By: Brian Kenney
Dept.   Library Director
Subject: Monthly Report
Date: April 4, 2012

- Focus groups with teens, adults, and parents has concluded and I will share our findings as part of Unfinished Business during the Board Meeting
- On March 20, met with Bermello Ajamil & Associates (BA), the Architects of Record for the Ground Floor Masterplan and the Department of Public Works to review BA's proposal and timeline for the Ground Floor Master Plan—Design Services. The scope incorporates the installation of self-check equipment and renovations in the reference area to make their implementation possible.
- On March 27, held a kick-off event with architects, library staff, Paul Schwarz to review proposed plan; will review as part of Unfinished Business during the Board Meeting.
- Attended the Public Library Association Meeting in Philadelphia, March 15-17. Major themes at the conference included:
    - Ebook models and library/publisher relations
    - New streaming models for digital media
    - Libraries as community centers versus libraries as warehouses of content
    - Design that promotes circulation, community engagement, and flexibility

    At the conference I visited the vendors and met with publishers to determine feasibility of an author-based fall gala.
- With teen librarian Erik Carlson, visited YouMedia at Chicago Public Library on March 22. Key findings:
    - Technology takes precedence over traditional print books
    - The 5,500 square-foot space is loosely organized into three areas: hanging out, messing around, and geeking out—based on research about how teens learn, use multiple devices, and collaborate
    - The room is highly flexible, and can be easily rearranged for different purposes
    - The "look and feel" is very different from any traditional library; the noise level is high
- On March 23, spoke at the New Leaf in Learning Conference sponsored by Follett Software. Led workshop on public library/school library collaboration. Three major themes emerged:
    - Public libraries are opening their collections to students, with 24-hour delivery of materials to schools
    - Public and school libraries are licensing database products jointly
    - Public and school libraries are creating ebook collections together