

# **Get Involved @ the Library Advisory Committee**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

*Get Involved @ Your Library: Engage Your Talents to Make a Difference* is a new initiative of the California State Library. It's a "next step" on the "Baby Boomers" project – *Transforming Life After 50: Baby Boomers and Libraries*. Community assessments completed by libraries participating in "Transforming Life" found much interest in engaging the talent and experience of baby boomers in volunteer roles that support libraries and the community.

Libraries are widely used by all segments of their communities, and in their role as "the community's living room," libraries can serve as leaders or "hubs" for civic engagement. Through partnerships with existing volunteer resources or where none exist, building this capacity, libraries can help to encourage/attract more community members to service, in libraries or elsewhere in the community, connecting them to volunteer opportunities that make best use of their talents, passion, and experience.

An informal survey of California public libraries' volunteer recruitment methods in spring 2008 demonstrated that few libraries have begun to re-tool their volunteer programs in order to effectively engage baby boomers and subsequent generations as volunteers. Training and tools must be developed and shared with California public libraries to build their capacity to take full advantage of the opportunities civic engagement offers.

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE PARTICIPANTS**

We are seeking a special group of participants – staff and volunteers -- who are up for the challenge of thinking about emerging trends and future possibilities in volunteerism and civic engagement, and who want to be a part of informing the design of *the Get Involved @ the Library* Initiative. This group will ensure that the development of the initiative is connected with the library community in order to address its needs and interests. The Advisory Committee will serve as a "sounding board" for ideas developed for the initiative.

To be considered for participation in this Advisory Committee, please complete the *I Want to GET INVOLVED Application*. All applications are due August 15, 2008. Participants will be selected that will provide the skills and experience needed, we will seek to create a committee representative of the California library community.

We anticipate at least one face to face meeting of this group (expenses paid) and one or more conference call follow-up meetings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Carla Lehn, at [clehn@library.ca.gov](mailto:clehn@library.ca.gov) or 916-653-7743.

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## I WANT TO GET INVOLVED APPLICATION

Submit completed applications by August 15, 2008 to Carla Lehn, at [clehn@library.ca.gov](mailto:clehn@library.ca.gov).

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>POSITION TITLE</b>	
<b>LIBRARY:</b>	
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>PHONE:</b>	
<b>EMAIL:</b>	

**ONE:** Is the Position Title you identified above a staff or volunteer position?

Staff       Volunteer

If volunteer, please describe duties briefly or attach your volunteer position description.

If Staff, please briefly describe your community volunteer activities or attach your volunteer position description.

**TWO:** What was your biggest "A-HA!" moment about Baby Boomers and Volunteering from the July 22, 2008 webcast on the subject?

**THREE:** What concerns about the future of library volunteerism keep you up at night? Why?