

**About the Missouri Center for the Book**

The mission of the Missouri Center for the Book is to bring the words and ideas of books into the thoughts and lives of Missourians. It is the only statewide organization that promotes the importance of books and reading to Missouri residents, celebrates the state's literary heritage, and recognizes the contributions of Missouri's authors, book illustrators, booksellers, publishers, librarians, and others involved in the library arts. For more information, visit: <http://books.missouri.org/>.

**About the St. Louis Mercantile Library**

Established in 1846 by civic leaders and philanthropists, the Mercantile exists today as a vibrant community, and cultural asset. It is the oldest library west of the Mississippi. The task of the Mercantile Library as a research library is to make its collections, which have come to concentrate on Western Expansion and the history, development, and growth of the St. Louis region and of the American rail and river transportation experiences, available to the widest number of local and national users. For information visit: <http://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/>.