Promoting LiLI Unlimited

Presentation

A slide show presentation is available for download from the LiLI-U website at http://libraries.idaho.gov/liliu for use by a library staff member wishing to explain the benefits of LiLI Unlimited to other staff, Trustees, or community leaders. A script is included with the slideshow to assist the presenter.

Success Stories

The best promotion for LiLI Unlimited is word of mouth. The stories of customers and librarians that exemplify how these tools and services helped to meet the needs of library users are the most effective promotional resource we have. Examples of these stories follow. They can also be downloaded from the LiLI-U website. Contribute more success stories by emailing lili@libraries.idaho.gov.

OCLC Resources for Promoting WorldCat.org

A variety of customizable tools are available through OCLC for promoting WorldCat.org. Go to http://www.oclc.org/us/en/worldcatorg/promote/default.htm to read about ideas and download tools.
A small public library saves time.
In rural Idaho one busy summer day, the librarian received a shipment of 64 new books; the result of a Books for Children donation. Using the Cat Express tool available through LiLI Unlimited, all 64 books were processed and entered into the circulation system in less than 3 hours. The librarian noted, “If I had been able to do this while the library was closed, I would have had them done even sooner!”

A middle school student wins a blue ribbon.
Eighth grader Steve preferred science over history, language arts, or any other class. With the Science Fair approaching, he decided on a challenging genetics project that involved a significant amount of research. Unfortunately, his school library had few resources on the topic, and the materials he needed were expensive. Using the LiLI-U interlibrary loan system, his school librarian found a number of resources—some were available at nearby public libraries; others could be borrowed from universities. Armed with specialized tomes, Steve went about his research, won a blue ribbon in the science fair, and was able to move on to represent his district at the State Science Fair.

A high school art teacher saves money.
Each year, the high school art teacher includes lessons that review great works of art from throughout the ages. She had read about two books, with full-color images of important pieces, which cost well over $100 apiece. Unfortunately, because she had never seen either title, she could not attest to their quality. Luckily, the librarian had access to LiLI Unlimited. Using the interlibrary loan system, she borrowed the items from other libraries. The teacher was able to review both books to determine whether they would be useful for her lesson plans. When they arrived, she found that one of the books was limited in its content. The other would suit her needs quite well. In the end, the school avoided spending $159 on a lesser-quality item.

A youngster achieves as he learns English.
A middle school library’s collection included a small selection of Spanish-language fiction for students who spoke their native Spanish at home. The librarian could not, however, justify purchasing materials for the school’s sole Vietnamese child. While his grasp of English language was improving steadily, he was challenged with understanding information he needed to write a social studies report. Using LiLI-U, the librarian located books on the topic that were published in Vietnamese and accessible through LiLI-U. The student progressed even though he was still challenged by language barriers, and the librarian was able to assist without incurring the expense of one-time-only-use materials in Vietnamese.

A librarian develops a collection . . .
by reviewing holdings in other libraries.
A teacher continues her professional development . . .
by borrowing materials she needs for her classes.
A student studies for the Armed Services entrance exam . . .
with materials accessible through LiLI-U.
A teacher uses LiLI-U to review the available research . . .
before assigning a term paper.
A librarian borrows twenty extra copies of a novel . . .
that were needed for a special English assignment.
Library staff catalogs dozens of boxes of new books . . .
in half the time it would take without LiLI-U.

There are as many great stories associated with the use of LiLI-U as there are dedicated users.