Library Services For Multicultural Patrons: Strategies To Encourage Library Use

EDITED BY CAROL SMALLWOOD AND KIM BECNEL
Increasingly, libraries are struggling to deal with a growing diversity in the cultural background of their patrons. Problems arising from this cultural diversity afflict all library types—school, public and academic. Library Services for Multicultural Patrons is by and for all libraries that are striving to provide multicultural services to match the growing diversity in the cultural background of patrons. The book is designed to offer helpful tips and practical advice to academic, public, and school librarians who want to better serve the multicultural groups in their communities. The contributors to the book are themselves practicing librarians and they share creative ideas for welcoming multicultural patrons into libraries and strategies for serving them more effectively. Librarians will find in these chapters tried and true tips and techniques for marketing and promotion, improving reference services for speakers of English as a second language, and enhancing programming that they can easily implement in their own libraries and communities. The chapters are divided into the following categories for ease of access: 1) Getting Organized and Finding Partners, 2) Reaching Students, 3) Community Connections, 4) Applying Technology, 6) Outreach Initiatives, 6) Programming and Events, and 7) Reference Services. Librarians of all types will be pleased to discover easy-to-implement suggestions for collaborative efforts, many rich and diverse programming ideas, strategies for improving reference services and library instruction to speakers of English as a second language, marketing and promotional tips designed to welcome multicultural patrons into the library, and much more.

**Book Information**

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Customer Reviews

What a great anthology of writings from all over the country, describing and celebrating activities that reach out to members of various cultures and ethnic groups. From services to youth and adults, to creating community partnerships, offering multi-cultural programming, and providing reference services that meet the needs of diverse populations, this book will inspire and enlighten academic, public and school librarians to address the new and growing diversity in their communities. Editors Carol Smallwood and Kim Becnel have included articles from a wide range of librarians, presenting the best and most innovative practices, to offer a series of blueprints for raising the bar in libraries everywhere when it comes to serving the non-traditional and multi-cultural library user. --Larry Grieco, Library Director, Gilpin County Public Library, contributor to: Bringing the Arts into the Library, ALA Editions, 2013.

This is a great collection of writings from a variety of thoughtful perspectives. It will surely help librarians meet the needs of diverse populations with programming ideas and other resources. This book is very informative and offers interesting, "outside the box" concepts.

This book is a wonderful resource, not only for library administrators, faculty, and staff, but also for disciplines across campus. Higher education is one of the top ten exports of the United States and multicultural students and their families contribute more than $21 billion to the U.S. economy. However, revenues are not the only ways they impact our economy. As demands for graduates, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and math escalate, multicultural graduates often fill these positions. Shortages of American students in key areas continue to challenge American universities often because of poor pre-university preparation, low interest, and faltering graduation rates. The role played by libraries is crucial, contributing directly to positive overall university experiences and the career successes of multicultural students. This book is a MUST READ, offering great ideas and strategies! Five Stars!

Great book

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