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From the Editor

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From the Editor

By Julie Miller

Summer may not be the best time to write about impact and influence. If you're heading for a long weekend at the Oregon coast (or at "the lake," for those of you on the eastern side of the state), I won't hold it against you if this issue of *Alki* doesn't make it into your beach bag. Or it may be the perfect time to consider your influence on others and their impact on you. A good friend (and long-time school librarian) once told me that "learners reflect." The phrase has stuck with me. Consider these articles to be opportunities for reflection as you stretch out on the chaise longue.

Rand Simmons and members of the Washington team for National Library Legislative Day 2009 describe going to Washington, DC, to make a change—and finding the biggest change is in themselves. Mike Wirt provides a wrap-up of the state legislative session. In "Who's on First," Jonathan Betz-Zall remembers intellectual freedom activist Judith Krug and reminds us that we are all responsible for protecting the right to read freely. Jennifer Knight describes how a small group of youth-services students is having a big impact at the University of Washington's iSchool. Samantha Becker and researchers at the iSchool study the impact of public access computing on U.S. communities.

If you missed "Impact and Influence," WLA's annual conference held in Spokane in April, this issue of *Alki* documents some of the highlights in word and image. (You can also listen to a podcast of ALA President Jim Rettig's ALA/PLA breakfast speech at the *Alki Cafe* at <http://wla.org/publications/alki/alki-cafe/>.) Bo Kinney, Jenny Westlund, and Steve Duncan recap some of the conference sessions in their articles. Articles about or based on conference presentations are indicated with the conference logo. Be sure to check out the 2009



The Alki Editorial Committee: Erin Krake, Julie Miller, Lynne King (seated); Susan Anderson, Matthew Berube, Bo Kinney, Deanna Sukkar, Michael Cook, Rayette Sterling

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Julie Miller

“The National Library Legislative Day team went to Washington, DC, to make a change—and discovered the biggest change was in themselves.”

WLA award recipients, portraits of influence past, present, and future. And meet WLA's new executive director, Dana Murphy-Love.

Slather on the sunscreen and make sure you have plenty of ice in the cooler. But don't leave this issue of *Alki* at home. In the grand scheme of things, it's okay if you get a little sand between the pages. 📖

Instructions to Contributors

Alki: The Washington Library Association Journal is published three times a year. The theme for the July issue is "Impact and Influence." **The deadline for contributions for the December issue is October 15, 2009.**

Articles should be in-depth examinations of issues of importance to Washington libraries. All works should be original. Unsolicited contributions and off-theme articles are encouraged. Submissions are edited. The editor and the *Alki* committee make the final decision on any submitted material. Typical article lengths range from one to three *Alki* pages, including artwork. A three-page article with artwork contains no more than 2,500 words.

Article text should be submitted as digital files in .doc or .rtf format. Artwork and photos should be transmitted as .tiff, .jpeg or .eps files. *Alki* printing requires high-resolution art and image files, preferably 300 dots per inch. Please include informative captions with artwork.

We recommend that you contact the editor before submitting artwork. Artwork will be returned on request.

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Please contact the *Alki* editor with questions or article ideas at alkieditor@wla.org.