

Linworth Publishing, Inc. /Libraries Unlimited Partnership Questions & Answers for Customers

As you may know, Libraries Unlimited recently acquired Linworth Publishing. The two publishers bring a combined history of more than 60 years of experience serving the education and library communities. The synergy that results from combining our expertise will result in even more innovative, high-quality professional development resources and programs that will help practicing and pre-service librarians lead their professions in the 21st century.

In the next several months, Linworth Publishing and Libraries Unlimited will work together to integrate publishing programs to support the growth of our offerings. During this time, there will be no interruption in your subscriptions to our periodicals or our ongoing publishing programs. As a valued Linworth Publishing or Libraries Unlimited customer, you may have questions about what this means for you, and we have provided some answers below.

General Questions

Q: What does this partnership between Linworth Publishing and Libraries Unlimited mean?

A: As leaders in professional development for librarians and educators, we are joining forces to provide the next generation of resources, workshops and tools for professional development. Building on our combined history of more than 60 years of serving these two communities, our partnership will result in an expanded portfolio of high-quality, innovative resources reaching practitioners in the library, classroom and beyond.

Q: When did this partnership take effect?

A: Libraries Unlimited's acquisition of Linworth Publishing took effect on March 18, 2009.

Q: Who is Libraries Unlimited?

A: Founded in the late 1960s, Libraries Unlimited is considered the leading imprint in textbooks and bibliographic reference for library science today. Among our extensive list of authors are the most well-known and highly respected professionals in the school, public and academic library communities. In addition to monographs, Libraries Unlimited publishes several professional print and online periodicals, including the magazines "School Library Media Activities Monthly" and "Crinkles," "Children's Magazine Guide," as well as the Readers Advisor Online, an online reference resource. Through Teacher Ideas Press, Libraries Unlimited publishes books for educators, written by educators, which span the curriculum and focus on innovative ideas, practical lessons and classroom-tested activities.

Q: Who is Linworth Publishing?

A: Founded in 1986 by Marlene Woo-Lun, president and publisher, Linworth Publishing has long been known for its magazine – “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” – as well as its impressive list of professional development books by top authors in the library community, ranging from the creators of the “Big 6,” Mike Eisenberg and Bob Berkowitz, to copyright expert Carol Simpson. In addition, Linworth leads the industry in using technology to deliver live professional development with popular programs such as “Linworth @ The Forefront Webinars” on topics ranging from grant-writing to Web 2.0 tools for professional development. Marlene will be joining the new organization as publisher.

Q: Why did Libraries Unlimited and Linworth Publishing enter into this partnership?

A: We both have long demonstrated a deep commitment to providing the highest quality professional development resources for the library and education communities. We recognized that by combining our many years of experience, we now have the capacity to create the next generation of innovative, high-quality resources to support these important professions.

Q: How will this new partnership benefit the library community?

A: We each bring different strengths to the partnership. Libraries Unlimited has a reputation for publishing the industry’s top monographs and periodicals that focus on the theory and strategy behind professional practice for libraries. Additionally, Libraries Unlimited is considered the leading imprint in textbooks for library education programs. Linworth Publishing is widely respected for its practical, actionable books, periodicals and workshops that guide librarians and paraprofessionals in their day-to-day professional practice. The resulting synergies will produce a broader, deeper portfolio of consistently innovative, high-quality professional development resources and workshops focused on professional excellence and leadership in the 21st century.

Q: Libraries Unlimited and Linworth Publishing both have magazines for school librarians. Will they merge?

A: No. “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” and “School Library Media Activities Monthly,” “Crinkles” and other print and online periodicals will continue to publish without interruption.

Q: Will either publishers’ brands or programs be discontinued as a result of this partnership?

A: No, not at this time. In the future as we integrate our organizations, additional brands and programs will be explored, and changes may be made in their offerings.

Q: Will there be layoffs at either Libraries Unlimited or Linworth Publishing?

A: After a transition period, we will be consolidating back-office operations. At this time, we anticipate that all editorial development will remain unchanged.

Q: What role does ABC-CLIO play in this partnership?

A: Libraries Unlimited is an imprint of ABC-CLIO.

For Linworth Publishing Customers

Q: How will this affect my favorite titles, my subscription to “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” or my access to “Linworth @ The Forefront Webinars”?

A: There will no interruption in our order processing or customer service. You will still be able to purchase your favorite titles from Linworth, your subscription to “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” will continue uninterrupted, and the successful “Linworth @ The Forefront Webinars” will continue to provide top-notch professional development opportunities.

Q: How will Linworth customers benefit from this partnership?

A: Linworth customers will benefit from the broader offering that the combined forces of the two publishers offer. In the future, the synergy that results from combining Linworth’s with Libraries Unlimited’s will result in even more innovative, high-quality professional development resources and workshops that will help current and future librarians lead the profession in the 21st century.

Q: As a Linworth customer, how do I place orders in the future?

A: You will continue to order from Linworth the same way you have in the past from the Web site, a catalog or from a distributor, and your orders will be processed quickly and accurately. Any orders that are in process will be fulfilled without interruption.

Q: I am a Linworth customer, and I have placed an order that I haven’t received yet. Will I still receive my order?

A: Yes, any orders in process will be fulfilled without interruption.

Q: I am a “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” subscriber. Will I continue to receive my magazine?

A: Yes, your subscription will continue without interruption.

Q: I signed up for a “Linworth @ the Forefront Webinar.” Will it still happen?

A: Yes, the webinar series will continue without interruption.

Q: I just received a Linworth catalog. Can I still place an order from this catalog?

A: You can continue to order from any Linworth or Libraries Unlimited catalog, from our Web sites or from your distributors.

Q: Will there be changes to pricing, shipping and other terms?

A: There will not be any immediate changes in pricing, shipping and other terms.

Q: Where will the Linworth Publishing staff be located?

A: Over the next few months, Libraries Unlimited and Linworth Publishing will work together to form a new operation. However, many of the staff of Linworth Publishing work virtually from around the country and will continue to work that way going forward.

Q: I am a Linworth book author. Who will be my editor going forward?

A: For now and likely in the future, you will continue to work with the same Linworth Publishing editor you have in the past as you promote your current publication and develop future products.

Q: Will you be changing suppliers (printers, list managers, production services)?

A: Not at this time. Over the next few months, Libraries Unlimited and Linworth Publishing will work together to form a new operation, but for the immediate future, we will continue to work with the same outside suppliers as we have in the past.

Q: Will the editorial and advertising staff at “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION” remain the same?

A: Yes, both “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION’S” editorial and advertising staff and editorial policy and approach to high-quality reviews will remain the same.

Q: I really rely on the quality reviews in “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION.” Will the magazine continue to publish those?

A: Yes, “LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION’S” editorial policy and approach to high-quality reviews as well as editorial and advertising staff will remain the same.

Q: Whom should I contact if I have more questions?

A: For Linworth's strategy with *Libraries Unlimited* -- Marlene Woo-Lun, Publisher, mwoolun@linworthpublishing.com

For “*LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION*” publishing program -- Gail Dickenson, Editorial Director, GDickins@odu.edu

For “*LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION*” book and media reviews -- Shelley Glantz, Review Editor, sglantz@linworthpublishing.com

For state and districtwide orders and support; VIP programs, “*LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION*” ad sales and media partnerships -- Paula Jackson, Associate Publisher, p7cjackson@aol.com

For Linworth Books publishing program -- Cynthia Anderson, Acquisitions Editor, cyndeeanderson@sbcglobal.net

For Linworth and “*LIBRARY MEDIA CONNECTION*” orders, conferences -- Ashley Knight, Marketing Assistant, aknight@linworthpublishing.com

For accounts receivable and payables -- Jenny Breneman, Office Manager, jbreneman@linworthpublishing.com

For Libraries Unlimited Customers

Q: Will there be any change in Libraries Unlimited offerings?

A: You will still be able to purchase your favorite monographs from Libraries Unlimited, and your print and online periodical subscriptions will continue uninterrupted.

Q: How will Libraries Unlimited customers benefit from this agreement?

A: Libraries Unlimited customers will benefit from the broader offering that the combined forces of the two publishers offer. In the future, the synergy that results from combining our expertise with Linworth Publishing's will result in even more innovative, high-quality professional development resources and workshops that will help current and future librarians lead their professions in the 21st century.

Q: As a Libraries Unlimited customer, do I continue to work with my sales representative?

A: You will continue to order from Libraries Unlimited the same way you have in the past from the Web site, a catalog or from a distributor, and your orders will be processed quickly and accurately. Any orders that are in process will be fulfilled without interruption.

Q: I am a Libraries Unlimited customer, and I have placed an order that I haven't received yet. Will I still receive my order?

A: Yes, any orders in process will be fulfilled without interruption.

Q: I subscribe to one of Libraries Unlimited periodicals. Will I continue to receive my subscription?

A: Yes, subscriptions to Libraries Unlimited print and online periodicals will continue without interruption.

Q: Where will the Libraries Unlimited staff be located?

A: Libraries Unlimited is an imprint of ABC-CLIO, and the corporate headquarters continues to be Santa Barbara, Calif. Over the next few months, we will work with Linworth to form a new operation. However, many of the staff of Libraries Unlimited work virtually from around the country and will continue to work that way in this new partnership.

Q: Didn't ABC-CLIO recently acquire Libraries Unlimited?

A: In October 2008, ABC-CLIO acquired a perpetual license to use the imprints and publish the titles of Greenwood Publishing Group, which included Libraries Unlimited.

Q: I am a Libraries Unlimited book author. Who will be my editor going forward?

A: For now and likely in the future, you will continue to work with the same Libraries Unlimited editor you have in the past as you promote your current publication and develop future products.

Q: Will Libraries Unlimited change suppliers (printers, list managers, production services?)

A: Not at this time. Over the next few months, Libraries Unlimited and Linworth Publishing will work together to form a new operation, but for the immediate future, we will continue to work with the same outside suppliers as we have in the past.

Q: Whom should I contact if I have more questions?

A: Please call Ron Maas at (203) 226-3571, ext. 3380.