

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Librarians statewide to celebrate Ask a Librarian Day

TAMPA, Fla. (Feb. 18, 2009) — Although there won't be noisemakers or confetti, librarians all over the state will celebrate Ask a Librarian Day on Feb. 20 to bring awareness to Ask a Librarian, a free online reference service that allows Floridians to chat with a librarian for help with homework or general questions.

Librarians at almost 100 libraries around Florida will don t-shirts boasting the message "Ask me about askalibrarian.org" and will talk about the valuable service with their customers. They hope to enlighten people on the benefits of Ask a Librarian so that everyone can take full advantage of this user-friendly collaborative service.

"Ask a Librarian is such a useful online tool for people," said Diana Silveira, virtual reference manager for Ask a Librarian. "We partner with libraries to offer Floridians an amazing free service at their fingertips. We couldn't do this without our libraries, and we hope that Ask a Librarian Day gives them a chance to brag a little bit about what they do."

Ask a Librarian is available 10 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Visit www.askalibrarian.org for more information or to ask a librarian a question.

Ask a Librarian was founded by the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) and the Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC), is managed by TBLC, and is funded as part of the Florida Electronic Library (www.flelibrary.org) by a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant.

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