

The TRF Newsletter

Fall is Here!

As the weather starts to cool and students settle into the new school year, The Riordan Foundation offers a number of exciting opportunities for teachers to acquire resources. It's a busy time, but we wanted to take this moment to tell you what we've got going on!



Photo by Ethan Pines

Annual Technology Conference Aims to Expose Teachers to New Resources

On Saturday, November 5th, teachers from all over Los Angeles County will congregate at College Ready Academy High School #11 to participate in the annual Rx for Reading/Riordan Foundation Technology Conference. Participants include past SMART Classroom Technology and Computers in the Classroom Grantees who are willing to give up their Saturday in order to give their students a better education. The aim of the conference is to encourage continuing professional development in the use of technology in the classroom.

Presentations will be hands-on and interactive so that skills learned can be implemented as soon as teachers return to their classrooms. Presenters include the UCLA Lab School, Verizon, CFY, Gulf Elementary's 5th Grade Academy, and SMART-Certified Trainer, Tristen Macon. While most sessions will focus on introducing new resources, two SMART Board-specific workshops will enhance the effectiveness of our previous grants by introducing skills for interactive content creation and successful implementation.

Registration for this event is now open and is available for previous grantees ONLY. If you have received a technology grant from The Riordan Foundation in the past, please call our office (310) 472-2020 to register. Space is limited to the first forty-five participants and no more than three teachers from any one school may attend. We are extremely excited about this year's event and hope to see you there!

Fall 2011 Calendar

Late October: PD winners announced

October 31st: Interactive Whiteboard and CIC applications due

November 5th: Annual Technology Conference

November 30th: RRMG applications due

November-January: Interactive Whiteboard and CIC applicant site visits





Above: Mayor Riordan admires a child's artwork at the 30th Anniversary Celebration.

Below: Kids and their parents design finger puppets with the LA Opera at the 30th Anniversary.

Fun for All at TRF's 30th Anniversary Celebration

More than 75 people came out to the Richard J Riordan Central Library in downtown LA on September 24th to help us celebrate as The Riordan Foundation looked back on 30 years of serving the community. After a short tribute video and a humble speech by Mayor Riordan, guests were invited to the courtyard for snacks and family-friendly fun.

As Mayor Riordan joked with the news cameras, guests lined up with their kids for activities hosted by the Los Angeles Opera, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Barnes & Noble Booksellers. Kids were able to make their own postcards and finger puppets, play games and even explore with a Nook eReader! Afterwards, attendees were invited into the auditorium for the library's weekly Story Time.

The Riordan Foundation was founded in 1981 with the goal of providing people with the skills necessary to compete in society. Now, after 30 years of providing grants to schools and other civic agencies, we are proud to continue this noble mission. And while our programs look a little different than they did three decades ago, the impetus is still the same: education has the potential to improve people's lives.

A big thank you goes out to all who attended; we are ever grateful for your support.

Miss the event? Visit www.riordanfoundation.org to see the video.

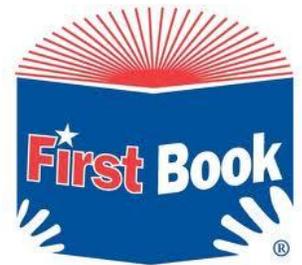
Here's to another 30 years!

Meet our New RRMG Bookselling Partner: First Book!

The Recreational Reading Mini-Grant provides \$1,000 worth of books to teachers for their classroom lending libraries; but with generous discounts from our bookselling partners, that \$1,000 turns into much more. While we continue to work with Barnes & Noble and Perma-Bound, a new organization, First Book, will join our list of RRMG partners.

As a nonprofit organization serving high-needs students, First Book is able to work with publishers to distribute books at 50-90% off retail prices. Since their beginnings in 1992, they have provided over 85 million books to schools and children in order to improve access to resources and encourage literacy skills. We are happy to have their help as we attempt to spread the love of reading among the students of Los Angeles.

For more information on First Book, visit their website: <http://www.firstbook.org>. To apply for the Recreational Reading Mini-Grant, make sure you meet all eligibility requirements and download an application from www.riordanfoundation.org.




The Riordan Foundation