

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 3, 2011

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**ALA Learning Round Table and OCLC's WebJunction  
collaborate to offer free online conference**

*'Trends in Library Training and Learning: Developing  
Staff Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' program is set for August 10–11*

CHICAGO May 3, 2011—[WebJunction](#), OCLC's online learning community for library staff, and the [ALA Learning Round Table](#), which promotes quality continuing education for all library personnel, will team up to offer a free, online learning and training conference August 10–11, 2011.

The conference, to include eight one-hour sessions over two days, will be hosted using the WebEx web conferencing tool, which will provide attendees with easy online access to all live sessions and the ability to interact with other attendees and presenters using text-based chat. Registration will open by June 1 when full conference details are available on [WebJunction.org](#).

“Libraries are changing quickly and staff need more training than ever to navigate nimbly through change,” said Sharon Morris, ALA Learning Round Table President 2010–11. “This conference will help library trainers, managers and staff to find new ways to train, learn and keep up. The Learning Round Table members are excited to be working with WebJunction on this cutting-edge online conference.”

Jay Turner, a leader in developing creative e-learning solutions for libraries, will serve as keynote speaker for the conference. Mr. Turner serves on the Learning Round Table Board and is the training manager for the Gwinnett County Public Library until May 13. He will then become the new Director of Continuing Education for the Georgia Public Library Service. Mr. Turner was selected as an ALA Emerging Leader in 2008 and is also active in the Public Library Association.

Session presenters will provide practical solutions for libraries looking to implement both staff and patron training using innovative learning techniques that include formal and informal, and online and face-to-face methods. Topics will be particularly relevant to public libraries, but all library staff are welcome and encouraged to attend. Session details will be made available on [WebJunction.org](#) in the coming weeks.

With tight training and travel budgets, this free conference provides library staff an easy and affordable opportunity to learn from and network with both the WebJunction and Learning Round Table communities. Anyone unable to attend the live sessions will be able to view the recorded presentations that will be archived on WebJunction.org after the conference. Full session archives from WebJunction's two 2010 online conferences are also available to view on [WebJunction.org](#).

### **About the ALA Learning Round Table**

The Learning Round Table of the American Library Association promotes quality continuing education for all library personnel. The Learning Round Table helps library staff network with other continuing education providers, serves as a source for continuing education assistance and advocates for quality library continuing education at both the local and national levels. More information, including training resources and membership opportunities, is available at [www.alalearning.org](http://www.alalearning.org).

### **About WebJunction**

WebJunction is the online learning community for librarians and library staff. We provide information, insights, and online learning relevant to staff, their organizations, and the library field as a whole as part of our mission to foster collaboration and partnership within the library community. WebJunction is supported in part by OCLC, grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Institute for Museum and Library Services, partners in state library agencies and other library systems and organizations, and by the library community. Launched in 2003, WebJunction is based in Seattle, Washington and Dublin, Ohio. More information is available at [www.webjunction.org](http://www.webjunction.org).

### **About OCLC**

Founded in 1967, OCLC is a nonprofit, membership, computer library service and research organization dedicated to the public purposes of furthering access to the world's information and reducing library costs. More than 72,000 libraries in 170 countries have used OCLC services to locate, acquire, catalog, lend, preserve and manage library materials. Researchers, students, faculty, scholars, professional librarians and other information seekers use OCLC services to obtain bibliographic, abstract and full-text information when and where they need it. OCLC and its member libraries cooperatively produce and maintain WorldCat, the world's largest online database for discovery of library resources. Search WorldCat on the Web at [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org). For more information, visit [www.oclc.org](http://www.oclc.org).

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