

AASL Seeks Presenter for Institute on Reading and the Elementary School Library Media Specialist

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) is currently seeking a presenter for an AASL licensed institute on Reading and the Elementary School Library Media Specialist.

1. Organization Overview

The American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association (ALA), promotes the improvement and extension of library media services in elementary and secondary schools as a means of strengthening the total education program. Its mission is to advocate excellence, facilitate change and develop leaders in the school library media field.

AASL works to ensure that all members of the school library media field collaborate to:

- provide leadership in the total education program
- participate as active partners in the teaching/learning process
- connect learners with ideas and information, and
- prepare students for life-long learning, informed decision-making, a love of reading, and the use of information technologies.

2. Licensed Institute Overview

AASL licensed institutes are eight hour, one day, one place workshops licensed to school districts, state level library organizations and licensed service centers. When AASL licenses its institute to organizations, AASL supplies the presenter and content including a master set of handouts for the workshop.

The workshops may be presented on weekends and during the week. The presenter must be able to present on both weekdays and weekends.

3. Reading and the Elementary School Library Media Specialist

This licensed institute was designed to address critical topics in reading for k-6 library media specialists. The institute will engage the library media specialist in topics that impact student reading including current research, reading strategies, current national legislation, and essential reading lesson elements. Through this institute, the library media specialist will expand their knowledge, confidence and understanding vital to their role as an instructional partner in developing reading fluency and meeting the needs of all their students.

Topics for this institute include:

- Strategies for reading instruction and how they apply to school library media programs

- Research-based practices
- National Reading Panel findings
- Impact of federal legislation – i.e. No Child Left Behind
- Other relevant reading research
- Vocabulary of reading instruction
- Comprehension and decoding strategies
- Integration of strategies into research processes
- Integration of strategies into sharing of stories and books
- Role of the school library media specialist as teacher of reading in proscribed programs

II. Library resources and reading motivation

III. Leadership of librarians in reading and collaboration

- Practical ideas
- Development of a personal plan
- Support system of state affiliate organizations and AASL

4. Presenter Role

The presenter of “Reading and the Elementary School Library Media Specialist” will be responsible for presenting content, developed and supplied by AASL, to regions throughout the United States.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Maintain up-to-date knowledge base of the content topics outlined in the instructor and participant manual.
- Ensure content presented remain consistent with the instructor manual and participant materials.
- Maintain a professional attitude and appearance while representing AASL at all Licensed Institutes.
- Coordinate session schedule with the host agency of the Licensed Institute.
- Coordinate all travel and housing accommodations with the AASL Professional Development Manager.
- Provide feedback to AASL Professional Development Manager concerning Institute structure and design after each Licensed Institute.
- Escalate all critical issues to AASL Professional Development Manager in a timely manner; offer recommendations on how issues can be resolved.

5. Qualifications

The following qualifications will be considered in choosing a presenter for the “Reading and the Elementary School Library Media Specialist” institute.

- Experience as a library media specialist or with library media specialists in k-6 environment
- Appropriate background in reading literacy

- Excellent communication skills
- Experience presenting adult-centered educational programs
- A solid and thorough understanding of the issues and challenges facing the school library media field in regards to reading and literacy
- Ability to present weekdays and weekends
- Ability to travel

6. Submission of Response

Please supply the following items for consideration no later than August 18, 2008, 4:30 p.m. CST:

- Letter of interest
- Resume
- Three references pertinent to this type of presentation

Items should reflect experience as well as knowledge of the required activities and content. Letter of interest must include availability to travel.

The presenter's fee is \$750-\$1000 (contingent on qualifications and experience) per institute plus travel, accommodation and a \$50.00 per diem.

All items received after August 18, 2008, 4:30 p.m. CST will not be considered.

Materials should be sent to Kelly Bishop, Manager of Professional Development, AASL, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611. E-mail submissions will be accepted at kbishop@ala.org and faxes may be sent to (312) 280-5276.