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## **2009 Kentucky Book Fair Grant Awarded to the Louisville Free Public Library Foundation**

(Louisville, KY) --- The Kentucky Book Fair, Inc. has awarded a \$7,500 grant to the Louisville Free Public Library Foundation to purchase children's books for the Newburg Branch. Kentucky Book Fair, Inc. was founded to coordinate the annual Kentucky Book Fair with proceeds supporting Kentucky's libraries. The Grant was presented at the Kentucky Library Association Conference in Louisville on Thursday, October 1, 2009.

Grants Chair, Judith Gibbons announced, "An August flood took a tremendous toll on the Louisville Free Public Library. The Kentucky Book Fair decided to assist the library and foundation with recovery efforts. The \$7,500 grant is designated to jumpstart the children's book collection in the Newburg Branch which is located near six schools."

Louisville's Main Library sustained more than \$5 million in damage as a result of flash flooding caused by torrential rains on August 4, 2009. The 100 year-old facility experienced more than six feet of water in its operations center and lost nearly 60,000 books and nearly 200 computers, some of which were designated for the new Newburg Branch.

While the library was able to reopen many areas to the public as early as 23 days after the flooding, the lower level remains off limits to patrons. Continuing repairs to the elevators, HVAC systems and other facets of the facility are expected to be completed later in the year.

"We are deeply appreciative of the tremendous outpouring of support from individuals and groups throughout the country," said Library Director Craig Buthod. "And it is even more gratifying to receive this contribution from our fellow Kentuckians throughout the state. It is a real testament to how we all pull together when needed."

Since its inception in 1981, the Kentucky Book Fair has awarded more than \$300,000 to Kentucky libraries. Approximately 150 authors attend each year to autograph copies of their latest books, and as many as 5,000 patrons attend.



The Kentucky Book Fair is Saturday, November 7, 2009 at the Frankfort Convention Center, 405 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information about the Louisville Free Public Library Foundation, go to [www.lfplfoundation.org](http://www.lfplfoundation.org). Donations can be made to the Library Foundation, 301 York Street Louisville, KY, 40203, Attn: Flood.

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