

News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Karyn Bardes (813) 622-8252 (ext. 235)

Attention high school students – make your directorial debut!

Ask a Librarian sponsors YouTube video contest

TAMPA, Fla. (October 16, 2007) — Ask a Librarian has gone YouTube! Florida high school students are invited to participate in The Director's Chair, a contest in which students submit commercials to promote Ask a Librarian and flaunt their directorial skills. Ask a Librarian is a free online service that allows patrons to chat with a librarian for help with homework or general questions.

Floridians in ninth through 12th grade are invited to submit to YouTube a 30-second video promoting Ask a Librarian by Jan. 18, 2008, for the chance to win a hard-drive video camera, a Nintendo Wii or a digital audio player jukebox.

"Videos will be judged mostly on how well they promote our service, but also on creativity and originality," said Diana Sachs-Silveira, virtual reference manager of Ask a Librarian.

After a panel of judges picks the top five videos, it will be up to the public to vote for their favorite video from Jan. 27 to Feb. 9, 2008.

Visit www.askalibrarian.org/thedirectorschair for more information about the contest, including YouTube submission instructions, prizes, official contest rules, release forms and more.

Visit www.askalibrarian.org for more information about the Ask a Librarian service.

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

The Tampa Bay Library Consortium, Inc. (TBLC) is a nonprofit multi-type library cooperative that assists and empowers libraries. Since 1979, TBLC has worked with member libraries to provide better, faster service and resource sharing to the residents of Florida. For more information, call (813) 622-8252 or visit www.tbtc.org.

The College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) operates the statewide Library Information Network for Community Colleges (LINCC) and associated Web-based information portal, LINCCWeb, from its headquarters in Tallahassee, Fla. As an administered program of the Florida Department of Education's Division of Community Colleges, CCLA serves 70 community college libraries in 57 cities throughout Florida. For more information, visit www.cclaflorida.org.

###