

NLLN Continuing Education Scholarship Reports for 2007/2008

Cindy Erickson PLA National Convention March 26-28, 2008

We started out on Thursday morning getting our bearings at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

My first class was Clap! Shake! Play! Sing! Creating Musical Storytimes to Encourage Emergent Literacy.

I work with the children's storytimes and I have musical skills, this class combined those skills nicely. It gave me the research component to reinforce the positive learning I have seen by using music with stories.

My next class was Libraries Prosper with Passion, Purpose and Persuasion. This was a lecture on skills to help position the library as an essential community resource right up there with the police and schools.

In the afternoon I attended Science Quest: Creating Weird, Wild and Wonderful Programs at your library. This one got my interest for kids and fun. The teachers provided lots of resources for creating these programs.

The last class on Thursday was Creating Dynamic Library Atmospheres: What We can Learn from Theater, Retail, etc.

This one got me thinking about the library in a whole different way, more towards the visual aspect of the library.

We continued on Friday morning with Great Libraries for Dummies! The speaker was from a very large progressive library. I was good to hear about all the innovative ideas and ideals to strive for.

The last class on Friday was The Cutting Edge: The latest Information on Web 2.0. The speakers talked about how to use some of the new technology on the library web pages. Such as: Flickr, Twitter, Blogs, etc....

I also attended an Author Luncheon with Nancy Pearl. She was very down to earth and thoroughly enjoyable.

I am thankful to have had the opportunity to attend this educational and enjoyable conference. I would recommend it highly to anyone who asks. Thank you for making this possible.

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4/3/2008