

## SOURCES

Rosow includes a variety of titles for each topic and author, including accurate retellings and picture books that help the student with comprehension and related skills. Comprehensive indexes include author, title, and subject access.

A well-organized book that presents a structured and useful plan to presenting classic literature, *Accessing the Classics: Great Reads for Adults, Teens and English Language Learners* will be helpful to anyone who teaches literature. Literacy coordinators can use this as a guide for their literacy volunteers when they need a new approach or new material. Intended for a broad range of literacy workers, reading specialists, homeschooling parents, and teachers, this book is suitable for any group in any setting that has an ongoing literacy program.—*Jenny Foster Stenis, Coordinator, Children's Services, Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma*

---

**American Reference Books Annual.** Volume 37. Edited by Shannon Graff Hysell. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2006. 820p. \$125 (1-59158-379-9).

*American Reference Books Annual (ARBA)* is intended as a tool to assist librarians in the selection of reference materials. It has a stated aim of comprehensiveness in its coverage of substantial English-language materials. *ARBA* began publication in 1970, and has since become a standard reviewing service. It is often taught as a basic source in library science courses on reference services and sources, and it can be found in the collections of many types of libraries.

The 2006 edition of *ARBA* contains signed reviews of more than 1,500 books, CD-ROMs, and Internet sites. It comprises thirty-seven chapters, grouped into four major parts. The first part, focusing on general reference works, consists of a single chapter subdivided by form. Each subsequent part covers a broad disciplinary category and is subdivided into chapters on individual disciplines or topics. Following the scheme of previous editions, the arrangement is clear and logical, as is the format of the entries themselves. The format will be familiar to anyone who has used *ARBA* or any of the Libraries Unlimited reference guides, making its use intuitive for many librarians. Its lengthy table of contents gives a handy and relatively detailed picture of topics covered. The author/title and subject indexes are indispensable and provide excellent access to the entries.

*ARBA* clearly approaches its goal of comprehensiveness. Indeed, it is the only regularly published comprehensive reviewing service expressly for reference materials. There are numerous library and information science (LIS) reviewing sources, which vary in format and quality. Too often, their reviews are mainly descriptive, listing source contents and features, while neglecting potentially important critical evaluation. In contrast, *ARBA* reviews typically provide specific and targeted assessment and recommendations, and generally are more detailed. They often compare similar sources and delineate their respective uses and strengths. Many entries cite other published reviews of the work. Like reviews in several other LIS sources, those in *ARBA* tend to be overwhelmingly

favorable in their explicit or implied recommendations for purchase. In this edition, for example, there are entire chapters with only positive recommendations. Nevertheless, the specificity and critical dimension commonly found in *ARBA* distinguish it from most other review sources and significantly increase its practical value.

Collection development librarians frequently seek objective information about materials. Some use a variety of information and review sources in their selection decisions, and are especially attentive to reviews in LIS journals. The relative value of reviewing services for any library will be determined by established practice and the judgment of individual librarians. For academic libraries, *Choice* (ACRL) is a popular and reasonable option. It is broader in scope than *ARBA*, and can be timelier. It is valuable for general collection development. *Choice* includes reference publications in its coverage, but is much more selective, and thereby less comprehensive than *ARBA* for reference materials. Its reviews also tend to be shorter and have less critical content. Regardless of the type of library, if one substantially utilizes reviews, *ARBA* can be useful in selection, particularly when comprehensiveness is important. The Web version, *ARBAonline*, is also a viable alternative. It has regular updates and cumulative coverage, and makes searching and browsing more convenient and efficient than the print version. Though more expensive, *ARBAonline* may in fact be a better choice.—*Anthony Stamatoplos, Associate Librarian, University Library, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis*

---

**¡Bienvenidos! ¡Welcome! A Handy Resource Guide for Marketing Your Library to Latinos.** By Susannah Mississippi Byrd. Forward by Carol Brey-Casiano. Chicago: ALA, in collaboration with Cinco Puntos Pr., El Paso, Texas, 2005. 110p. \$20 (ISBN 0-8389-0902-7).

When the rise in the Latino population was reported in the current census, many libraries began investigating ways to serve a multicultural population in their service area. In this book, author Susannah Mississippi Byrd does an admirable job of explaining how to implement library programming to serve the Latino community.

The book is clearly divided into a logical sequence, which includes basic information and steps for gathering demographics and the needs of the community to be served. This first step serves as a needs assessment, which is crucial in applying for grants and talking to community leaders about the need for extra funding. Byrd also refers the reader to Reforma, the National Association to Promote Library Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking. This organization works to promote the inclusion of more Spanish-language and Latino-oriented materials in library collections and to encourage the recruitment of more bilingual and bicultural library professionals and support staff.

Next, Byrd gives practical information about selecting books for a culture and language unfamiliar to the selectors. American publishers like to republish materials translated into Spanish, and this can be problematic. The content, pace, textile feeling, and even the quality of publishing is different

## SOURCES

in other countries, and often there is a limited number of each title published, making them hard to get or replace.

The book also offers a collection of ideas for all levels of programming, from a basic introduction to libraries in the United States to literacy programs, programs for children, cultural celebrations, and programs that connect new immigrants. A chapter devoted to “Outreach and Publicity” includes useful how-to information for developing library signage and promotional materials and using social networks. The final chapter is about making the library accessible for the Latino community and culture, with a focus on language and how to position the library to serve in the community. Byrd also includes lists of distributors, wholesalers, and publishers for books and nonprint material.

Packed with excellent information for public libraries, this book is a wonderful collection of ideas for getting started, but it also provides steps for libraries already on this path. It is a must-have.—*Alicia Smith, Branch Manager, Purcell Public Library, Pioneer Library System, Oklahoma*

---

***Burning Books and Leveling Libraries: Extremist Violence and Cultural Destruction.*** By Rebecca Knuth. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2006. 248p. \$39.95 (0-275-99007-9).

Early in her book, *Burning Books and Leveling Libraries*, Rebecca Knuth states that “[t]he history of modern book and library destruction is one of collision between liberal humanists and extremists” (23). It may seem odd to claim that the notion of modern “biblioclasm” is a product of the Enlightenment. Knuth, however, does make this case, and she views the destruction of books as vandalism through the lens of sociology. Of course, books had been a target of destruction long before eighteenth-century Europe; the Library of Alexandria is probably the best-known example. Before the Enlightenment, books and libraries were reserved for the elite. Once the idea of cultural heritage as public property became widespread, libraries and the ideas contained within became more potent symbols of cultures and communities.

In times of warfare and social violence, books and libraries can become targets of destruction for various reasons. The motivation may be tactical; however, more frequently it is ideological. The first case study Knuth presents occurred in Amsterdam in 1984. Anti-apartheid protestors coordinated an attack on the library of the South African Institute under the misguided notion that its existence supported the government of South Africa. While the library did house literature and documents supporting apartheid, its collection was much more general and held a great number of rare and unique documents spanning centuries, and the protestors made no distinction in their destruction. The loss was devastating to researchers, including those of pro- and anti-apartheid stances. To the chagrin of the protestors, this act was widely condemned and allowed some apartheid supporters to paint their opponents as fanatics. In this event, no one was physically hurt, not even the library’s dog. Knuth uses this attack

to show that libraries can be destroyed in the name of a “good” cause.

The rest of the book presents more case studies of biblioclasm from the previous century. Unfortunately these events diverge from the incident in the Netherlands in that they precede or accompany a great loss of human life as well. Knuth is very thorough in her exploration of cultural conflicts in such places as Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Kashmir, Iraq, and elsewhere. While the focus is on the motivation of those leaders and regimes that target books and libraries, their destruction is often overshadowed by the tragedy of human loss.

While *Burning Books and Leveling Libraries* may not have a place in a reference collection, it is a recommended addition for academic libraries that support LIS schools. Additionally, with its in-depth research and extensive resources this book is a good complement to history and sociology collections.—*Daniel Spencer, Librarian, FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center Library, Oklahoma City*

---

***Introduction to Cataloging and Classification.*** 10th ed. by Arlene G. Taylor. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2006. 589p. \$50 (ISBN 1-59158-235-0).

The field of cataloging is rapidly changing in the twenty-first century. Web sites proliferate and require new cataloging treatments, cataloging tools have migrated to the Internet, and standards and classification schedules are constantly under revision. Arlene Taylor’s revised ninth edition of *Introduction to Cataloging and Classification* (2004) was highly praised for being an up-to-date guide to cataloging. Her tenth edition continues this tradition. Taylor covers the AACR2R (*Anglo-American Cataloging Rules*, 2nd ed. rev.), MARC21, *Dewey Decimal Classification* (22nd ed.), current Library of Congress classifications, the latest on the Library of Congress subject headings, and the *Sears List of Subject Headings* (18th ed.). In addition to the substantial text, the book contains an appendix on “Arrangement Dilemmas and Filing Rules,” a glossary of terms, a bibliography, and an index. All of the chapters, the bibliography, and the glossary have been revised; only the appendix has not been revised. Each chapter has footnote references and a list of suggested readings for further study.

The organization of this book is logical, and the treatment of the subject is thorough. Definitions and explanation are clear and informative. Figures (in “Part III: Description and Access”) have clear illustrations of the object, the OPAC display, and the MARC21 records in order to illustrate selected AACR2R. Taylor also refers readers to AACR2R and the *Cataloging Service Bulletin* when appropriate. In her preface, Taylor states that this “revision is now as up-to-date as possible given the constraints of human understanding and the passage of time between writing and publication” (xv). As stated, the world of cataloging is currently experiencing rapid changes. Taylor’s information on the RLG (Research Libraries Group) Union Catalog will soon be out-of-date, as RLG and