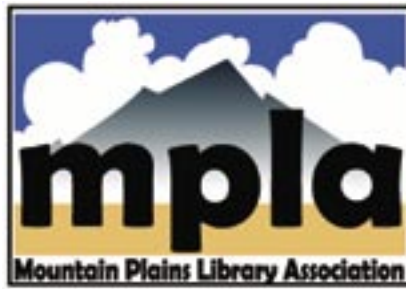


Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

June 2010

www.mpla.us

Volume 54 #5

OLA-MPLA Conference Moments

Oklahoma City, April 18-21, 2010



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See more photos of Fashion Show on Page 3



ARIZONA COLORADO KANSAS MONTANA NEBRASKA NEVADA
 NEW MEXICO NORTH DAKOTA OKLAHOMA SOUTH DAKOTA UTAH WYOMING



President's Message

I'm fresh from the MPLA/OLA joint conference where we had great programs, interesting speakers, and a really fun social event. Oklahoma librarians know how to have a good time and how to create amazing new fashion trends. I'm sure some of the photos from the "Stacked: Fashion off the Shelf" program will be posted somewhere soon.

The MPLA Executive Board approved a new long range plan at its April 21 meeting. Among the goals set was our desire to "maintain a vibrant and ever growing membership base and strengthen support and collaboration at the state, regional and national levels." Like many organizations in these tough economic times and in an era of few people joining any type of organization, MPLA membership is slipping slightly. The Executive Board would like to reverse that slippage and intends to do more with membership recruitment and retention.

Related to this topic was a program I attended at MPLA/OLA presented by Amalia Monroe, a University of Kansas librarian, entitled "Recruiting and Retaining Millennial Members in Library Associations." The report is the result of a survey targeting library school students and library workers born after 1978 (the "millennial" generation) completed by Team L of the 2009 ALA Emerging Leaders Program, regarding membership in professional organizations.

The top reasons millennials join, according to the survey, was for professional development and networking opportunities. The key to keeping young people, and likely all of us, in an organization was the demonstrated value of membership: Did we get enough from the organization to justify the cost of dues?

The value of an organization is based both on what you get from it, but also what you put into it. We'll explore what you can get from and give to MPLA next month. (Don't you love continuations?)

---*Elvita*



Elvita receives gavel from Eileen Wright, outgoing President.

Stacked: Fashion Off the Shelf

The all-conference reception at the OLA-MPLA joint conference in April featured a fashion show, with all attire made from materials found in a library. Author Michael Wallis emceed the show and fundraiser, which was held at the Oklahoma City downtown library.



MPLA 2010 Leadership Institute

Thirty participants and four mentors completed the MPLA 2010 Library Leadership Institute at the end of April in Estes Park Colorado. The Institute was facilitated by Maureen Sullivan, ACRL 2010 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. Innovative Interfaces contributed \$2500 to the Institute and EBSCO contributed \$750. MPLA subsidized a major portion of the Institute from its budget.

The weather offered a little of everything for the participants coming from the 12 MPLA states: sun, rain, snow and wind. Elk grazed outside the lodge and a coyote passed by regularly. Signs warned of bears, but none were sighted.

Topics included Principles and Practices of Effective Leadership; Understanding your Work & Leadership Styles; Interpersonal Communication; Managing Differences; Risk Taking; Using Power & Influence; Leading Change; Creating a Culture of Commitment; Group Problem Solving and Decision Making; Project Planning & Management; Achieving Your Potential: Personal Planning.

Following the Institute the participants established a Google Group for ongoing communication.



Back row l-r: Christy Donaldson, Matt Horts, Michele White, Tiffany Herbon, Kristen Gettys, Cindy Messenger, Gloria Brodle, Brian Greene, Jamie Hollier, Ciindy Moore, Sarah Devereau, John Eye, Larry Schmidt, Anali Perry, Stephanie Ralph, Katherine Eberline, Carol Foreman, Royce Kitts; Middle row l-r: Jeff Belliston, James Pawlak, Robin Clark, Tamara Sandia, Aiden Street, Marcia Dority Baker, Megan Dazey, Kate Plunkett, Amelia Shelley, Tom Taylor; Front row l-r: Pam Arroues, Gail Santy, Wendy Wendt, Maureen Sullivan, Lynette Schurdevin, Luise Davis. Photo by Judy Zelenski, taken outside Wind River Lodge at YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado.

Photos from the Institute are posted on the MPLA website at <http://photos.mpla.us/> and videos of skits presented by groups are on You Tube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/MountainPlainsLA>.

Leadership Institute - Working Together



*Maureen and Mentors.
l-r: Jeff, Judy, Maureen, Brian, Amelia*



Wind River Lodge - the snowy, windy day



Stephanie & Lynette



*Maureen
Facilitating*



Tamara & Matt



Sarah & Cindy



Tom & Tiffany



Gail & Aiden

Leadership Institute - *Laughing Together*



*Skits & Presentations
Dining Hall
Hanging Out*





Flashmob in the Library



By: Megan Dazey

When: Wednesday of finals week at noon

Location: University of Montana's Mansfield Library main floor.

What: Flashmob dance party.

Approximately 100 students participated in a form of stress relief during finals week at the University of Montana by organizing a flashmob dance party at the Mansfield Library. Flashmobs are typically quickly organized through a facebook or twitter posting. Students then show up at a pre determined time, bring music and start dancing. Students at UM showed up and danced for two songs before leaving once again. Some students

dressed for the occasion, others wore inline skates, but most just showed up to dance and release a little stress during finals week.

After dancing and singing the students dispersed as quickly as they appeared and everyone went back to their last minute work on their papers and studying for their finals. Video of the flashmob can be seen at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tC0ltMGjIMU>



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MPLA Long Range Plan 2010-2015

The MPLA Board revised the Association's Long Range plan after discussion at both board meetings at the OLA/MPLA conference in April. The first 5-year long range plan was developed in 2005.

Vision Statement

MPLA members gain new knowledge, support and expertise through involvement in a dynamic association that fosters networking, learning, and leadership

Mission Statement

MPLA will be a regional leader in facilitating networking, professional development and the enhancement of the profession of librarianship.

Goal 1– MPLA will actively develop, support and recognize excellent and innovative leadership in the region.

- Objective A –Present biannual Leadership Institute to promote innovative leadership and transformational ideas and encourage ongoing involvement of Leadership Institute alumni.
- Objective B –Support leadership development in MPLA state associations and the library community.
- Objective C –Recognize leadership excellence through annual awards.

Goal 2 –MPLA will support ongoing career development and networking opportunities in the region.

- Objective A –Work cooperatively with state associations to conduct Annual Conference and provide innovative programming that meets the needs of the communities served.
- Objective B - Increase virtual and face-to-face networking opportunities to share best practices and “next” practices across the profession.
- Objective C – Provide financial grant assistance for continuing education to eligible members.

Kansas Librarian Climbs High

From Donna Hobbs, Coordinator of Library Services; Manhattan Area Technical College

I made a friendly wager with our Electric Power and Distribution (EPD) Students, known affectionately as “the pole climbers”. These are the kids that, when they get out of school in December after a 12 month program, make an incredible amount of money by keeping our electricity going . Its exciting but dangerous work, as in the 6 years I have been at MATC, we’ve lost 3 former students to hotline accidents including one former student working in Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. I will tell you that this program, year after year, is one of the finest groups that I work with.

As co-sponsor of Student Government, I was encouraging students to take the H1N1 vaccine and told this class that if they all program students eligible to get vaccinated would do so, I’d climb halfway up an EPD pole. Not only did they do that, but they all decided to take the shot as opposed to the nasal spray, for whatever reason. That they did on their own.

TODAY was the day!



FYI, I had all the gear including climbing spikes and a buck squeeze. My biggest fear was splinters and my forearms feel as if I have done 2000 arm curls! BUT it beats shaving my head or camping on the roof! I have 42 life time library fans now, who suggest movies, events, and yes even valid book titles with me, take part in Read Across America, are active in school and community events. I can’t take a lot of credit though; the program instructors Rex Fair and Brent Boring are as professional and personable as they come. They make my job SO much easier!



Don't Look Down!



MADE IT!

Around the Region

Arizona



Anna with book

Anna Mathews is the new state representative for Arizona. For the past six years she has been part of the Scottsdale Public Library System. She received her



Master's of Library Science from Emporia State University in 2000. Past experience includes working in public, university, medical and special libraries. She says "I was lucky enough to attend MPLA Leadership Institute at Ghost Ranch in 2006 and found it a career changing experience. My areas of interest are staff development, early literacy and intellectual freedom. I am very excited for this opportunity to spread the word about MPLA in Arizona."

Arizona State Librarian **GladysAnn Wells** has been busy fielding media inquiries from around the

country about the discovery of the original O.K. Corral inquest. The Oct 26, 1881 incident has become internationally known. Lawman Wyatt Earp, along with Doc Holliday and Virgil and Morgan Earp, confronted Ike and Billy Clanton and Frank and Tom McLaurry. That shootout has been chronicled in books and movies and has become part of the legend of Tombstone, AZ. The coroner inquest documents had been



*GladysAnn Wells, far right.
(AP photo Ross D. Franklin)*

stored away and forgotten for half a century until the two clerks were cleaning out a closet at the Cochise County Superior Court in Bisbee, Ariz. On Wednesday April 21, the yellowed and taped original hand-written minutes of that inquest made their way to the state Department of Library and Archives, where officials hope to properly preserve the papers for generations to come. The documents will be digitized and added to Arizona Memory Project web site. Check it out at: <http://azmemory.lib.az.us/>.

Jamie A. Lee, University of Arizona SIRLS student, independent documentary filmmaker and Project Director of the Arizona LGBT Storytelling Project, has been nominated for a 2010 Governor's Arts Award in the Artist category. Lee is among seventy-eight nominees in five categories and one of twenty in the Artist category who will be recognized at this year's 29th annual celebration. Lee was nominated for her work connecting her art of filmmaking to community activism.



University of Arizona SIRLS Professor **Cheryl Knott Malone** has received two grants in support of new research on the print culture of the environmental movement. The LBJ Foundation awarded her a Moody Grant for travel to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin. She also received a John F. Kennedy Library Foundation Research Grant for travel to the JFK Library in Boston. Both libraries hold records related to the work of Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, who helped shape the print culture of the environmental movement with his book *The Quiet Crisis*.



Colorado

Colorado is a member of the [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#), a (CSLP) grassroots consortium of states working together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials for children at the lowest cost possible for their public libraries. CSLP began in 1987 when ten Minnesota regional library systems developed a summer library program for children, choosing a theme, creating artwork and selecting incentives that public libraries in the regions could purchase and use. CSLP continues to evolve, but its guiding principle remains the same, librarians sharing ideas, expertise and costs to produce a high-quality summer reading program for children.



Colorado Statewide Summer Reading

Make a Splash @ Your Library (children)
Make Waves @ Your Library (teens)

The Colorado **Library Research Service** has just completed a new *Fast Facts* report “More Job Seekers, Fewer Jobs: Findings from Library Jobline, Year Three,” See at <http://www.lrs.org/news/2010/03/30/fast-facts-more-job-seekers-fewer-jobs/>.

The **Colorado Academic Library Consortium** presented the 2010 CALC Summit on May 20-21. The fourth Summit focused on ways that academic libraries can forge lasting, effective partnerships both within and outside their institutions.

The 41st annual **Colorado Interlibrary Loan Conference** was held April 29-30, in Estes Park. With the MPLA Library Leadership Institute happening at the same time in Estes Park, several Institute participants were able to visit the reception.

A radio spot recently aired on local program on Colorado Public Radio highlighting libraries roles as job centers, with examples from throughout public libraries. Included was an interview with Mary Stansbury of the University of Denver Library and Megan Kinney from the Denver Public Library.

Kansas

As a result of a friendly wager, **Donna Hobbs**, Coordinator of Library Services at Manhattan Area Technical College, climbed up an Electric Power Distribution pole. See the entire narrative and more photos on page 9 and also at MPLA Stories: <http://www.mpla.us/stories/index.html>



Donna Hobbs

The **Kansas Library Association** annual conference was held April 7- 9, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency/Century II Convention Center in Wichita. The two new officers announced following elections were Second Vice President **Mickey Coalwell**, who will continue to serve concurrently as the Kansas representative to MPLA, and **Cindi Hickey**, Secretary.



MPLA Display at Kansas Conference

Meals on Wheels (MOW) menus in March carried information on the reverse side – a **Johnson County Library** HomeConnect homebound service registration form, a listing of nutrition- and health-related books, and a reminder that these and other books could be delivered to MOW recipients at home. Cedar Roe Neighborhood Library Manager **Meredith Roberson** devised the bibliography and promotion.

Kansas has a new State Librarian, **Joanne (Jo) Budler**. For the past five years she served as the Ohio State Librarian. Previously, Budler was the deputy state librarian for the Library of Michigan and the director of Network Services and NEBASE, Nebraska's online computer library center network. She holds a master's degree in library science and a master's of fine arts in Writers' Workshop, both from the University of Iowa. Budler began her tenure as Kansas State Librarian on March 15, following confirmation by the Kansas Legislature.



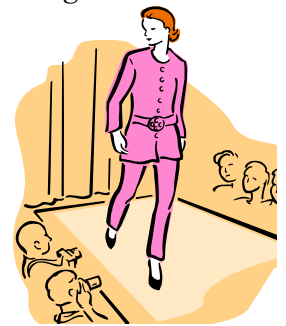
With a giant balloon dragon wafting overhead – almost the length of the library – the Fourth Annual **Asian Heritage Festival** at Johnson County Library Blue Valley Neighborhood Library hosted 1,829 people in five hours. Branch Manager **Robert Barr** notes that participating groups donate “easily” \$7,000 in food, supplies, and talent for the event, while the library's budget for it is just \$1,000. In that spirit, the balloon dragon was created on-site and donated by a local company called Up, Up, and Away.

Web Content Developer **Josh Neff**, Johnson County Library, has been named a 2010 “Mover & Shaker” by *Library Journal*, along with **Steve Lawson**, a librarian at **Colorado College, Colorado Springs**. They were recognized in the Change Agents category for starting the **Library Society of the World (LSW)**, an online social network that acts as an alternative library association. Neff is also a co-organizer of the now-annual Library Camp Kansas “unconference.”



Digital screens went live on March 15 in all 13 locations of the **Johnson County Library**. Continuous slide shows feature library-wide promotional priorities, established monthly by a Promotions Committee. Images and messages are synchronized with the library's Web site, www.jocolibrary.org, for a unified message to the public. The 13 digital screens were funded by the Friends of the Johnson County Library.

Inspired by poetry and children's literature, the Third Annual **Poetry in Motion: Runway & Rhymes** showcased 27 young ladies modeling 32 looks from seven teen designers and two local boutiques, alternating with five teen poets who presented their original works. Approximately 140 fans participated in the Saturday evening event at **Central Resource Johnson County Library**.



The **Kansas Library Trustee Certification Program** continued to flourish through the winter of 2009-2010. A large number of trustees completed their core skill credits and achieved certification. The use of board tutorials and viewings of the Wyoming Trustee Trouble videos have been very successful in

many libraries, especially in Southeast Kansas, where the program has been added to the criteria for system funding. Kansas now has 327 certified trustees.

Montana

The Treasure State Award winner for 2010 is *Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival* by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery. The Treasure State Award went to a picture book and is voted on by students in grades K-3. Established in 1990 by two Montana librarians, the award is intended to give younger readers a chance to participate in a forum similar to PNLA's Young Reader's Choice Award.

The **University of Montana's Mansfield Library** was the site of a Flashmob dance party during finals week. See MPLA member Megan Dazey's account on 7.

The **Lewis & Clark Library** in Helena celebrated the completed expansion of their Lincoln Branch with a ribbon cutting ceremony May 7. The expansion was necessary due to a lack of space for increased usage of the branch. "Attendance to programs at the Lincoln Branch has increased dramatically in recent years and the original facility was no longer large enough to accommodate everyone wishing to attend programs at the library," explained Lewis & Clark Library Director **Judy Hart**.

The **Montana Library Association** announced the 2010 award recipients at the recent conference in Bozeman. MPLA member **Alice Meister**, director of **Bozeman Public Library**, received the Sheila Cates Librarian of the Year, recognizing her tireless ambition in building the new LEED-certified library facility. MPLA member **Jane Howell**, director of **MSU-Billings Library** was honored with a lifetime membership to MLA, recognizing her energy and drive in inspiring people in many areas of Montana libraries. **Chrystie Smith**, Belgrade Library trustee, received the Trustee of the Year award for her dedicated service. **Eileen Johnson**, Lockwood Schools

Administrator, received the School Administrator of the Year for her ongoing efforts to provide support to three campus libraries. Finally, two Special Friend to Libraries Awards were given. **Doug Kramer** was recognized for his continuous support to the Three Forks Community Library, and **Dot Gallagher** for her contributions to the Stillwater County Library.

As part of National Library Week, Montana held a "Treasure Hunt for the Treasure State" scavenger hunt, using the online databases available through the state library. Questions were available on library websites as well as the state library page. Answers were submitted electronically, with four contest categories based on age groups.



Two iPods were given to winners in each of the middle school, high school and adult categories, and two pizza parties went to winning elementary classrooms.

Headwaters Library Association, a group of libraries and librarians in 3 southwestern Montana counties, will be learning about "Tech Gadgets in Libraries" at their meeting this month. Gadgets include the Wii, Skype and netbooks, flip cameras, geocaching and GPS. Librarians have the chance to play with new toys and visit with old friends at these fun and entertaining meetings.

Nebraska

After 14 months of renovation, the Library/Archives Reference Room at the Nebraska State Historical Society reopened on March 9 in Lincoln. Although the research room is slightly smaller, bathrooms are now closer. A new genealogist leaflet is available at www.nebraskahistory.org/lib-arch/flyer.pdf. A limited number of the collection's original records are available at www.nebraskahistory.org/oversite/research.htm.

Frosty (DeForest) Nesmith retired from the **Union College Library** in Lincoln on November 30, 2009 after 41 years and 5 months of service. He also reached his goal of running a marathon in every state. His 50th 26.2 mile run was in Anchorage, Alaska last August. Frosty and his wife Dorothy are now in South Korea teaching English for a six-month stint.



The long-awaited expansion of the **Lied Scottsbluff Public Library** is underway. The groundbreaking ceremony on February 23 was celebrated by city leaders, library staff, library trustees, Friends of the Library, Foundation members, and other supporters. Architectural sketches from Leo A. Daley can be seen at www.scottsbluff.org/lib/building.html.

Ann Stephens, Library Director at Keene Memorial Library in Fremont, retired on April 16. After 19 years, Ann leaves with strong support for the Library Board and the Friends of the Library. Planning for a major construction project is also well underway.

As Ann said, “Everybody thinks a library is just about books, but it’s not really, it’s about people

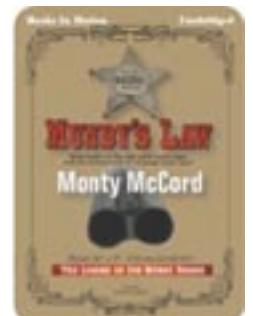


and getting people connected with what they need. I love that part of it.” She looks forward to spending more time with her husband and mother.

Omaha.net (<http://omaha.net>), a new online magazine, has taken a great interest in the **Omaha Public Library**. Select Public Library under Living in Omaha (left hand column) on the home page to find video interviews with **Gary Wasdin**, OPL’s new library director. Select the Benson Branch and W. Clarke Swanson Branch links to find video interviews with library managers **Theresa Jehlik** and **Manya Shorr**. MPLA member Theresa Jehlik is Nebraska’s representative to MPLA.

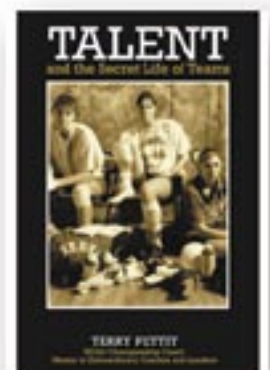
On March 1, MPLA member **Robin Bernstein** was promoted from Library Director to Senior Director of Library Services at **Bellevue University**. She now oversees the Learning Assessment Center as well as the library.

Since the 1950s, the Western Writers of America has given the Spur Award in western writing. A Spur Award winner and two finalists are named in each category. *Mundy’s Law* by Nebraska author Mike McCord was selected as a Finalist for Best Western Audio Book for 2010.



New Nebraska Library Directors include **Michelle Billups – Dalton Public Library; Liz Kupper – Arthur County Library; Allison Reisig – Morrill Public Library; Jan Sears – Kimball Public Library; and Sara Williams – College of St. Mary, Omaha**

The **Spring Colloquium 2010** on May 13 featured Terry Pettit, former coach of the University of Nebraska’s Women’s Volleyball Team. His presentation focused on collaborative leadership, creative problem solving, and leading with both sides of the brain. The topics are also the major themes in his recently released book, *Talent and the Secret Life of Teams*.



Nevada

The Nevada State Library and Archives recently presented a workshop on *What's It Worth to You? How to Do a Return on Investment Study for Your Library*, with Keith Curry Lance, independent consultant from Colorado.

Washoe County Library System added **Mango Languages** online language-learning system to its available free resources. Mango Languages currently offers 12 language courses — Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, French, German, Italian, Greek, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, ESL for Polish speakers, ESL for Spanish speakers, and ESL for Brazilian Portuguese speakers.

New Mexico

The legislature approved and the governor signed Senate Bill 1 which would provide \$7,000,000 for libraries, but the voters still have to approve the GO Bonds in November 2010. In 2006 they approved with 57% YES, but in 2008 the margin dropped to 52%. The campaign for the Go Bond for Libraries was launched at the NMLA meeting. For more information, check the PAC website at <http://www.bondsforlibraries.org/>

The **New Mexico Library Association** met April 7-10 at Ruidoso. The conference theme was Evolve, Enrich, Empower: Libraries Transform! At the NMLA Awards Banquet the following awards were given:

- The Outstanding School Library Award was given to **Camino Real Middle School** in Las Cruces where **Ruth Wallis** is the teacher librarian.
- **Carol Sarath**, Library Media Coordinator in the Gallup McKinley School District received the Community Achievement Award for outstanding library service or achievement at the local level. Carol, a former NMLA Board Member, served as co-chair of the NM Task Force for School Libraries for over six years and is an active member of the Library GO Bond

Steering Committee.

- **Betty Long** received the Honorary Life Membership Award for her long-term leadership and service to NMLA.

- **Joni Marie Gutierrez**, House Representative for District 33, Las Cruces/Dona Ana County received the Legislator of the Year Award which is given to a New Mexico state legislator who has demonstrated leadership in the advancement of libraries throughout the state. Representative Gutierrez is an on-going supporter of Library GO bond funding, and a co-sponsor of funding request for capital outlay for the **Thomas Branigan Public Library** in Las Cruces and microfilming projects of Durango and Zacatecas historical records at **NMSU Library Archives**.

- **Mike Andrews** received the New Mexico Library Amigo Award for his commitment to the Roswell Friends of the Library.

- **Jancie Kowemy** received the New Mexico Library Leadership Award for being the organizational force behind the native American Library Special Interest Group (NALSIG) and her service as an advocate and leader for the advancement of tribal libraries in New Mexico.



NMLA Award Winners

Hobbs Public Library, Moriarty Community Library, Ruidoso Public Library, and the Town of Bernalillo Martha Liebert Public Library have been selected as winners of the \$5000 grant from ALA for “The American Dream Starts @ Your Library” literacy initiative. The grant funds will be used by the libraries to build innovative literacy services for adult English language learners living and working in their

communities. The libraries will expand their print and digital literacy collections, offer classes and conversation clubs, develop mobile tech labs and reach out to immigrant organizations. The initiative is funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. Library Directors are MPLA member **Tammy Brawn** (Hobbs), **Tina Ortega** (Moriarty), **Beverly McFarland** (Ruidoso), and **Elizabeth Aguilar** (Bernalillo).

University of New Mexico Zimmerman Library has an exhibit in the Herzstein Latin American Reading Room on the second floor of the library through June 30, 2010. *SACRED STEPS: THE ROAD TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA* is a traveling exhibit from the Xacobeo Foundation in Galicia, Spain. The exhibit is sponsored by The Institute for Medieval Studies and the University Libraries and includes photographs and paintings that celebrate the experience of modern North American sojourners on the historic path to Santiago de Compostela. See <http://www.sacredstepsinspain.com/> for additional information on the exhibit.

The **Octavia Fellin Public Library** is hosting an exhibit, "100 Years of Navajo History Celebrating Crownpoint." The interactive exhibit explores Navajo history through displays and kiosks, film, paintings, photographs, rugs, and other art forms. The objectives for this exhibit are to preserve heritage by passing stories from elders to the new generation, reach children and young adults, and inspire community pride while providing cultural and historical education and supporting local economic development. **Mary Ellen Pellington**, Director of Octavia Fellin Public Library said, "University representatives contacted me and asked for the library's participation. Working with the Crownpoint Historical and Cultural Heritage Council and Highlands University to provide our community with this noteworthy exhibit has been a most rewarding experience and reflects what partnerships are all about." "100 Years of Navajo History Celebrating Crown-



point" is sponsored by New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Crownpoint Historical and Cultural Heritage Council, in conjunction with the Octavia Fellin Public Library. Navajo Technical College students made an authentic loom in support of this exhibit.

The **Aztec Public Library's** Digital Arts Program is providing Vista Nueva High School students with opportunities to learn digital arts in this rapidly growing field. The library's Digital Arts Program was implemented last year by Director



Leanne Hathcock.

Part of her vision for this program is to provide opportunities for everyone in the community to have equal and inexpensive access to state-of-the-art and industry-standard digital art software and computer equipment. While other public schools in the area have digital arts programs, the Vista Nueva High School cannot afford its own program. Vista Nueva students are presently learning skills in 3-D modeling and animation, and film editing. These fields are directly linked to the State of New Mexico Media Industry Strategy Project, or MISP, to bring a sustainable industry cluster to the state. The Library's Digital Arts Program is open to everyone. Members have access to about \$10,000 worth of software and equipment for film editing, 3D modeling and animation, digital sound editing and composing, web-page design, and much more. For more information, contact Jim Evilsizer, Library Technology Coordinator, at (505) 334-7695, or jevilsizer@aztecnm.gov.

New Mexico State University Library employee **Kristina Martinez** recently received the 2010 Carl Faubion Outstanding Library Staff Employee of the Year Award in a ceremony at Zuhl Library. Martinez, the Library's Development Officer, was honored for her accomplishments with the development program.

The Carl Faubion Award is presented annually to an exempt or non-exempt NMSU Library employee who exemplifies excellence in customer service, exceptional contributions to the library, innovation and creative thinking in problem solving, or contributions which have reduced operating costs or resulted in administrative efficiencies.

North Dakota

The **North Dakota State Library** training staff is offering classes in two locations for one graduate credit this summer. Classes will be in Bismarck at the Bismarck State College on June 14-15 and at Minot State University on June 16-17. Advanced Online Research will explore basic and advanced searching methods for the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN) catalog, and Online Library Resources. Credit is available for school library media specialists through Valley City State University. Recertification credit for Library Media Specialists must be taken from Valley City State University. Credit is available for teachers through Minot State University, the University of North Dakota, and North Dakota State University.

A new listing of North Dakota authors of illustrated children's books is available in the **READ ND** website at www.readnd.org. The list of the top 10 children's books covers a rich variety of topics, from traditional Native American stories to a story about the International Peace Garden. Read ND is dedicated to celebrating and promoting literature created in and about North Dakota.

Students at **Hankinson Elementary School** celebrated reading by honoring their Accelerated Read-

ers in style. For the first time the school had 100% participation and every student met or surpassed their AR goal. The students put on their party dresses and shirts and ties and attended an Oscar ceremony held



at the school. As the lights dimmed and the emcee announced each student as they approached the podium, the students at Hankinson Elementary celebrated their accomplishments by receiving an Oscar trophy with their name on it.

The dream of a new, larger library is quickly becoming a reality in **Carrington**. Work is scheduled to finish up by the end of April. Librarian **Lenore Franchuk** said the drywall is up and the windows are cut out for the office and computer lab. Painting by volunteers and new flooring is next on the agenda. The new computer lab was made possible by a grant from the **North Dakota State Library** which will help the Carrington City library purchase up to ten new computers. The new lab will offer patrons a quieter place to use the computers than the old library had to offer.

Horizon Middle School in Bismarck has created a laptop café in their library. Library staff and students volunteers have created space for 31 computers, a laptop cart of 16 refurbished computers and 18 oak barstools.

Oklahoma

Basha Hartley, MPLA Oklahoma's representative writes: "The state of Oklahoma is experiencing the double whammy of economic downturn coupled with income tax cuts. Our state budget projected shortfall is 1.2 billion, which puts us this year as the state with the highest shortfall, percentage-wise. Although our state has traditionally seen higher revenues from natural gas and petroleum, these revenues

cannot offset the loss of income from the erosion of tax revenues. **The Oklahoma Department of Libraries** has valiantly struggled to survive to current fiscal crisis. Over the last decade, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries has not been able to fill positions because of budget constraints and continues to cut wherever possible. However, if the Department of Libraries is cut any further, there is a good possibility they can no longer meet the requirements for federal matching grants that benefit libraries all over the state. In addition, there are several bills pending that allow school districts to be exempt from certain state standards. Most of these bills remove the school library mandates so that schools would not be required to have certified school librarians, library staffing based on school enrollment, nor a library budget for materials. In addition, schools would not be required to meet class size or buy textbooks. Several Mountain Plains Library Association member states have been struggling with similar issues and have seen drastic cuts to library services. Perhaps MPLA is more important than ever as we all compare notes on ways to bring needed library services to our customers in this fiscal climate.”



Five libraries participating in the **Oklahoma Department of Libraries** Model Library Websites Program have launched new websites recently. Unveiling a new online presence are: **Anadarko Community Library, Miami Public Library, Newkirk Public Library, Vinita Public Library** and **Beaver County Pioneer Library**.

The Oklahoma Oral History Research Program at the **Oklahoma State University Library** remembers the life and work of Wilma Mankiller, first woman Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Thanks to Special Collections and University Archives at the OSU Library the 1989 lecture Mankiller delivered as part of the Angie Debo Native American Lecture Series

held on the campus of Oklahoma State University was uncovered. The [lecture transcript](#) and [audio](#) is available online.

South Dakota

The 13,450 votes cast by student readers in the 2010 **South Dakota Prairie Bud** and **Prairie Pasque Book Award Contest** topped the 2009 total by nearly 2000 votes. Eighty-four voting surveys were submitted this year, also an increase over 2009. 8962 Prairie Bud votes were cast by students in grades K-2; 4488

students in grades 3-5 voted for their favorite Prairie Pasque title. Sponsored by the **South Dakota Library**



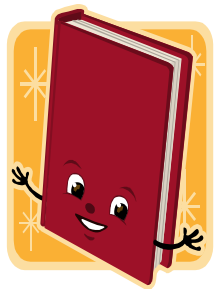
Association, the contest features two lists of 15 nominated titles: the Prairie Bud list is intended for students in grades K-2; Prairie Pasque is for students in 3-5 grades. To qualify to vote, students are to read

at least five books from the list of 15 nominees for their grade level and then vote for their favorite. The



book receiving the most votes on each list receives the award. This year *The Fabulous Bouncing Chowder*, written and illustrated by Peter Brown is the winner of the 2010 Prairie Bud Award. *How to Steal a Dog*, by Barbara O'Connor received the most votes to win the Prairie Pasque Award for 2010. The *Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick was a close second or the Prairie Pasque Award, just four votes behind the winner.

The **South Dakota Teen Choice Book Awards** is sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association, the contest features two lists of fifteen nominated titles for middle school and high school grades. To qualify to vote, students read books from the list and give it a star rating of 1 to 4, 4 being best. The book receiving the most stars on each list receives the award. This year's winner



in the middle school category is *Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems* by John Grandits and in the high school category is *Thirteen Reason Why* by Jay Asher.

The **Hot Springs Public Library** is offering French lessons. They have a native speaker who recently retired to the community who offered to teach the class. They have a strong class going with little effort on the staff's part.

South Dakota State Library staff are wrapping up their most recent "challenge." Though librarians know that subscription electronic resources provide valuable information to library patrons and staff, they often lack confidence in using and promoting them with their patrons. Shrinking training and travel budgets and limited staff time make electronic resources training difficult to accomplish. The South Dakota State Library Challenge: Electronic Resources Edition allowed librarians throughout the state to participate in training when it was convenient for them without requiring travel or registration fees. Based on the 23 Things model and created on a shoestring, this challenge utilized vendor training materials as well as materials already created by the South Dakota State Library staff. The Challenge introduced library staff to one subscription electronic resource each week, increasing their knowledge, inviting their exploration, and improving their confidence. Originally launched on February 1, 2010, the 10 week challenge will be offered to South Dakota librarians and educators again this summer.

The **Rapid City Public Library** began to initiate Drop-In Programs at their Downtown location. For their Drop-In Programs they invite outside organiza-

tions to man a small booth in their lobby to talk to patrons about the organization's specific missions/ goals and objectives. It has provided a fun and interactive way of encouraging community partners to engage and converse with their patrons. They have had several programs to date including author Dr. Kevin Weiland to discuss his new book "The Dakota Diet" and bring in some samples, Black Hills Parrot Welfare Center, the Museum of Geology and a weaving demonstration by local weaver Rita Nauman. Rapid City Public Library also uses the opportunity to increase their customer service by having one of their "Mobile Reference Roamers" set up a small station daily in the lobby to help promote the library services that they feel strongly about. Overall, the reaction has been extremely positive and the library has been able to bring many of their online resources onto the front stage.

Don't tell **JoAnn Gemar**, the Director of the **Scotland Community Library** that your library is too small to offer story time on a regular basis. She serves a community of 900 and has a story time for pre-school children every Friday morning. She invites a guest reader from the community each week and has found the program to be a great success with from 18-24 children and 4-5 adults attending each week.



The **Grant County Library** moved to the Auto-Graphics Agent Verso platform. Grant County Library was established in 1979 and since 1989 has used the Winnebago Spectrum system. The library serves the community of Milbank and the surrounding Grant County.

The **Watertown Regional Library** is gearing up for a busy summer. Planning for summer reading is back in full swing now that their children's librarian is back to work after triple bypass surgery. New programs are being planned for the adults in the county. A lot of planning is going into the programs that will be associated with the hosting of the John Adams Unbound Exhibit that will arrive in late August. John Adams Unbound has been organized by the Boston Public Library and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. It has been made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: great ideas brought to life.



The Watertown Regional Library staff are proud that they were one of twenty libraries in the country to be chosen to host the exhibit.

Utah

Dorothy Horan, Utah's representative to MPLA reports that the **Utah Library Association** has been busy under the direction of President Ruby Cheesman. Some of the Utah Library Association actions and activities that have taken place were: The ULA 2010 Conference Committee has been busy planning the conference. It will take place May 12-14, 2010 at the Dixie Center in St. George, Utah. The theme is "Come together... for Utah Libraries". The conference hotel has been sold out and additional nearby hotels are offering discounts to attendees. Pre-conferences will be offered on Wednesday, with two full days of programs on Thursday and Friday. The Program Board has selected programs for pre-conferences, speakers, presentations, and poster sessions. The keynote

speaker will be ALA president, Camila Alire, who will also be presenting a pre-conference workshop about bilingual services. The film "Hollywood Librarian", which was shown at ALA a few years ago will be shown as part of this year's Presidents' Reception. Mystery author Rosemary Harris will speak at one of the luncheons. Registration for conference has begun. Meals will be included with registration for the conference. The website has been updated with program details, registration fees, and hotel rates and details. It is accessible through the ULA website: www.ula.org. An election was held and new officers were elected. The results will be announced at a later time. These officers' terms begin with the end of the 2010 ULA Conference.

ULA President-Elect **Andy Spackman** wrote an opinion column that appears in *American Libraries* entitled "Our Conservative Ideals". Andy is the Business and Economics Librarian at Brigham Young University. Link to the online version: <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/columns/my-mind/our-conservative-ideals>.

The **BYU Howard W. Hunter Law Library** has been ranked the 25th best law library by *National Jurist Magazine*.

The Special Collections division of the **Merrill-Cazier Library** is creating a collection entitled The Latino/a Voices Project, a gathering of oral histories to preserve the Latino history and heritage of Logan. The project received a Human Ties Award in 2009. The Spanish-language interviews will be translated into English.

Conservative radio host Sean Hannity made the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival which is held annually in Orem, Utah number five on his list entitled: The 102 worst ways the government is spending your tax dollars. There was a considerable backlash in the press.

A victim of the economy is the radio service for the blind that has been offered by the **Utah State Library** and radio station KCPW.

Wyoming

The **Teton County Library** invited kids in Kindergarten-5th Grade to let loose their imaginations and design eye-catching, original LEGO structures for a Library display and contest. The award party recognized all the LEGO display contestants with awards given in categories both silly and serious. LEGO creations were on display at the library through mid-May.

Troy Rumpf, Manager, Community & Media Relations, left her position with the Laramie County Library to become Communications Director for CLIMB Wyoming.

Poet and author B.J. Buckley presented several workshops at the **Sheridan County Story Library** during National Library Week.

The Wyoming Press Association and Wyoming Coalition for Open Government offered a free, public workshop at the **Teton County Library** to explain how state laws guarantee public oversight of state government. Wyoming Press Association Director Jim Angell delved into the Wyoming Open Meetings and Public Documents acts. The event was sponsored by the Wyoming Humanities Council, Teton County Library Foundation, *Jackson Hole News & Guide*, *JH Weekly*, Wyoming Press Association and Wyoming Coalition for Open Government. Angell's Jackson visit was one of five stops in a week-long tour to mark "Sunshine Week," an annual event promoted by open government advocates across the country.

The **Natrona County Public Library** was first opened May 20, 1910. As of May 1 many patrons, public officials, local and national authors have already joined in the celebration of the library's first century of service. NCPL sponsored a "Read 100" program beginning in March, which encouraged patrons of all ages to read either 100 books or 100 chapters, alone or in a group. Several schools and individual classrooms participated in the program, as did families, workplace

groups and many individuals. Prizes included a centennial-edition library card earned by each participant, and a grand-prize basket filled with 100 items, keeping with the centennial theme. In preparation for the centennial, library staff spent several months contacting favorite authors, soliciting their comments about the value of libraries. The result is a "100 Authors" display, showcasing authors who responded



with "Happy Anniversary" wishes, stories of remembered visits to hometown libraries, and signed photos. Centennial events during the month of May kicked off with a children's birthday party featuring special guests Clifford and Hank-the-Cowdog.



Several authors visited the library, including local favorites Craig Johnson, C.J. Box, popular children's author John Erickson, and Walter Jones, author of a history book about the Natrona County Public Library. The final event on May 20 featured an Edible Book fest, singing by the Yellowstone Harmony Chorus, a Cake-Cutting Ceremony, and Walter Jones as keynote speaker.

The **Campbell County Public Library System** is selling a cookbook called *Novel Cuisine*. Area residents, a few local celebrities, and authors and speakers who have visited Campbell County libraries contributed to the collection of recipes. The book is now on sale at libraries in Gillette and Wright for \$15. Proceeds will benefit The Library Foundation's Wyoming Public Library Endowment Challenge.

The **Laramie County Library System** is sponsoring People's Law School in May. Co-sponsored by the Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association and led by Dean Lori Brand, the six sessions over three weeks provide participants with real-life insight into the legal system, with judges and lawyers presenting topics for discussion with plenty of time for questions from participants. Law school in just three weeks!



CSQR

Professional Development Grant Deadlines 2010

June 2
August 4
October 6
December 1

For mini-grants (up to \$150) Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past full calendar year.

For regular grants (up to \$600) Applicant must be a current member of MPLA and must have been a member for the past two calendar years (total of three consecutive years).

For additional eligibility and application requirements

see <http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grants.html>

State & National Conferences 2010

- ALA Annual Conference
June 24–30, Washington, DC
- South Dakota Library Association Conference
September 22–24, Sioux Falls SD
- Wyoming Library Association Conference
September 29 -October 2, Casper WY
- North Dakota Library Association Conference
September 29–Oct 2, Grand Forks, ND
- Nevada Library Association Conference
October 6–9, Henderson, NV
- Colorado Association of Libraries Conference
October 7–9, Loveland CO
- Nebraska Library Association Conference
October 13–15, Grand Island, NE
- Association for Rural and Small Libraries
October 14–16, Denver CO
- Arizona Library Association Conference
November 15 -17, Fountain Hills, AZ

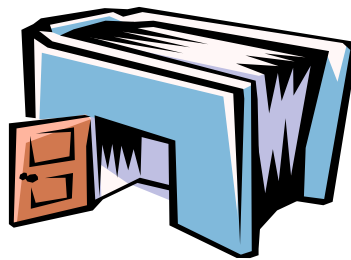
2011

- ALA Midwinter Meeting
Jan. 7–12, San Diego, CA
- Kansas Library Association
April 6 - 8, Capitol Plaza Hotel
Kansas Expocentre Topeka, KS
- MLA/MPLA Joint Conference
April 6–9, Billings, MT
- New Mexico Library Association Conference
April 27–29
- ALA 2011 Annual Conference
June 23–29, 2011; New Orleans, LA
- South Dakota Library Association Conference
October 5–7, 2011 - Spearfish
- Colorado Association of Libraries Conference
October 13–15

2012

- Nebraska Library Association–Mountain Plains
Library Association Joint Conference
Fall - Omaha

Welcome New MPLA Members



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State College of Colorado Leslie J.
Savage Library; Gunnison, CO

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School of Mines Arthur Lakes
Library; Longmont, CO

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County Library; Shawnee Mission

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AFB Library; McConnell AFB, KS

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University Axe Library; Pittsburg, KS

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Hutchinson, KS

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County Library; Broken Arrow, OK

Brandon Oberg
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ern State University John Vaughan
Library; Tahlequah, OK

Charla Aucone
Librarian, Metropolitan Library As-
sociation; Oklahoma City, OK

Dawn Washington
Librarian, Seiling Public Library
Seiling, OK

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Angie Lynn Wixon
Periodicals/Acquisitions Associ-
ate, University of Sioux Falls Mears
Library; Brandon, SD

◆◆ Opportunities Here and There ◆◆

Registration Now Open for Reference Renaissance 2010

Reference Renaissance 2010: Inventing the Future is now open for registration. The conference will be held August 9-10 in Denver, Colorado and is presented by BCR and LYRASIS. Reference Renaissance 2010: Inventing the Future will explore all aspects of reference service and will bring together reference practitioners and scholars to explore the evolving nature of reference.

The event is co-chaired by Marie Radford and Rivkah Sass, and will feature presentations and a plenary panel by leading reference innovators. This year's keynote speaker is Andrew Walsh, Academic Librarian at the University of Huddersfield, UK, who will discuss using QR codes to deliver reference help to mobile phone users at their point of need. Plenary panelists will be Stephen J. Bell of Temple University, Wayne Bivens-Tatum of Princeton University, Jean Costello ([the Radical Patron](#)), and Rivkah Sass (Library Journal's 2006 Librarian of the Year).

Early bird registration is now available through 7/1/2010 for \$250. Standard registration (after 7/1/2010) is \$275. Registration includes all sessions on both days (including the keynote and plenaries), access to exhibits, as well as breakfast and lunch on both days. A special hotel rate of \$89 (+tax) per night is available for reservations made before July 16. For more information about the hotel and travel, visit [the website](#).

Marie Radford, co-editor of the recently published proceedings from the 2008 conference, Reference Renaissance: Current and Future Trends, will edit the 2010 conference proceedings. Anyone who presents a paper or a report from the field at the 2010 conference may submit their material to her for possible inclusion in the 2010 proceedings.



Webcasts of 2010 WebWise Conference Now Available

Anyone who missed the 2010 WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World, held March 3-5 in Denver, Colorado, can now go online to [watch sessions on leading edge digital technologies](#) that libraries and museums use to share their collections and engage the public.

The webcasts focus on the sustainability of digital content, engaging users, new tools and services, essential skills for practitioners, and funding. The captioned videos also feature a pre-conference session on school libraries and 21st century skills and a thought-provoking dialogue between Howard Besser, professor of cinema studies and director of New York University's Moving Image Archiving & Preservation Program, and Susan Chun, a museum technology consultant.

Also available online are interviews with leaders in [cultural heritage digitization](#) such as Joyce Ray, IMLS associate deputy director for libraries and principal organizer of the annual WebWise conference. The "Digital Pioneers" project was launched by the University of Denver's Penrose Library and Morgridge College of Education's Library and Information Science.

Full-text papers of many of the presentations will be available in the summer at the online journal [First Monday](#).

WebWise 2010: Imagining the Digital Future was sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur and Morgridge Family Foundations. The University of Denver, the Denver Art Museum, and BCR, a multi-state library collaborative, cohosted the event.



◆◆ More Opportunities Here and There ◆◆



Association of Jewish Libraries Conference

The Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) will hold its 45th annual convention at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel in downtown Seattle July 4-7, 2010.

AJL's 8-week Convention Countdown begins the second week of May, with a new convention-related interview on the AJL blog every Tuesday. We'll have exciting interviews with some of our presenters, convention planners, and Seattle icons like Nancy Pearl and Joseph Janes!

Watch jewishlibraries.org/blog starting on May 11 for the Convention Countdown!



3rd Annual Upper Midwest CONTENTdm User Group Meeting

Based on feedback from CONTENTdm users in the region, the entire user group meeting will be **online**, and staff will be able to attend from their computer. Dates are **Nov. 8-9, 2010**



WOW! Thanks! Customer Service in a Technology Driven World

WHEN

June 23, 2010 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm in

WHERE

UND School of Medicine Building:
501 N Columbia Rd: Room 5520

This professional instruction seminar on providing health care information will focus on delivery of telephone and email reference service. The workshop will provide training on how to increase customers' satisfaction with online reference and information services. Special emphasis will be given to information professionals who work with remotely located customers. Topics discussed will include: email and voice etiquette; response time; organization of information to be delivered; matching the information retrieved to the client's initial request; applying emotional intelligence to difficult situations; and embracing the information service profession with energy and enthusiasm.

Chris Thompson, Group Manager at Microsoft will present this seminar. Customer satisfaction is one of the key metrics that she is responsible for within this group which consists of 90 engineering resources located in Charlotte, Dallas, Seattle and Fargo. The seminar is a joint project of the Rural Assistance Center (RAC) Health Workforce Information Center (HWIC) and the Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences.

To register, contact Kathy Spencer at kspencer@medicine.nodak.edu or 701-777-6029, June 18th. There are no fees for this seminar but registration is required. Lunch is on your own.



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March 1	September 1
May 1	November 1

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DUES SCHEDULE

(Membership is for calendar year)

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_____ \$30,000 - \$49,999 - \$55; _____ over \$50,000 - \$65

RETIREE _____ \$15/yr. **STUDENT** _____ \$15/yr. **TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP** _____ \$15/yr.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP - For Libraries, Business Firms, and other Institutions supporting the Association. Institutional members receive FREE advertising for job openings in the newsletter! Membership fee is based on total annual budget

_____ Under \$100,000	\$50/yr	_____ \$300,000-499,999	\$100/yr
_____ \$100,000-\$299,999	\$75/yr	_____ \$500,000- up	\$125/yr

Name _____ New _____

Position/Title _____ Renewal _____

Institution _____

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I am interested in serving on the following committee(s) ___ Awards ___ Communications
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___ I am willing to be nominated for an MPLA office

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