



THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PRESSES

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***LIBRARIANS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE
IN UNIVERSITY PRESS PUBLISHING***

“Best of the Best” to be showcased at ALA meeting in Toronto

New York, NY (June 2003)—If you think books published by university presses are only for professors, academics, and specialists in arcane subjects – think again.

Librarians who work daily with high school students and the general public have selected, reviewed, and rated nearly 500 books published this year by non-profit scholarly publishers — including titles about Harry Potter, Lewis and Clark, American businesswomen, and scores of others.

The 13th annual edition of *University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries* is now available. A joint project of the Association of American University Presses, the American Association of School Libraries, and the Public Library Association, this bibliography is a popular and trusted acquisitions resource. More than 14,000 copies will be distributed free to librarians across the country.

In addition, to launch this new edition of the bibliography, a special program entitled “The Best of the Best of the University Presses: Books You Should Know About” will be presented at the summer meeting of the American Library Association on June 21 in Toronto.

At this session, 31 of the 485 selected titles will be presented by librarians on the bibliography committee. The “Best of the Best” program, now in its fifth year, offers librarians the opportunity to share advice and recommendations with their colleagues, and recognizes the valuable contribution that university press books can make to both public libraries and libraries in secondary schools. By providing a public forum, the program has increased awareness and use of the bibliography in collection planning.

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Among the books to be presented on June 21:

- * *Freedom: A History of US*, by Joy Hakim
- * *Enterprising Women: 250 Years of American Business*, by Virginia Drachman
- * *Why Smart People Can Be Stupid*, edited by Robert Sternberg
- * *Journals of Lewis and Clark*, a landmark publication by the University of Nebraska Press
- * *The Ivory Tower and Harry Potter*, by Lana Whited

A complete list of the titles to be presented is at www.aaupnet.org/programs/bestofbest.html. Publishers will contribute copies of the 31 books to be raffled off after the presentation to the librarians in attendance.

The presenting librarians hail from around the country: **Jane Chesney**, John Cooper School, The Woodlands, TX; **Dolores Gwaltney**, Thurston High School, Ypsilanti, MI; **Gay Ann Loesch**, Independence High media specialist, Charlotte, NC; **Dr. Terry Maggio**, Gilbert H. Gragg Library, Bainbridge, GA; **Ken Stewart**, Blue Valley High School, Stillwell, KS; and **Virginia Wallace**, Waynesboro High School, Waynesboro, VA.

The Association of American University Presses (www.aaupnet.org) is the world's largest organization of not-for-profit scholarly publishers. Formally established in 1937, AAUP promotes the work and influence of its 124 scholarly press members. AAUP's mission is to serve member presses through cooperative programs, professional development opportunities, and by promoting the valuable work that these presses do.