

Big Horizons



Close Community

Newsletter

April-May 2012

www.mpla.us

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2012 Leadership Institute Participants

Congratulations to the thirty participants have been chosen for the 2012 MPLA Leadership Institute, May 6-11 at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO! Participants are:

Arizona

Daphne Gill
Ella Gomez

Colorado

Victoria Boone
Michael Cox
Kristin Johnson
Rose Nelson
Tiffanie Wick

Kansas

Tram Nguyen
Eric Norris
Scotty Zollars

Montana

Kirsten Bryson

Nebraska

Deborah Aden
Gayle Roberts

Nevada

Arlene Caruso
John Crockett

New Mexico

Katharine Garduño
Rebecca Lubas

North Dakota

Amber Emery
Tina Grenier
Carrie Scarr

Oklahoma

Gloria Farmer
Jennifer McQuade

South Dakota

Linda Kott
Danielle De Jager-Loftus
Kathleen Jacobs

Utah

Stephanie Bertin
Lori Brassaw
Holly Cole Okuhara

Wyoming

Lori Clark-Erickson
Sara Francis



*See photos on
pages 4-5*

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

President's Message



Thank you to all of our members for joining and renewing your MPLA membership - you've made a terrific investment! Sending in your membership form is just the beginning. Now it's time to get active. Here are a few words of encouragement from leaders in the profession:

Robert Banks, Chief Operating Officer of Topeka & Shawnee County Pub Library and the Kansas Chapter Councilor for the Kansas Library Association (KLA) and ALA is a strong champion for getting involved. "I believe that you get out of an association what you put into it. I've been active in the Kansas Library Association, Mountain Plains Library Association and the American Library Association. Each association has provided me with opportunities to practice leadership skills and to learn from my colleagues. Committee work at the state level, board and presidency in MPLA and ALA committees and a seat on Council have increased my leadership skills. I have recently been elected to the Executive Board of ALA because of the considerable experience I've gained from my work in my professional associations. Active participation in my associations has groomed me to obtain positions that allow me to give back to the association and to pass along that experience to my colleagues."

Mickey Coalwell, Library Development Consultant for the Northeast Kansas Library System, says there are a number of benefits to getting involved. "First, you get to know how people work. Anyone who wants to be a leader has to have a firm grasp of people dynamics. Library associations are laboratories of human interaction. You have to listen, persuade, step up, back down, speak out, and rein in. Second, you get to know yourself better. Sometimes you are asked to do things way out of your comfort zone, and find yourself challenged to see things with new eyes. Those are skills that help you develop as a person. And finally, others get to know you. Being part of a library association gives you the visibility and name recognition that can open doors into professional, social, and personal opportunity."

Wayne Hanway, Executive Director of the Southeastern Public Library System of Oklahoma says, "Being involved in MPLA gave me insights into the different ways that state library associations operate that was a big help to me when I was President of the Oklahoma Library Association. That experience, in turn, was a huge help to me when I served as President of MPLA."

Robin Clark, Director of the Sump Memorial Library in Nebraska, says "joining an association can lead to friendships and connections that can last throughout your career." She still remembers her first encounter with MPLA over ten years ago. A colleague she had just met invited her to the President's reception and Robin was surprised by the warmth and friendliness she encountered. "Everyone was so welcoming and I felt right at ease. Many of the people I met at that first event are people I have continued to connect with for many years. When I moved to Kansas to take a new job, it was great knowing I had MPLA friends in the area who could help introduce me to the library community. Being part of an association has given me the professional confidence to take on new challenges at work."

Dan Chaney, Social Sciences Librarian at the Oklahoma State University, also agrees that building your connections to other members doesn't always have to be all about work. He says "I have always found a hidden resource to be the friends I make and the time we spend having dinner, socializing, etc., to be the most rewarding. It's at these times that I realize that none of us are alone. We all have the same sorts of problems and there is a

certain esprit de corps in sharing our experiences with one another and learning strategies for coping with these common concerns.”

Brenda Hemmelman, Research & Government Information Librarian for the South Dakota State Library, says the support she’s had for continuing education has helped her reach her professional goals. “I’ve had more than one opportunity over the years to apply for and receive an MPLA professional development grant. These grants have allowed me to attend conferences that I would not normally be able to afford on my own. In addition, being involved in a multi-state library association encourages one to attend the conferences, which not only have loads of professional development opportunities, but also wonderful networking opportunities.”

Elvita Landau, Director of the Brookings Public Library, finds real advantages in job recruitment. “When interviewing for an assistant director recently, one applicant worked at a library whose director was someone I knew from my MPLA experience. I had no problem giving him a call and discussing the pros and cons of this candidate. That candidate could also have done the same by inquiring with her director to see if my library would be one she would like to join.”

Denise Keller, former AzLA President and County Librarian for the Pinal County Library District found great value in her experience. “As AzLA President I learned the importance of balancing competing interests, to consider alternative viewpoints, and take decisive action when necessary.”



Not sure where to begin...you can start small by friending MPLA on Facebook or joining the MPLA Group on LinkedIn. Next, volunteer to help with an MPLA project or nominate a deserving colleague for an MPLA award. Then, join a committee, sign up for the annual conference, run for office. To quote Dr. Seuss, “Oh the places you’ll go! Today is your day. You’re off to Great Places! You’re off and away!”

---*Dana*

BACK TO THE BASICS:



BUILDING
THE
FUTURE

MPLA/NLA/NEMA

TRI-CONFERENCE OCTOBER 17-19, 2012

MPLA 2012 Leadership Institute Participants



Deborah Aden, Reference Desk Assistant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Love Library, Lincoln NE



Arlene Caruso, Assistant Branch Manager / Head of Adult Services, Paseo Verde Library - Henderson Libraries; Henderson NV



Amber Emery, Children's Service Coordinator, Fargo Public Library, Fargo ND



Stephanie Bertin, Senior Librarian, Teen Services, Salt Lake County Library Services, Kearns Library, Kearns UT



Lori Clark-Erickson, Teacher Librarian, Jackson Hole High School, Jackson WY



Gloria Farmer, Technical Services Manager, Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, Muskogee OK



Victoria Boone, Librarian, High Plains Library District Centennial Park Library, Greeley CO



Michael Cox, Youth Services Supervisor, Pueblo City-County Library District, Pueblo CO



Sara Francis, Outreach Librarian, Wyoming State Library, Cheyenne, WY



Lori Brassaw, Library Director, Utah State University - College of Eastern Utah Library, Price UT



John Crockett, Internet Services Librarian, Washoe County Library System, Reno NV



Katharine Garduño, Librarian, Circulation, Los Alamos County Library System, Mesa Library; Los Alamos NM



Kirsten Bryson, Librarian, Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology Weaver Library, Great Falls MT



Danielle De Jager-Loftus, Assistant Professor, Technology/Fine Arts Librarian, University of South Dakota Libraries, Vermillion, SD



Daphne Gill, Senior Library Supervisor, Arizona State University Noble Science & Engineering Library, Tempe AZ

MPLA 2012 Leadership Institute Participants



Ella Gomez,
Youth Services
Librarian, Pima
County Public
Library, Tucson
AZ



Rebecca Lubas,
Director, Cata-
loging & Discov-
ery Services, Uni-
versity of New
Mexico, Albu-
querque NM



**Holly Cole
Okuhara,** Profes-
sional Business
Manager, Weber
County Library
System, North
Branch, Ogden
UT



Tina Grenier,
Librarian, Head
of Collection
Management,
North Dakota
State College of
Science Wahpe-
ton ND



**Jennifer Mc-
Quade,** Youth
Librarian, Tulsa
City-County Li-
brary, Owasso
Branch, Owasso
OK



Gayle Roberts,
Library Director,
Blair Public Li-
brary, Blair NE



Kathleen Jacobs,
Library Director,
Yankton Com-
munity Library,
Yankton SD



Rose Nelson,
Systems Librar-
ian, Colorado
Alliance of Re-
search Libraries,
Denver CO



Carrie Scarr,
Assistant Direc-
tor, West Fargo
Public Library,
West Fargo, ND



Kristin Johnson,
AskColorado/
AskAcademic
Coordinator, Col-
orado State Li-
brary, Denver CO



Tram Nguyen,
Technology
Services Coord-
inator, South
Central Kansas
Library System,
South Hutchi-
son KS



Tiffanie Wick,
Public Ser-
vices Librar-
ian - Western
State College of
Colorado, Gun-
nison CO



Linda Kott, In-
formation Ser-
vices Librarian,
South Dakota
State University
Brookings SD



Eric Norris,
Director, Hays
Public Library,
Hays KS



Scotty Zollars,
Director of Li-
brary Services,
Labette Com-
munity College,
Parsons KS

MPLA Membership Rally Winners

John Eye's name was drawn from all renewing and new members. His library, Southern Utah University Gerald R. Sherratt Library, wins a pizza party for staff, funded by BWI. John is Dean of Library Services at the library in Cedar City Utah and John attended the 2010 MPLA Leadership Institute. Plans are underway for the party. The winning state in the Rally was South Dakota.



From a drawing of all renewing and new members in South Dakota **Joyce Moore** was chosen to receive a free conference registration to the NLA-NEMA-MPLA Tri-Conference in Nebraska, October 17-19. Joyce has been the Youth Services Librarian at Vermillion Public Library in Vermillion for the past six years. She is a SWIM scholarship recipient and will earn my MLIS from the University of North Texas this August. She says work has just started on an expansion and renovation project at the library, with her department looking forward to an additional space in the children's area and a new YA room.

Mike Mullin, South Dakota MPLA representative wins kudos and thanks for his recruitment efforts resulting in the most state renewals and new members.



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Thanks to a generous donation from BWI, for each NEW "Like" on the MPLA Facebook Page, \$1 will go towards MPLA Professional Development Grants.

Help us reach our goal of 1000 Likes by sharing this with your friends and library supporters!

Program runs through April 1, 2012



Book Review: True Stories of Censorship Battles in America's Libraries Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco

Edited by Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco

True Stories
of **Censorship**
Battles in
America's
Libraries



By *Wayne Hanway, Executive Director, Southeastern Public Library System of Oklahoma*

I just finished reading the new book "True Stories of Censorship Battles in America's Libraries" by MPLA members Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco, and I have to say that, from a working public librarian's standpoint, it is the best book on intellectual freedom and challenges to library materials that I have read in years. The book starts off in the best possible way, with a dynamite foreword by Ellen Hopkins, including her poem, "Manifesto." There are more than thirty accounts, mostly from working librarians, of censorship threatened, experienced, and, sometimes, repelled. If you think librarians aren't guilty of self-censorship, just read the first several chapters.

One thing about censorship that the book makes clear is that most censorship battles are not epic, highly public and vitriolic confrontations. Those confrontations are important, and the book gives them due attention, but the majority are barely noticed. When a librarian decides against ordering a book because it might upset someone, when a staff member quiets an angry parent by listening sympathetically to their concerns about inappropriate influences on their children's moral and ethical development, or when a librarian moves a rather mature book from the children's collection to the teen collection and avoids a formal complaint, these are the mostly hidden small battles or skirmishes that collectively determine whether the war will be won or lost.

Any librarian who reads Nye and Barco's book will have a new appreciation for what other librarians have gone through in order to make books that matter available to readers for whom they will make a difference.

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University of Arizona
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BACK TO THE BASICS:



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MPLA/NLA/NEMA

TRI-CONFERENCE OCTOBER 17-19, 2012

MPLA/NLA/NEMA Tri-Conference October 17-19, La Vista, Nebraska

The conference program committee is proud to announce that **Dr. Tom Osborne** will be keynote speaker at the MPLA/NLA/NEMA Triconference. Dr. Osborne is the former head football coach of the University of Nebraska as well as a former member of Congress, serving six years in the US House of Representatives. He is currently the Athletic Director at the University of Nebraska.

Dr. Osborne, along with his wife Nancy, is also the founder of the TeamMates Mentoring Program, to provide support and encouragement to school aged youth. The goal of the program is to see youth graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education by working with a community mentor. The TeamMates Mentoring Program currently provides a mentor for over 5,000 youth across Nebraska, Iowa, and California

The MPLA/NLA/NEMA Triconference website is up -- <http://nebraskalibraries.org/triconference2012> and accepting program proposals. April 30 is the deadline for submitting program proposals. The deadline for acceptance notification is May 15th. Registration will open in mid-April.



MPLA to discontinue mpla-l list



Check us out on LinkedIn Facebook & Twitter

Message from President Dana Braccia:

Dear MPLA Listserv members,

In order to streamline our processes and improve timely communication, we will be shifting our member dialogue areas over to:

MPLA Facebook page:

[facebook.com/MPLALibraries](https://www.facebook.com/MPLALibraries)

and

LinkedIn Mountain Plains Library Association group: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Mountain-Plains-Library-Association-3041358?gid=3041358&trk=hb_side_g

Information regarding job announcements etc. can be found on the MPLA website:

<http://www.mpla.us/jobline/index.html>

We encourage you to join us on the website, Facebook and LinkedIn before June 1st to ensure you have access to the most current MPLA discussions. If you have any questions about how to transition, please contact execsecretary@mpla.us.



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MPLA Committees

Want to get more involved with MPLA? Gain new professional skills? Make new friends from faraway places? If so, then joining an MPLA committee is for you! Please contact Vice-President/President-Elect JaNae Kinikin if interested: JKINIKIN@weber.edu. Not a member of MPLA yet? Join today – <http://www.mpla.us/forms/membership.html>

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

This committee is the voice of MPLA. Committee members will be actively involved in all forms of communication including Facebook, Twitter, Blogging, snail mail and good old fashioned phone calls.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

This committee brings excellence to light within MPLA. Committee members will be proactively seeking out our shining stars throughout the year in preparation for the annual awards. Committee members will stay in the know of latest hot projects and dynamic people in the field.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee helps to build and strengthen MPLA's diverse and vibrant membership base. Committee members will be actively involved in the recruitment and retention of members as well as working closely with the other committees to ensure the association is meeting member needs.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

This committee provides the foundation for MPLA's Mission to further the professional and personal development of its members. This committee helps our members cut through the tsunami of information about available programs and will be recommending the absolute best training opportunities each month to our membership. They'll also be administering the MPLA grants and facilitating discussions on new industry trends.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COMMITTEE

This committee supports a key cornerstone of MPLA. The prestigious Leadership Institute was developed by MPLA to help develop industry leaders in the library profession. The Institute occurs every other year and the next one will be April 2012 at Estes Park, Colorado. Committee members will be actively involved in all aspects of coordinating this very exciting event.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This committee provides the behind-the-scenes groundwork in the selection of candidates who are potential future leaders of the organization. The committee is made up with one member from each member state.

Guest Column

A Profile of Lucy Bouldin

by *Ellen Focker, MPLA Nevada Representative*

The little town of Virginia City, Nevada, perched high in the mountains at the top of Geiger Grade, was the site of the Comstock Lode, where the discovery of silver in 1859 started a mining boom that financed much of San Francisco. While it once boasted a population of 15,000, the little town is now home to about 850 people. Virginia City has one elementary school, one middle school, one high school, and... of course.. the Storey County library. Once upon a time, Virginia City had a newly-minted reporter for the Territorial Enterprise named Samuel Clemens, who eventually called himself Mark Twain. Now, Virginia City has Lucy Bouldin.

When Lucy became the Library Director for the Storey County Public Library in 1986, she had already completed one career. Lucy graduated with a bachelor's degree in Vocal Music Education from Virginia State University, and taught music in public schools for nearly thirty years before retiring in 1985. Lucy brings music and laughter to the library and to Virginia City, where she's known for her humor, her intelligence, her outrage at injustice of any kind, and her no-nonsense approach. Even after more than twenty-five years in her second career as a librarian, Lucy continues to listen and learn, attending conferences and participating in workshops whenever she can get away. For many years, she's been an active member of the Nevada Library Association, and in October 2011, she was given a special award for "bringing culture to NLA." A tiny woman with a magnificent personality, she sings in the choir at Trinity Episcopal Church in Reno (a 23-mile drive each way) and has often been asked to sing at various events, including those for the Nevada Library Association, in many parts of the state. Her beautiful soprano voice crosses many ranges. Even more important, the sound of Lucy's musical laughter and sharp wit makes the Storey County Public Library the place to be.



Reading Arizona: The Literary Landscape

Reading Arizona: The Literary Landscape is an online map plotting one hundred favorite books related to the 48th state. The literary trail was blazed in honor of Arizona's Centennial Celebration by Pima County Public Library, in partnership with the Arizona State Library. Librarians across the state were asked to nominate Arizona books and authors for the project, and input was also solicited from specialists in Arizona history and culture. The committee whittled down the list until it reflected a cross-section of books representing all areas of the state. A quote from each book, locating it geographically, is included along with the book's title, author, and publication date.

Books for all ages are included, both fiction and non-fiction. The map is a reflection of Arizona literature on the day the state marked the Centennial of its statehood, February 14, 2012; there are no plans to alter it through additions or deletions. But the map is accompanied by a searchable list of Arizona-based books. Suggestions and comments for additions to the list are welcome.

Reading Arizona: The Literary Landscape was made possible by funds granted by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Agency under the Library Services and Technology Act, which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Finding Love in Unexpected Places ... The Library

Submitted by Theresa Jehlik, MPLA Nevada Representative

Excerpted from Emily Getzschman for the Omaha Public Library Blog

For better or for worse, they decided to sign up, but expectations were low.

“I was nervous and needed a few drinks. I figured at least I would be with friends and have a good story to tell at the end of it,” said Jillian Liesemeyer.

“It was a high stress situation,” said Andrew Roger. “I didn’t know anybody and was just trying to be social and meet new people.”

Who could have imagined that a trip to the local library could be so angst-ridden? But this was no ordinary visit. They didn’t come to Benson Branch in search of the latest bestseller or DVD, they came looking for love.

On February 12, 2011, Omaha Public Library hosted its second “Hardbound to Heartbound: Speed Dating at Your Library” event. More than 70 people attended – and not all for the same reasons. Though some were certainly looking for love, others were just looking for something to do on a Saturday night that didn’t involve going to a bar, and maybe there was just a hint of hope.

“I found myself tweeting during the event that suddenly things were going better than expected,” Jillian said.

Jillian signed up with a group of her friends from her teaching program at Creighton University and made the 2 ½ hour drive from Spalding, Neb. to keep a friend company at the event. When it started, she had four minutes to talk to each man on the opposite side of the table.

When she sat across from Andrew, they realized that they had gone to rival high schools and teased each other throughout the short conversation.

“He was charming.”

Andrew saw something in her too, and wrote down her name as someone he wanted to know better.

“It’s like sending notes in school,” said Andrew. “You are anxious, but it’s exciting to see if they will like you too.”

The following Monday, they both received this email:

“I would like to let you know that you both said ‘yes’ to each other during the Benson Branch speed dating event on Saturday. Please feel free to exchange your information with each other... Thanks so much for participating and have a wonderful Valentine’s Day!”

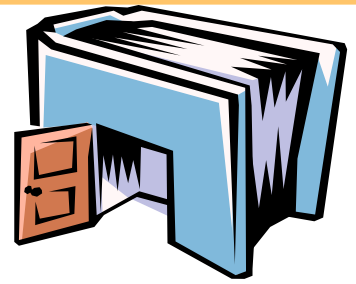
After exchanging emails for nearly a month, they finally set up a first “real” date.

“We met at the Blue Line in Dundee for coffee and after talking for two hours, we walked over to the Dell for dinner,” recalled Andrew.

There were a couple more dates after that, and they were “dating” by Easter. A year later, they describe their relationship as “serious.”



Welcome New MPLA Members



ARIZONA

Bonnie Braun
Student, University of Arizona
School of Information Resources &
Library Science; Scottsdale, AZ

Holly Rick
Campus College Chair of Business,
University of Phoenix; Chandler, AZ

School of Information Resources &
Library Science; Stephen Stillwell,
Coordinator of Recruiting;
Tucson, AZ

COLORADO

Valerie Horton
Executive Director, Colorado Li-
brary Consortium; Centennial, CO

KANSAS

Sherry Knouf
Head Librarian, Downs Carnegie
Library; Downs, KS

Marsha Lytle
Olathe, KS

Christopher Rippel
Continuing Education Department
Head, Central Kansas Library
System; Great Bend, KS

Steven Thomas
Automation Department Head,
Central Kansas Library System
Great Bend, KS

MONTANA

Patty Edwards
Elementary Librarian/Teacher, Co-
lumbus Schools Columbus Elemen-
tary; Columbus, MT

NEBRASKA

Naomi Solomon
Student, Omaha Public Library Ben-
son Branch; Omaha, NE

Rebecca Stavick
Omaha Public Library; Papillion, NE

NORTH DAKOTA

Roger Brabandt
Trustee, Minot Public Library
Minot, ND

Susan Gessner
Trustee, Minot Public Library
Minot, ND

NEW MEXICO

Caroline Dechert
Director, Vista Grande Public Library
Santa Fe, NM

OKLAHOMA

Sydney Ashby
Youth Services Librarian, Ponca City
Library; Ponca City, OK

UTAH

Jessica Breiman
Fine Arts Staff, University of Utah J.
Willard Marriott Library
Salt Lake City, UT

Vik Brown
Library Development Chair, Southern
Utah University Sherratt Library
Cedar City, UT

Ashley Crace
Student, University of Alabama
Murray, UT

Steven Irving
Electronic Services Librarian, South-
ern Utah University Sherratt Library
Cedar City, UT

Candy Markle
Associate Librarian, Salt Lake City
Public Library Day-Riverside Branch
Library ; Salt Lake City, UT

Phil Roche
Instructional Services/Outreach
Librarian, Southern Utah University
Sherratt Library; Cedar City, UT

Jonathan Sears
Ogden, UT

Flora Shrode
Associate Librarian, Utah State Uni-
versity Merrill-Cazier Library
Logan, UT

Mike Thurman
Trustee, Summit County Library
System; Park City, UT

Anna Zanarini
Youth Services Librarian, Salt Lake
County Library Whitmore Library
Salt Lake City, UT

WASHINGTON

Sarah Durham
Graduate Student, Western New
Mexico University
Olympia, WA

Lori Wylie
Leavenworth, WA

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- We also offer a graduate certificate in **Digital Information Management** (digln.arizona.edu).

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MPLA Awards

Do you know a deserving individual in the library field who should be recognized for his/her accomplishments?

Please nominate him/her for an MPLA Award!



The following awards will be given at the 2012 MPLA Joint Conference with the Nebraska Library Association in LaVista, Nebraska, 17-19 October 2012.

Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award: To be given to the individual, organization or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated by repeated conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees and professional activities. Nominator must be an MPLA member; Membership is not required for nominee.

MPLA Distinguished Service Award: To be given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession or has furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. In the case of retired individuals, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA. MPLA membership is not required to submit a nomination. Nominee must be an MPLA member.

MPLA Literary Contribution Award: To be given to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region. The author need not reside in the region, and the selection may be based on either a single work or a body of works. Published works will be evaluated on the basis of literary worth, readability, and evidence of responsible research. Nominator must be an MPLA member; Membership is not required for nominee.

MPLA Beginning Professional Award: To recognize an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist within the first five years after receiving a library/media masters degree, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service. Factors such as innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and special projects will be considered. MPLA membership is not required to submit a nomination. Nominee must be an MPLA member.

MPLA Innovator Award: To recognize an up-and-coming individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region for a creative, inventive, trail-blazing project that has significance to the library community. MPLA membership is not required to submit a nomination. Nominee must be an MPLA member.

MPLA Unsung Hero Award: To be given to any library individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region who have worked on a special project that has some significance to a community but which has not been eligible for a library award, or which has for other reasons specified by the nominator not been recognized to the degree that it merits, by any library organization. Nominator must be an MPLA member; Membership is not required for nominee.

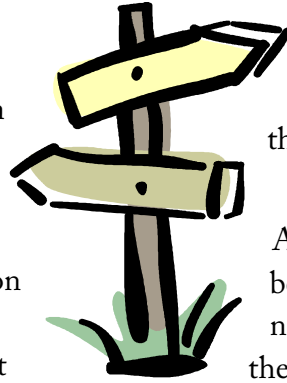
Nominations are due by August 1, 2012. Nominations can be made using the Awards Nomination Form online at <http://www.mpla.us/forms/awardsnom.html>.

Questions? Contact Jon Fackrell, Awards Committee Chair, awards@mpla.us

Around the Region

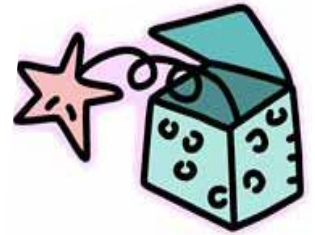
ARIZONA

MPLA representative **Dan Stanton** reports: “On February 14, while the rest of you were sharing hearts and chocolates, we Arizonans were sharing 100 years of statehood! Lots of events and information marked the arrival of the last of the lower 48...” Dan also says, “And, lest you fear that all work and no play makes Arizona a dull State, **Pint Nights** are taking place across the state. Initiated by MPLA member, Tracy Mertens, Pint Nights provide an opportunity to meet, mingle and mix with friends and colleagues at an informal social of librarians and library staff! Pint Nights have been very successful in Phoenix, Tucson, and Yuma.” Follow Pint Nights and other AZ events at the new AzLA Blog: <http://azlablog.wordpress.com/>. Keep track of things on Twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/ArizonaLibAssoc> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/arizonalibraryassociation>.



When they create the future, libraries actively partner with the community to create the conditions to reach those visions.

The **Call for Proposals** is out for the 2012 AzLA Conference to be held November 8-10, 2012 at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix. **Beyond the Box** is the theme, inviting participants to imagine the possibilities of a new approach or innovative solution to library “problems,” turn the box upside down, deconstruct it and think beyond it.



COLORADO

The **Douglas County Library** has a new digital branch. It features interactive touch-screen technology that allows library patrons to browse digital content from multiple platforms (eBooks, Overdrive content, Freegal music), and integrates seamlessly with its ILS and mobile app, DCL to Go. See a video press release about the new digital branch at <http://douglascountylibraries.org/digital-branch>.

Colorado Library Lobby Day will be held March 29 with volunteer representatives from all types of libraries in Colorado

Colorado Literacy Week was held February 27 – March 2 with Lt. Governor Joe Garcia welcoming several new partners to the state’s efforts to ensure children in Colorado read proficiently by third grade. The week was to draw public attention to the critical importance of early learning and to launch numerous efforts that will put Colorado’s children on a path to reading success.

The **Colorado Association of Libraries** is accepting applications for its annual Leadership Institute (CALLI). Applications are due April 1.



January 24 was **Snapshot: One Day in the Life of Arizona Libraries** a state and nationwide event to recognize and celebrate the value that libraries provide their communities. Libraries collected statistics, customer comments and photographs to show how libraries serve the needs of the community.

The **Arizona Library Association** hosted a Regional Forum on March 9, in Tucson. Hildy Gottlieb, Co-founder of the Community Driven Institute and author of the Pollyanna Principles: Reinventing “Nonprofit Organizations” to Create the Future of Our World, spoke to Arizona librarians and library supporters about their role in Creating the Future. In discussing how libraries can take control of their institutional future by creating it, Hildy suggested that libraries establish a different relationship with their communities by engaging in a conversation that aims at questions that will inspire “big picture” visions.

Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia recently announced **One Book 4 Colorado**, an effort to provide a new book to every four year old in Colorado while simultaneously supporting parents as their child's first teacher. One Book 4 Colorado is the result of collaboration between Reach Out and Read, **Colorado State Library**, public libraries, the private sector, and the foundation community. It is modeled after the successful Preschool One Book One Denver program originated by the Denver Preschool Program. More than 70,000 copies of the book will be distributed to children across Colorado at local library events and at Reach Out and Read clinics and doctors' offices. The book will be available in both English and Spanish and will be accessible to children with special needs. A statewide book distribution and family support events will take place April 18-29, coinciding with Preschool One Book, One Denver and Week of the Young Child. See <http://www.onebook4colorado.org>.



The **Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL)** Board voted to establish an International Library Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG.) The new Interest Group will create international partnerships between Colorado and international libraries and share information on how to celebrate the cultural heritage of people who visit Colorado libraries. With the creation of ILCE-IG, the Bulgarian-Library Partnership Interest Group will become a subgroup under the new Interest Group.

The **CAL Board** approved a joint conference with MPLA in 2016. Dates and place to be determined.

The **Denver Public Library** will unveil a social networking website on March 20, which will allow users to upload their own photos and recollections of Colorado's history. The *Creating Your Community* website lets residents mix their own materials with nearly 900,000 items in the library's digital archives, establishing online communities around a wide variety of topics related to the state's history. The program

grew out of a previous effort, *Creating Communities*, which focused on the history of seven Denver neighborhoods during which library officials discovered that some residents wanted to share their materials with the library without donating the originals. The library has partnered with several local organizations, such as the Beck Archives of the Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society, to begin uploading content and creating communities on the site. To create the social archive, the library received a \$461,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, in addition to a previous \$778,000 grant for its neighborhoods project.

MPLA member **Cindy Osborne** reports that the annual Staff Training day for the **High Plains Library District (HPLD)** was held February 10 on the University of Northern Colorado campus. The day started with a breakfast catered and served by UNC students. The keynote speaker was David Lee King, Digital Branch & Services Manager from the Topeka-Shawnee Public Library. Janine Reid, HPLD Executive Director, reviewed the 2011 achievements and outlined strategic plan and optimistic future during her annual State of the Library address. The afternoon provided staff a choice of sessions ranging from working with diverse communities to personal money management. The most popular session was a talk and question and answer time with Todd Mitchell and world renowned- local author, Connie Willis.



The **Poudre Valley Library District** is now checking our preloaded Color Nooks and Simple Touch Nooks. The library currently has 60 Nook Simple Touch and 30 Nook Color eReaders for circulation. According to the Library promo, “We have preloaded many wonderful books for you. We have chosen new and popular bestsellers, mysteries, biographies, and YA novels and loaded them onto our Nook Simple Touch eReaders. For families with young children, we have chosen wonderful titles aimed at a younger audience and loaded them onto our Nook Color eReaders. Any library cardholder in good standing may check out a Nook for three weeks. One of our goals of this project is to bridge the digital divide; we encourage responsible use for all patrons. Just like a book, circulation is three weeks and renewals allowed if not on hold to someone else. You may also put an eReader on hold, as you would a book. You will be notified when one is available to come and pick-up. If you’re unsure about eReaders and switching to digital books, check out a Nook in time for your spring vacation and give it a try!” A list of loaded books is available on the library website at <http://www.poudrelibraries.org/catalog/ereaders.html>.

KANSAS

K-State Libraries’ Joelle Pitts, in cooperation with the Council of Deans and Directors of Libraries (CODDL) and **Dean Lori Goetsch** has begun an initiative to create a series of online learning modules which would be co-created and shared among Kansas Regents Universities. The modules, modeled after the Khan Academy, would supplement library instruction and allow librarians to focus on more in-depth questions when teaching in person. MPLA Kansas Representative **Dan Ireton** says, “this initiative, if successful, would have implications for information literacy beyond Kansas and indeed beyond academe to libraries and library patrons nationwide. – certainly partnerships already built through organizations like MPLA would find mutual benefit. While in its infancy, this is a very exciting development and I will be certain to keep our member states abreast of developments.”

MPLA member **Rob Banks** shown below backstage on opening night of the musical “1776” at the Helen Hocker Center for the Performing Arts in Topeka. Rob, Chief Operating Officer of the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, portrayed Lewis Morris from New York.



After retirement from her position as director of the Morrill Library in Hiawatha, **Cathy Newland** is now the Library Director for the Public Library in Silver Lake, KS. Cathy was a participant in the 2006 MPLA Leadership Institute.

Screenland Crown Center, Cinema KC and **Johnson County Library** joined forces to celebrate reading with a special screening of *Micky McGee and the Magic Library* Produced by *Denny Dey Independent Film Production*, and shot entirely at Johnson County’s Leawood Pioneer Neighborhood Library, the 70 minute movie introduces young readers to the magic of the library and the power of the library card. The film features Micky McGee, the reluctant reader, as he is magically transported to the library to save all books from destruction at the hands of Dr.

Meanandevil and Simpleton, his trusted partner in mischief.

Royce Kitts, MPLA Secretary and President of the Kansas Library Association, announces the KLA Annual Conference, April 11-13 in Wichita. Highlights of this year's conference include:

- Opening Keynote: R. David Lankes, professor and Dean's Scholar for the New Librarianship at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies, director of the library science program for the school, and director of the Information Institute of Syracuse. Also, author of the Atlas of New Librarianship.
- Closing Keynote: Larry Hatteberg, Anchor/Reporter for KAKE-TV.
- An Evening with Cory Doctorow, science fiction author, activist, journalist and blogger. Also the co-editor of Boing Boing (boingboing.net) and the author of the bestselling Tor Teens/HarperCollins UK novel *Little Brother*.
- Author event with Clare Vanderpool, author and Distinguished Kansan. Sponsored by Public Library Section.

More information available at kslibassoc.org/2012Conf/index.php

The **Dodge City Public Library** was one of thirty libraries throughout the United States to receive a grant from the American Library Association and the Fetzer Institute. The grant, *Building Common Ground*: a discussion of community, civility, and compassion, will include a number of activities throughout 2012.

MONTANA

The **Montana State Library** is hosting clinics for trustees at six locations during April-June: Library Finances -- Funding, Sources, Accounting Reports, and What It All Means. Tracy Cook, MSL consultant, will be the lead presenter and will be joined at each clinic by others with financial expertise and experience.

NEBRASKA

MPLA member **Scott Childers** is now the Director of the Kilgore Memorial Library in York. He was previous Emerging Technologies Librarian with the University of Nebraska Lincoln Libraries.

Love at the Library. The Omaha Public Library held its 3rd Hardbound to Heartbound speed dating event on February 11 at the Benson Branch Library. 60 attendees from 21 to 45 (30 female, 30 male) attended the evening program. 28 "match-up" e-mails were sent to attendees a few days later. See the article on page 13 about a successful match from the 2011 event.

The **Nebraska Library Association** sponsored its annual Advocacy Day (formerly known as Legislative Day) on February 27 in Lincoln. State senators, legislative staff members, and librarians started the day with coffee at the State Capitol. Ken Winston, the Nebraska Library Association's lobbyist, and Rod Wagner, Nebraska Library Commissioner, briefed the attendees on the 2012 legislative bills and issues. Janie Rutherford from the State Library of Kansas spoke about their "Snapshot Day" program. Lunch at the Cornhusker was used to visit with state senators and to honor Nebraska library volunteers. Since the Nebraska League of Municipalities was also meeting at the Cornhusker, the attending librarians were encouraged to visit with their city officials and the NLM conference vendors.

Omaha Public Library Staff at 2012 Nebraska Advocacy Day -- Photo from Facebook



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library placed fourth in the Top 10 Children's Libraries list compiled by Livability.com. This national website highlights 500+ of America's most livable communities. The list's ranking criteria was designed after consulting recognized authorities on libraries (including the American Library Association) and children's literature. A vital factor in the decision was the library's responsiveness to its community's needs. Scottsbluff's "wow" factors for Livability.com included an interactive cubbyhole wall (with friendly monsters for company); a sizeable Lite-Brite board; drawers full of learning toys; and a wall of the 100 best children's books. Scottsbluff's programs include *Cradle Catchers* for newborns, "Kinder-carding," story time, and a summer reading program. Two other MPLA libraries made the Top 10 List –

- Hardesty Regional Library in Tulsa, Oklahoma (3)
- Laramie County Library in Cheyenne, Wyoming (7)

Gayle Roberts, Director of the Blair Public Library, was named the 2011 Supervisor/Manager of the Year by her city government. Her passion, zeal, professionalism, and patience were all mentioned in the award citation. Gayle has been selected to attend the MPLA 2012 Leadership Institute in May.



Gayle holding a Nebraska Library Association award for Intellectual Freedom – Photo from Facebook

After being closed for remodeling in December, the **Jensen Memorial Library** (Minden) re-opened on January 7. Refurbished areas include the children and teen area, a public computer area, comfortable seating that overlooks an arboretum, and a new meeting room. The Crane Room (after the mural on the wall) is a comfortable size for 12-to-15 people. Natural lighting and warm earth tone colors make all the spaces inviting. Dr. Peter Jensen, a great grandson of the original benefactor, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony.



The New Children's Area at Jensen Memorial Library (Minden) – Photo from Facebook

Angela Arner retired from the Nebraska Methodist College Library after 40 years of service in late January. Her supervisor said that Angie provided the College and the Health System high quality library service and professionalism always with a kind and gentle spirit.

Big Talk From Small Libraries Conference, the first Nebraska web conference geared to small libraries, was held February 28. The nine speakers were from small libraries or worked directly with small libraries. See <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/speakers/> for more information. Program topics included technology, programming, and community partnerships. **Julie Hildebrand**, Director of the Independence Public Library, was the keynote speaker. Her library was recently named the best small library in America by *Library Journal*. **Laura Johnson** and **Michael Sauers**, Nebraska Library Commission, organized and hosted the conference. Other sponsors included the Association for Rural & Small Libraries

(<http://www.arsl.info/>) and Library Renewal (<http://libraryrenewal.org/>).



Janet Davenport is the new director at Keene Memorial Library in Fremont.

Julie Pinnell is the new director at Doane College Perkins Library in Lincoln.

Monica Rogers is the new Health Literacy Coordinator/Liaison of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine at Creighton University Health Sciences Library.

Heather St. Clair is the new director at Ashland Public Library.

NEVADA

Dr. Seuss' birthday was celebrated with activities throughout Southern Nevada. **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District** held an Oobleck Day event for children. **Henderson Public Libraries** planned Read Across America storytimes to celebrate.

The **Las Vegas-Clark County Library District** plans to offer free career workshops led by PJ Sheldon, local author of "Career Strategies for Success" Workshops include Resume Polishing, Your Best Image, and Navigating Interviews.

The **Clark County Library** held "An Evening with Tim Dorsey: Umbrella Drinks, Dictators & a Hilarious New Novel" on March 5. Dorsey's novels include

Hurricane Punch, The Big Bamboo, Orange Crush, Triggerfish Twist, Cadillac Beach and *Torpedo Juice*.

See article on Nevada Librarian **Lucy Bouldin** by **Ellen Fockler**, MPLA Nevada Representative, on page 12.

NEW MEXICO

A MicroCinema class at the College of Santa Fe Fogelson Library produced a short film promoting reading. MPLA member **Val Nye**, Library Director, makes an early appearance in the very short film which promotes curiosity and reading. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xemSh2PsyIE&feature=youtu.be>.

The New Mexico Legislature passed the GO Bond Bill (general obligation bonds) although the Governor has not yet signed it. The Library Bond portion of the bill was included with the original allocation of \$9.7 million, with \$3 million each for public, academic and school libraries and \$700,000 for tribal libraries. The voters will determine the fate of the bonds in the November 2012 election.

New Mexico Library Association Library Legislative Day was February 2, with about 45 people attending the orientation at the Santa Fe Public Library. There were a hundred people who visited legislators at the Capitol, and yellow "Support Libraries" buttons were visible throughout the building. Eight members of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Library Advisory Board made the trip to advocate the bond bill and local capital outlay projects. A library banner from the Native American Libraries Special Interest Group hung in the central rotunda. The New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries provided each legislator with a gift of chocolate. The **Every Child Ready to Read** project provided each legislator with a book of finger-plays.

In the Senate, Senator Dede Feldman introduced librarians and made remarks on the importance of libraries in the Internet age. Senators Mary

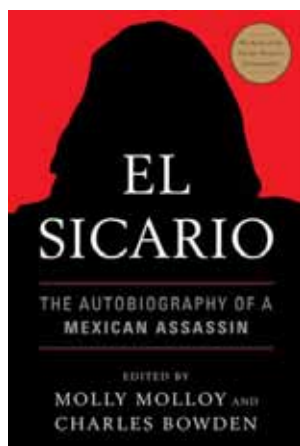
Jane Garcia, Tim Jennings and Richard Martinez also made remarks. Librarians introduced in the Senate were **Gilda Baeza de Ortego**, Western NM University; **Cathy Boeker**, Sierra Middle School, Las Cruces; **Lillian Chavez**, Mescalero Community Library; **Mary Alice Tsoisic**, University of New Mexico Libraries and President of NMLA; and **Teddy Riehl**, Espanola Public Library. Rep. Ed Sandoval introduced the library delegation in the House: **Joe Sabatini**, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Volunteer; **Flo Trujillo**, Farmington Public Library; **Melveta Walker**, Director of Golden Library, Eastern New Mexico University – Portales; **Alison Almquist**, Valle Vista Elementary School, Albuquerque; and **Maureen Wacondo**, Jemez Pueblo Library.

The **New Mexico State University Library** announces *The Mechanic Arts* photographic exhibit. The exhibit, organized by University Archivist **Martha Shipman Andrews**, commemorates the 2012 sesquicentennial of the passage of the first Morrill Act, creating the land-grant institutions of higher education. Andrews said that the bill, introduced by Representative Justin Smith Morrill of Vermont, called for the creation of agricultural colleges that taught military tactics and the “Mechanic Arts,” an archaic term for engineering that was incorporated into the names of many of the institutions it made possible, including



The NMLA annual conference will be April 11-13 at the Las Cruces Convention Center. The preliminary program, registration form and general information is available at <http://nmla.org/annual-conference/>. The theme “Linking New Mexico’s Past with the Future: Libraries the next 100 years.” The keynote speaker will be Stephen Abram.

The book *El Sicario* is co-edited by NMSU librarian **Molly Molloy** and journalist Charles Bowden, and was recently published by Nation Books. The book is based on interviews with a hit man who kidnapped, tortured and murdered people for the Mexican drug industry for twenty years. Molloy was instrumental in turning the interview transcripts into the book *El Sicario*, with assistance from Bowden. As NMSU’s Latin American and Border Studies Librarian, Molloy is known nationally and internationally for her work with the online Frontera List at: <http://groups.google.com/group/frontera-list/topics>.



the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (later New Mexico State University).

“Man at Forge,” courtesy University Archives, NMSU Library Archives & Special Collections

The **New Mexico State University Library** has received a gift of \$6,000 from the Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation of El Paso. The gift will be used for the purchase of current engineering reference materials for the Library’s collection.

Lynne Hinton, author of *Pie Town*, will be at the **Farmington Public Library** on March 29 to discuss her newest title, “Pie Town”. Ms. Hinton will also serve as a judge of the Pie Baking contest! For more contest rules and more information see <http://www.infoway.org/programming/2012/PieTown/index.asp>. The Farmington Public Library is also sponsoring an interactive workshop by Frank Leto for early childhood educators and teachers. The workshops are designed for non-musicians.

The Friends of **Thomas Branigan Memorial Library** has given the Library a pair of new computers from AWE (Advanced Workstations Education). The computers have bigger screens that will take pokes

and include large-font keyboards for practicing typing.

In a tribute to Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem, 18 local artists were selected to create work for an exhibit titled "The Raven." Each work of art interprets one stanza of The Raven and will be hung in actual poetic sequence. The show will be on display the KiMo Gallery, March 1st – March 25th, 2012. Silent auction bids start at \$100 and go up in increments of \$10. All proceeds will go to The **Friends of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System**.

The **Chained Library** has started a series of interviews with New Mexico authors in honor of the centennial and the first one is with **Vaunda Micheaux Nelson**, the official New Mexico Centennial Childrens Writer. Find it at <http://chainedlibrary.wordpress.com/2012/01/03/new-mexico-centennial-interview-1-vaunda-micheaux-nelson/>.

Roswell Public Library dedicated its new electronic sign January 27 in a unique ribbon-cutting ceremony. The Roswell Public Library's new digital billboard was brought to life when the sign's sponsors joined in plugging in its power connection. Friends of the Roswell Public Library, the Roswell Library Foundation and Xcel Energy all contributed to funding the project, which took around a year to complete.



Dr. Judy Armstrong speaks during the dedication of the Roswell Public Library's new electronic sign, (Mark Wilson Photo) --from Roswell Daily Record (NM)

University of New Mexico Valencia Campus Library director Dr. Barbara Lovato and student Amada Griego created artworks from some discards. One was donated to the Campus Gala to raise money for student scholarships. The other is proudly displayed in the Library.

Amada Griego with artwork



Winners of the **New Mexico Library Association** Advocacy for School Libraries - Special Interest Group School Library of the Year Awards are: Elementary Library: **Sarah Farrell**, certified librarian at Shining Stars Preschool in Rio Rancho; and Secondary Library: **Laurie Lacey**, certified librarian at Cleveland Middle School in Albuquerque. Sarah and Laurie will each receive \$500 from Follett Library Resources for their libraries, as well as be honored at the Youth Literature Luncheon at the annual NMLA Conference in Las Cruces.

NORTH DAKOTA

On June 12 a proposal to eliminate all property taxes levied by local governments, Constitutional Measure 2, comes up for vote. If the measure passes, it will have a profound impact on the funding of all public libraries in our state. Details about the measure are now available from NDLA's site: http://www.ndlaonline.org/announcements/measure_2.htm. MPLA Representative **Eric Stroshane** says, "The analyses found here are sure to be of interest to you if/when similar measures are introduced in your home state."

North Dakota First Lady **Betsy Dalrymple** continues to visit schools and libraries and promote literacy throughout North Dakota. She recently addressed the North Dakota Association of Elementary School Principals. Her talks and presentations have focused on Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

The **North Dakota State Library's** 2012 Spring Workshops will be held on the State Capitol Grounds in Bismarck on April 2-3. For more information on this year's programs see <http://library.nd.gov/publications/2012springworkshops.pdf>.

The **North Dakota State Library** and the **Collaborative Summer Library Program** have partnered for a 2012 teen video contest on the theme of this year's Summer Reading Program, "Own the Night." Teens are invited to create a 30-90 second video on the theme. The winning teen or group of teens will receive \$275 and their public library will receive prizes worth \$150.

The **Hebron Public Library** won a Libri Foundation Grant for \$1,400 in children's books.

The new librarian of the Lidgerwood City Library is **Cherry Riley**.

New Staff at Minot Public Library: **Greta Guck, Tyson Wheeler, Sarah Ethier**.

Paulette Fischer, director of the Kidder County Library in Steele, was recently presented with a certificate of recognition, a small assortment of YA and children's books for the library, and a beverage cooler in commemoration of hers being the first library to correctly submit their annual report to the State Library.

The **Hazen Public Library** began *Barking Books*, a program allowing children to read books to friendly, fluffy, non-judgmental therapy dogs. The dogs help children develop their reading and public speaking skills while building their confidence.

The **Elgin Public Library** is petitioning to extend their services to all of Grant County.

The **Divide County Library** is joining the Over-Drive consortium, ND Library2Go.

The **Grand Forks Public Library** recently started a weekly LEGO play/construction program, LEGOs@Your Library.

OKLAHOMA

The *Joplin Independent* reports that the **Quapaw Tribal Library** is the only tribal library in Oklahoma to offer free audiobook, e-book, music and video downloads to its patrons. Library cards are available free of charge to Quapaw Tribal members world-wide as well as to the community at large.

The **Oklahoma State University Edmon Low Library** and the **Stillwater Public Library** are partnering to sponsor "One Book, One Community: Stillwater Salutes Will Rogers," a series of events for OSU students and members of the community. The series allows the community to learn about the impact Will Rogers had on Oklahoma, with several events throughout March and April. The kick-off event featured Will Rogers impersonator Doug Watson. There are 189 free copies of the book *Will Rogers: His Wife's Story*, available to those who sign up for a book discussion. See library.okstate.edu/news/onebook.



NewsOK reports that the **Pioneer Library System** is conducting an online survey to get cardholders' feedback on their library experience. The "Just Right" campaign comes from Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and libraries will compete for three stuffed bears by trying to get the most survey participants. The large libraries — Moore, Norman, Shawnee and South Oklahoma City — will vie for a 78-inch Papa Bear. Middle-size libraries such as Newcastle, Noble and Purcell will compete for a 63-inch Mama Bear. The small libraries of Blanchard, McCloud and Tecumseh will try for a 45-inch Baby Bear. Cardholders are asked to take a short survey by going to www.justsoyouknow.us/justright or by scanning the "Just Right" Quick Response (QR) bar code used in promotional materials. Anyone with a

smartphone can use the phone's camera to access the survey. The mission is to get feedback for future planning.

Oklahoma State University Edmon Low Library featured works by students, faculty and staff in the "Celebrating Books by OSU Authors" display as part of this year's Research Week activities. This is the sixth year the library has put a spotlight on OSU authors. The goal of the event is to recognize faculty, staff and students who have published a book or major creative work in the last two years. The display will also feature nonliterary works like music.

The **Pioneer Library System** recently purchased a 24,400 square foot retail building in Norman which housed Border's Books & Music before its bankruptcy. The system plans to relocate administrative offices to the property.



SOUTH DAKOTA

MPLA South Dakota Representative **Mike Mullin** says "Our hat is off to the Grant County Library for hosting "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War". They are hosting the exhibit during the month of March at their main location in Milbank. The traveling exhibit is a project of the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association (ALA). The exhibit was made possible with generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities."

Grant County Library is one of the eleven public libraries joining the South Dakota Titles To Go consortium in March of this year. This will bring the total membership to forty-two public libraries; double what the membership was one year ago when the consortium started.

The **South Dakota Library Network** has been preparing a Request For Proposals (RFP) for the purpose of identifying and selecting a vendor to supply,

install, and subsequently support a new integrated library management system. The RFP calls for a quick turn around with a *Letter of Intent* for proposal submissions due by March 9, 2012 and proposals due by March 23, 2012.

Under the heading "**Some Turkey Breaks into Deadwood Library,**" the *Blackhills Pioneer* reported that on Sunday morning, January 22, instead of arriving at church just down the street, a turkey crash landed in the Deadwood Public Library instead. The librarian received a call from the sheriff's office that a library window was broken - but there were no footprints in the snow outside the window. "One thing we noticed is that he did not go down the aisle with the cookbooks in it," said Deadwood Public Library director Jeanette Chaney-Moodie. Her husband John and Sgt. Ken Mertens of the Deadwood Police Department corralled the 20-plus pound culprit in 20 minutes flat by placing a blanket over its head. The freed turkey hasn't been seen since.



Photos courtesy of the Deadwood Police Department

The **South Dakota State Legislature** has passed and sent to the Governor Senate Bill 5. This bill in essence will require that all state departments deposit a copy of all of their documents, no matter what format, with the South Dakota State Library. Way to go SD Legislators!

The children's librarians in the state are gearing up for their summer reading programs. Many of them are participating in the "**Jump Start Summer Reading**" programs put on by the state library around the state. A snow/ice storm on February 28 disrupted the schedule somewhat, but the one session that was canceled will soon be rescheduled.

Mike Mullin reports that a group of public libraries on the east side of the state have joined together to create educational opportunities for their library boards and any boards from surrounding communities. A group of public libraries on the west side of the state that came up with the idea last year.

UTAH

JaNae Kinikin, MPLA President-Elect and Science Librarian at Weber State University, will present a paper in Scotland at the LILAC 2012 (Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference). Her presentation is on "Improved Student Engagement in a Library Skills Course Using Poster Presentations." The conference is held at Glasgow Caledonian University, April 11-13.

The **Utah Library Association** celebrates the 100th anniversary of its founding. The annual conference will be held April 25-27 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City with a Centennial Gala on April 16 at the Salt Lake Hilton. Keynote speaker is ALA President Molly Raphael. Registration at <http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1021310>

Pioneer, Utah's Online Library is available to library patrons at the library or at home with access to databases and other resources, with segments that serve the entire community

The **Springville Public Library** has a 'Painted Mirror,' a full-length video monitor that captures visitors' images and invites them to move and perform as they stand in front of a storybook page. It encourages children to become characters in their favorite books.



HeLIOS, Hemingway Library Information Online Skills Tutorial (<http://helios.weber.edu/>) was recently accepted for inclusion in ALA's PRIMO database: <http://www.ala.org/apps/primo/public/search2.cfm>. The tutorial is designed to be used by high school students to teach them information literacy skills. Project directors of the tutorial were MPLA member **JaNae Kinikin** (jkinikin@weber.edu) and G. Megan Davis (megandavis1@weber.edu).

ULA Legislative Committee Chair and MPLA members **Britton Lund** and Executive Director **Anna Neatrou** participated in the Utah Nonprofits Association Day at the Utah State Capitol. ULA was introduced on the floors of the Utah House and Senate. Britton and Anna met with legislators and spoke to individuals at their booth about the importance of funding and support for libraries in Utah.

The **Murray City Library** celebrated its 100th anniversary in early February, with Congressman Jim Matheson submitting a resolution to recognize the library. The library was created by the Murray City Women's Club, which donated their collection to establish a public library in 1912.

The **Highland City Library** joined the **North Utah County Library Cooperative**. Other library members of the cooperative are the American Fork, Lehi, Pleasant Grove and Eagle Mountain libraries. Residents who live in the cities that belong to the cooperative will not have to pay a fee to check out books from other libraries.

The **Helper City Council** unanimously approved a resolution to fund an increase in the internet speed at the Helper City Library to 20 megabits a second.

WYOMING

MPLA member **Cindy Moore** is now the Branch Manager at the Powell Branch of the Park County Library. She was previously Head of Circulation/Reference at Sweetwater County Library System. Cindy is a 2010 fellow of the MPLA Leadership Institute.



Cindy with Jack, who visits her library and thrills the kids. Jack also visits nursing homes and looks forward to becoming a certified reading dog.

Abbie Johnson Taylor, local author, recently read from her new book *How to Build a Better Mousetrap: Recollections and Reflections of a Family Caregiver* at the **Sheridan County Library**. She is author of a novel, *We Shall Overcome*. Her fiction has appeared in *Magnets and Ladders* and *Emerging Voices*, her poetry in *Distant Horizons*, her creative nonfiction in *Christmas in the Country* and *SageScript*. She is President of WyoPoets and Secretary of Behind Our Eyes and is involved with other writers' groups including Sheridan Range Writers, Wyoming Writers, and Explorations in Creative Writing.

In January and February, more than \$1.1 million was added to Wyoming library endowments – \$368,146 in locally raised funds matched by \$742,200 in state funds – through the **Wyoming Library Endowment Challenge**. Overall, Wyoming libraries have hit 56% of their endowment fundraising

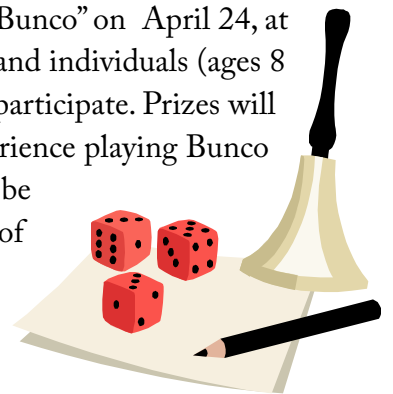
goal, and two counties – Albany and Niobrara – are at 100%. Those goal numbers could change. The Governor's next biennial budget includes an additional \$3 million in library endowment funds.



The **Wyoming Center for the Book** has created the *Wyoming Authors Wiki*, a clearinghouse for information on book authors who have lived in Wyoming or who write about Wyoming. Both readers and authors may contribute.

In honor of the National Week of the Young Child, the **Teton County Library** and Children's Learning Center offer parents, child care providers and therapists workshops on the social-emotional health and development of children from birth to age 5. Participants will learn concrete strategies for compassionate care giving, including supporting typical development and supporting children who may demonstrate delays. Registration begins April 2 for sessions on April 24 & 25 and April 27 & 28.

Family night at the **Natrona County Public Library** will feature "Bunco" on April 24, at 6:30 p.m. Both families and individuals (ages 8 and up) are welcome to participate. Prizes will be awarded, and no experience playing Bunco is necessary. Dinner will be provided by the Friends of the Library.



Upon returning from spring break, **University of Wyoming** students, staff and faculty may check out an iPad at **Coe Library's** Circulation Help Desk for 3-day loan periods.

Professional Development Grant Deadlines

2012

April 4

June 6

August 1

October 3

December 5

For information and eligibility
requirements see
[http://www.mpla.us/committees/
profdev/grantslinks.html](http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html)



State & National Conferences

2012

Oklahoma Library Association Conference
March 28-30, Norman, OK

New Mexico Library Association Conference
April 11-14, Las Cruces, NM

Kansas Library Association Conference
April 11-13, Wichita, KS

Montana Library Association Conference
April 11-14, Big Sky, MT

Utah Library Association Conference
April 25-27, Salt Lake City, UT

American Library Association Conference
June 21-26, Anaheim, CA

North Dakota Library Association Conference
September, 19-22, Fargo, ND

Wyoming Library Association Conference
Sept. 26-29, Casper, WY

South Dakota Library Association Conference
Oct. 3-5, Huron, SD

Nebraska Library Association, Mountain Plains
Library Association Joint Conference,
October 17-19, La Vista, NE

Nevada Library Association Conference
October 4-6, Las Vegas, NV

Colorado Association of Libraries Conference,
October 18 - 20, Keystone Resort &
Conference Center

Arizona Library Association Conference
November 8-10, Phoenix, AZ

2013

South Dakota, North Dakota and Mountain
Plains Library Association, September
25-27, Sioux Falls

2014

Arizona Library Association and Mountain
Plains Library Association, TBA



MPLA Board & Staff

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January 1 July 1
March 1 September 1
May 1 November 1

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