

**Draft paper for IFLA Public Libraries
16.1.2010 By Lotte Duwe Nielsen**



norden

Kulturkontakt Nord

Title:

Network of Nordic Public Libraries: co-creating concepts for public libraries as drivers for development of community and democracy

Names, positions and employers of the presenters:

The paper will be presented by representatives from the Network.

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Network of Nordic Public Libraries is a long-term network working 2010 – 2012.

7 public libraries in 5 Nordic countries are joining the network to co-create innovative ideas for common Nordic concepts for public libraries.

The network partners are:

- Helsinki City Library
- Borgarbókasafn Reykjavíkur - The Reykjavík City Library
- Bokasafn Kopavogs – Kopavogur Public Library
- Amtsbókasafnið á Akureyri - Public Library of Akureyri
- Deichmanske bibliotek / Oslo Public Library
- Stockholm Public Library
- Aarhus Public Libraries.

The network will make three 48-hour creative learning camps involving library staff across the 7 Nordic libraries. There will be approx. 50 library staff and managers in each camp.

The network aims at innovate concepts and ideas of strategic importance for public libraries by bringing library staff together in a creative bootcamps.

The ideas will be based on the library staff's ideas, on-going innovations and experiences of best practice from the 7 public libraries involved. The methods and tools of the camps are based on peer reviewed research in creativity and innovation as well as experiences from similar innovation activities in the 7 libraries.

The first bootcamp will be in Iceland June 2010.

The paper will showcase new concepts from the bootcamp on Iceland related to the theme: Building strong communities: unleashing the potential of libraries to build community capacity, engagement and identity. One example is the library as an interactive forum for public debate, democracy and active citizenship.

The presentation will also demonstrate examples of creative methods from the camp.

Photos from a pilot camp in Helsinki 2008 is available at

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aakb/sets/72157609252909432/>

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