual appeal for students. A seventh volume entitled, *People on the Move: Settling the World’s Regions* focuses on human migration around the world over time and covers geography, history and archeology. A cumulative index is included as well. This is a good resource for middle school students conducting research in the social sciences.

Jenny Roberts, Student Teacher/Librarian, Springfield Township

Middle School

***Supreme Court Decisions and Women’s Rights.* Washington D.C: CQ Press, 2011. 978-1-60871-407-0. 351 p. \$67.00 Gr. 9-12.**

Protecting women’s health and morals, single-sex schools, discrimination in the workplace, and reproductive rights are some of the titles of chapters in this extensive volume. Case law is presented in an easy to follow manner; while the impact of the Supreme Court decisions is

broken down for the high school level student. Relevant cases are also arranged in a timeline at the end of the volume, in addition to an index and a glossary.

Kathy Gilbride, North Pocono High School

***Supreme Court Drama: Cases That Changed America.* 2nd ed. Detroit:Gale Cengage Learning (UXL) .2011. 978-1-4144-8656-7.**

1268p. \$343. 5 vols. Gr. 5+.

This 2nd edition updates one of the most popular reference sources in our high school collection. Topics that are covered in these four volumes are individual liberties, criminal justice and family law, equal protection and civil rights, and business and government law. Cases are listed by page numbers for all the volumes. Each volume also includes alphabetical and chronological lists. The issues and proceedings in this reference source are presented in language accessible to middle school students. A *Words to Know* section appears in each volume. A broad overview of the Supreme Court and the American legal system is provided in a general essay format. Cross-references and a cumulative index are also included. Each chapter concludes with a *For More Information* section. High school and some middle school students and their teachers will find this attractive and very readable series valuable.

Rhoda Gansler and Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

***Understanding World History.* San Diego: Reference Point Press, 2012. 96p.each. \$ 27.95 each. Gr.8-12.**

Woog, Adam. *Early Middle Ages.* 13:978-1-60152-151-4.

Kallen, Stuart A.. *Ancient Egypt.* 13:978-1-60152-152-1.

Marcovitz, Hal. *Ancient Rome.* 13:978-1-60152-186-6.

George, Charles and George, Linda. *Holocaust.* 13:978-1-60152-155-2.

Robson, David. *Decade of the 2000’s.* 13:978-1-60152-187-3.

This series fosters an evaluation and interpretation of history and its influence on later generations. In recognizing the richness and fullness of history, each volume develops its subject chronologically and topically, with a focus on nations, periods, or pivotal events. Source notes, source quotations and suggestions for further study are included. Additionally, the series reflects the philosophy that the key to understanding the present frequently lies in the past. That said, each title ends with a legacy chapter that highlights the bond between past and present, and that demonstrates that world history is a continuum of people and ideas.

Rhoda Gansler, Springfield Township High School

***Working Americans 1880-2011. Volume XII: Our History Through Music.* Amenia, NY: Grey House, 2011. 978-1592377626.**

514p. \$150. Gr. 7+.

This title joins Grey House’s Working Americans series and explores our social and economic history through a different lens--music. Like the other 11 volumes, *Our History Through Music* includes profiles—in this case singers, composers, record executives, agents, critics, promoters, producers, radio personalities, a Deadhead, and more. Through the profiles, ads, quotes, prices, historical snapshots, news articles, songs, bulleted background notes, timelines, and additional artifacts, a picture of life in the period emerges and we connect the influence of musical life on history. This one is a delight to browse and it perfect for historical research, especially as a hook for young musicians.

***Working Americans 1880-2011 Volume XII: Our History Through Music.* Amenia, NY: Grey house Publishing, 2011. 978-1-59237-762-6 514 p. \$150.00 Gr. 9-12.**

This book provides historical snapshots of events that happened during many of the years in the time period. Pictures, price charts and lists of top songs during many of the years in the series. Images of posters for musical concerts, song lyrics, newspaper articles and magazine articles all related to the development of the music for the working American. Addresses the effects of radio and television as well. Extensive index is included in the volume.

School

Kathy Gilbride, North Pocono High School

***World Terrorism: An Encyclopedia of Political Violence from Ancient Times to the Post-9/11 Era.* Ed. James Ciment. Armonk: Sharpe Reference, 2011. 978-0-7656-8284-0. \$349.00. 1,016p. Gr. 10-12.**

World Terrorism provides comprehensive case studies of various global situations where terrorism plays a role. Especially helpful are the essays organized alphabetically by country, such as *Colombia: Guerrilla Warfare and Narcoterrorism, 1960s-Present*. Articles contain maps, photos, with sidebars of key dates and Further Reading. Volume 1 consists of three main chapters: *Definitions, Types & Categories, Historical Roots-Terrorism Through WW II* and *Modern Terrorism-The Post-WW II Era*. Volume 2 continues *Modern Terrorism-The Post-WW II Era, September 11, 2001-Attacks and Response* and Volume 3 explores *Tactics, Methods and Aims of Modern Terrorism, Counterterrorism*. An excellent resource on a complex topic. Appendices include a Timeline of Terrorist Events: 1945-2011, a Directory of Terrorist Groups and Individuals, Glossary, Bibliography and Index.

Senior High

Melissa L., Abington

An excellent addition to all High school collections. Especially useful is the detailed chronology of major terrorist events and the updated directory of terrorist groups and individuals. Thoughtful well researched essays will be valued by students and teachers of history, global studies, as well as independent researchers.

Joyce Valenza, Springfield Township High School

Committee Members

Robin Bassion, Lenape Middle School
 Ro Becker, Springfield Township Middle School
 Jeannie Bellavance, Retired Librarian
 Sarah Braxton, Juniata Valley High School
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