



## YOUTH IN BUSY BRANCHES: WHAT WORKS?

Monday, April 9, 2007

1:30–3:00 ET 12:30–2:00 CT 11:30–1:00 MT 10:30–12:00 PT

### An Urban Libraries Council AUDIO CONFERENCE

#### SPEAKER BIOS

**Carol Finch, Coordinator, Children and Teen Services, Phoenix Public Library**

Carol Finch is responsible for coordination of programs and services for youth, birth to 18 years of age, for the Phoenix Public Library (PPL). She has worked for PPL for almost 20 years, serving in several libraries, and as manager of the Burton Barr Central Library. She was instrumental in the launch of Teen Central, the first teen space at PPL and in the development of teen spaces throughout the system. She has helped develop teen reading programs, a teenzine, a teen website, and teen advisory councils. Most recently, she helped create the first Teen Blog at a library branch. Last fall, she flew to New York to be recognized for her service to teens as a 2006 New York Times Librarian, and has also been awarded the "Rising Moon Outstanding Youth Service Award" by the Arizona Library Association.

**Toni Garvey, City Librarian, Phoenix Public Library**

As Phoenix City Librarian since 1996, Toni Garvey administers library services and programs for an urban library system of 14 branches and a Central Library in the City of Phoenix, serving a population of 1.5 million people. Phoenix is known for its innovative public library architecture, anchored by the award-winning Burton Barr Central Library. She began her career at the Tucson-Pima Public Library. Prior to coming to Phoenix, she was Director of Library Services at the Loudoun County Public Library in Leesburg, VA. Her strong background in all phases of library programs and services has enabled her to serve in a variety of professional roles in the Public Library Association, including President in 2001-2002. She was the 2004 *Library Journal* "Librarian of the Year."

**Elaine Meyers, Head, Children and Teen Services, Phoenix Public Library**

Elaine Meyers serves as Head of Children's and Teen Services at the Phoenix Public Library Burton Barr Central Library. From 1998 to March 2002, she served as the Project Director for Public Libraries as Partners in Youth Development with the Urban Libraries Council. Her responsibilities included providing technical assistance to the nine initiative libraries and working on national visibility and sustainability for the initiative. Prior to this work, she was the Coordinator of Children's and Young Adult Services at the Phoenix Public Library and the head of Phoenix Public Central Library Children's and Young Adult Area. She served as the Program Coordinator for the Carroll County Public Library from 1978-86. She serves as adjunct faculty in the graduate library programs at the University of Arizona and UCLA. Publications include articles for *American Libraries*, *Journal of Youth Services*, *Public Library Quarterly*, and a book co-authored with Dr. Virginia Walter, "Teens and Libraries: Getting It Right" (ALA Publishing, Fall 2003).

**Molly Raphael, Director, Multnomah County Public Library**

Molly Raphael was appointed Director of Libraries for Multnomah County in the fall of 2003. Prior to that, she served as Director of the District of Columbia Public Library for six years. She began her library career at the District of Columbia Public Library in 1970 as an assistant children's librarian. A recognized leader in the field, Molly has been an active member of the American Library Association (ALA) since 1974, serving a term on the Governing Board and Legislative Body. She also served as President of the District of Columbia Library Association. She is a member of the Freedom to Read Foundation and Friends of Libraries U.S.A. She holds a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College and a master's degree in library science from Simmons College. She recently received the 2007 Alumni Achievement Award from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science for her "notable professional achievements and outstanding contributions to the library/information profession."

**Nicole Yohalem, Program Director, Forum for Youth Investment**

Nicole leads the Forum's work on a range of issues including out-of-school time, youth engagement and high school reform. Prior to joining the Forum's staff Nicole served as youth development specialist at Michigan State University where she developed, implemented and evaluated community-based youth programs and provided training and technical assistance to programs statewide through the Cooperative Extension Service. From 1990 to 1995, Nicole worked in the adolescent division of the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation where she directed the Foundation's residential program for teens and developed training materials for youth programs. Over the past several years, Nicole has also served as a consultant to the World Bank on education reform in the Latin American and Caribbean regions. She received her Master of Education degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.