

Invitation to Attend
May 3, 2006



NCLIS Libraries and Health Information Forum

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**National Library of Medicine
Lister Hill Center Auditorium
Bethesda, Maryland USA**

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) invites interested parties to the Libraries and Health Information Forum, to be held at the National Library of Medicine on Wednesday, May 3.

The day-long forum will bring together those interested in consumer health information and the ten finalists for the 2006 Health Information Awards for Libraries. The Awards are designed to encourage library programs that address one or more of the following: dietary choices; exercise; smoking cessation; alcohol and/or drug abuse prevention or cessation; immunizations and health screenings; and improved health literacy, that is, the ability to understand and make use of health information. A panel of judges in each state selected the state winners based on how well the program encouraged lifestyle improvement among the target population, the program's adaptability, collaboration with other organizations, and how successfully the program was able to reach out to people with low information literacy skills. From those state winners, ten finalists have been chosen to participate in the forum.

Representatives of the finalist libraries will participate in three panel discussions: "Effective Programs," "Health Literacy," and "Partnerships and Outreach." Each panel will address critical issues and challenges in their area. Panel moderators will be Karen Motylewski, Institute of Museum and Library Services; Heidi Sandstrom, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Southwest Region; and Barbara Nail-Chiwetalu, University of Maryland Libraries.

Dr. J. Edward Hill, President of the American Medical Association, will be the Keynote Speaker. The Surgeon General, Vice Admiral Richard H. Carmona, will also address the forum. Eugenie Prime, a member of the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine will serve as the forum moderator.

The forum will begin with coffee at 8:30 a.m., with the program starting at 9:00 a.m. A luncheon will be served, and the forum is expected to end at 4:45 p.m. A reception honoring the NCLIS 2006 Library Health Information Awards winners will follow immediately. Nine of the ten finalists will be awarded a \$1,000 prize and the Grand Prize Winner library will be announced and will receive \$20,000.

The forum is free and open to the public. However, ***REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY APRIL 25, 2006!***

To register, send an e-mail with NCLIS FORUM in the subject line to: Sean McDonald at mcdonas@mail.nlm.nih.gov. Include your name, address, institutional affiliation, e-mail, and telephone number. Please indicate whether you need special accommodations, and what type.

Questions about the forum should be directed to wwhitney@nclis.gov, with copy to thahn@nclis.gov.

Registration Deadline: April 25, 2006

More information, including the forum agenda is at: <http://www.nclis.gov/award/healthawards06.html>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**The Henderson Foundation
Mary H. ("Mitzi") Perdue, in memory of Frank Perdue
Thomson Gale**

ABOUT NCLIS

The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) is a permanent, independent agency of the Federal government charged by Public Law 91-345 to advise the President and Congress on national and international library and information policies, to appraise and assess the adequacies and deficiencies of library and information resources and services, and to develop overall plans for meeting national library and information needs.