

newsletter

february - march 2014, volume 60 #1

*Big Horizons
Close Community*



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Congratulations 2014 MPLA Leadership Institute Participants

Arizona: Erin MacFarlan, Mericopa County Library District; Dale Savage, Arizona State Library; Deborah Chavez, Pima County Public Library

Colorado: Annie Epperson, University of Northern Colorado's James A. Michener Library; Laura Ruttum Senturia, Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center; Nicanor Diaz, High Plains Library District; Stephen Sweeney, Saint John Vianney Theological Seminary / Cardinal Stafford

Kansas: Maribeth Shafer, Central Kansas Library System; Jennifer Schroeder, Cloud County Community College Library; Jon Guillian, University of Kansas

Montana: Lauren McMullen, Montana State Library

North Dakota: Alyssa Feik, Bismarck Veteran's Memorial Public Library; Janet Anderson, Minot Public Library

Nebraska: Tina Walker, Mid-Plains Community College; Jake Rundle, Hastings Public Library; Holli Duggen, University of Nebraska Love Library; Jayne Germer, Dougan Perkins Library

Nevada: Ann-Marie White, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District/Whitney Library; Sena Loyd, Carson City Library

New Mexico: Cristin Haake, Atrisco Heritage Academy High School Library

Oklahoma: Tim Miller, Western Plains Library System

South Dakota: Brenda Hemmelman, South Dakota State Library; Mary Francis, Dakota State University, Karl E. Mundt Library & Learning; Melissa Clark, H.M. Briggs Library, South Dakota State University

Utah: Elizabeth Smart, Brigham Young University, Harold B. Lee Library; Jenny St. Clair, LDS Church History Library; Lyndi Hatch, Sandy Library (Salt Lake County Library System); Liz Woolcott, Utah State University

Wyoming: Darcy Acord, Campbell County Public Library; Cheryl Goldenstein, University of Wyoming Libraries

Holidays @ Your Library

The Minot Public Library hosted a Christmas Social on December 18th. Coffee, Punch and Cookies were served and music was provided by high school musicians.



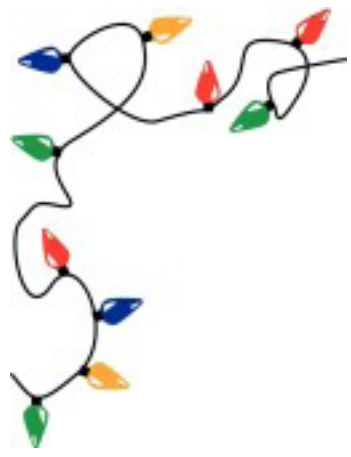
The Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, ND hosted a Christmas Party for children on December 17th. Kids of all ages listened to stories, made ornaments and decorated cookies. On December 18th young patrons watched a Christmas movie. Almost 2 dozen children attended these events. Additionally, kids made Christmas cards for their family, friends, and teachers.

The North Dakota Ballet danced into Toddler Storytime at the Grand Forks Public Library! Leah told the story of the Nutcracker, and shared some ballet dance moves that she taught to the children. Magical!



The Grand Forks Senior Center presented the library with a Christmas Flash mob! Then flew in with jolly tunes and a dance routine that had everyone cheering and shouting Merry Christmas as they raced out the door!

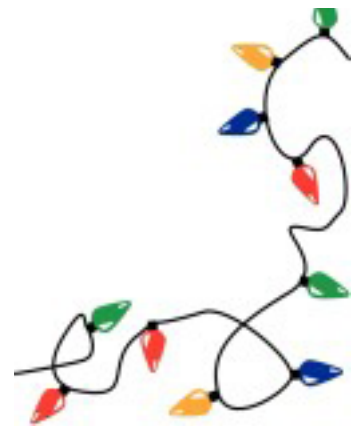




On Thursday, December 12, The Potter County Library hosted the holiday movie *Rise of the Guardians*, a gift-wrapping station, and a card station for kids ages 3rd grade through 6th grade. Of course we also had snacks- cookies, pretzels, fruit snacks and juice. Although only a small group attended, the group definitely enjoyed the time together, and took advantage of the wrapping and card supplies.



Potter County Library had a special HOLIDAY STORY HOUR on Thursday, December 19, at 3:40 PM. Attendees sang two Christmas songs and read *Where Oh Where is Santa Claus?* *The First Night*, and *Who Will Guide My Sleigh Tonight?* Other activities included making patchwork star ornaments, watching a Christmas clip called *Toy Tinkers*, and enjoying candy canes and juice. It was a great way to celebrate the holidays.



LSTA awards Douglas County Libraries and CLiC more than \$209,000

Douglas County Libraries (DCL) and the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) were recently awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant of \$209,460 for their project proposal, "eVoke 2.0: Colorado Statewide eBook Pilot Project."

The project team, consisting of staff from DCL and CLiC, felt that the ever-increasing use of e-books and e-readers demands that libraries become strong players in digital content delivery to remain vital and relevant to the communities they serve.

From 2011 to 2012, the percentage of Americans who owned an e-reader leapt from 18 to 33 percent, up from six percent in 2010. (Governing Magazine, July 2013, "Can Libraries Survive the eBook Revolution"). According to Forrester, the projected number of e-readers will increase exponentially from 3.7 million adults in 2009 to a predicted 59.6 million in 2015. At the same time, e-book spending will reach a record high of nearly three billion dollars (Forrester - Research eReader Forecast, 2010-2015).

Douglas County Libraries director Jamie LaRue states, "With the knowledge of these findings and predictions, it is urgent for libraries to be forward thinkers and leaders in the e-content digital world." Jim Duncan, CLiC executive director adds, "Library districts, and rural libraries in particular, lack the funds, personnel or expertise to innovate for this future or to build and maintain an infrastructure that will enable the acquisition and delivery of e-books. So in order to assist libraries throughout our state and hopefully globally, we felt now was the time to proactively face this challenge and find a solution for all libraries."

The goal of the eVoke project is to develop an alpha stage end-to-end cloud e-content infrastructure that can provide digital content purchasing and lending capabilities to all Colorado libraries. By the end of the grant project phase in October 2014, the alpha stage e-content management platform will meet a list of eight functional requirements as set and tested by the eVoke advisory committee (which includes representatives from the Colorado State Library, CLiC, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries, DCL and Marmot Library Network). This list includes milestones such as allowing library users to search and access e-content alongside physical content, see real-time availability, and download titles from within library catalogs. The project team hopes to demonstrate a compelling e-content delivery alternative to what exists today and build the foundation for a more sustainable system that enables all Colorado libraries (including more than 80 rural and multi-type libraries) new and exciting delivery options. The new system will also allow libraries to purchase e-content through a comprehensive acquisition system, and present e-content to the public through a user-friendly interface.

The project team, led by project manager Monique Sendze, associate director of information technology at DCL, has already begun work on this exciting project. The team will post regular project updates at www.evokecolorado.info. Sendze encourages interested members of the community to visit the project website, "and share in our enthusiasm as we work on this exciting and innovative library project."

The Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) connects 400+ libraries to better serve Colorado residents. Core services include operation of the statewide library courier, cooperative purchasing for a variety of products and services, delivery of continuing education events and in-the-field consulting, and AspenCat, a union catalog serving nearly 50 libraries. Learn more at <http://clicweb.org>.

Douglas County Libraries is a passionate advocate for literacy and lifelong learning. It checks out more than 8 million physical and digital materials annually. Seven locations offer wifi, research resources, Storytimes, public meeting spaces and interesting programs and events for all ages. Visit DouglasCountyLibraries.org.

“This program was funded in part with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services which administers the Library Services and Technology Act.

“The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow IMLS on Facebook and Twitter.

Specialized Library in Nevada

There are libraries, and then there are libraries! Washoe County's Picollo School is a school for severely impaired special needs (special education) children, ages Pre-K to Gr. 12. Several years ago, two moms decided that their children needed a library, regardless of whether or not they could read. Teachers could use the library, too, read to and with the children. They enlisted the help of various service organizations in Reno and Sparks, on the University of Nevada campus, and even other elementary schools. Donations poured in, and the moms enlisted the volunteer help of several librarians to organize the library. The library was operating, but because there was no funding for a librarian, it was sometimes neglected. Three years went by, and the library, though used, was not ideal.



Then Teacher Connie and retired librarian Sally Allen put together a program that would make the library doubly useful. Principal Matt Burak gave them his support. Using a program that creates thematic symbols as pictures, they labeled books according to subject. Then, after securing brightly colored fabric storage boxes, Connie painted corresponding symbols on the front of each box. Sally used an approximation of Dewey to organize the boxes on the shelves. Not only were books more accessible for teachers, but the library's organization meant that finding or replacing books could become a learning exercise for students.

A separate section is organized more traditionally, with picture books in fabric boxes labeled with the last letter of the author's name. A large label with the letter on the back of each book makes it possible for students to match the letter to the box and replace the books.

Connie has also created a small series of books paired with objects named in the stories. The Jacket I Wear in the Snow is one example; another is a book about making ice cream. She carefully selects the objects paired with pages of the book for their tactile as well as visual values. These books are used in many of the classrooms, usually one-on-one with children.

Libraries all over the world serve children, provide them with resources to learn, imagine, and enjoy the stories that define our culture. Whether it's a Knowledge Center with many floors, a branch library in a small town, a school library with brightly colored story rugs and a dozen computers, or the small classroom that houses the library at Washoe County's Picollo School, our libraries enrich the lives of children.

You Are Invited to Help Support the 2014 Leadership Institute

<http://mpla.us/leadership/>

“Now in its 9th year, the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Leadership Institute continues to train future library leaders from the MPLA region (Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kansas, South Dakota, and North Dakota). MPLA has made some changes to keep the fees at the level of past Institutes, but it does cost MPLA significant funds to offer 30 participants an opportunity to work with a trainer of Maureen Sullivan’s caliber at a regionally-centralized location. Not to mention opportunities to share experiences with outstanding MPLA mentors selected for their professional expertise and demonstrated leadership.

We are on our way to meeting our fundraising goal, but we still need your help.

Free will contributions are accepted online. **Donate Now!**

We also have many levels of support that are geared toward vendors and major institutions starting for as little as \$500. Contact our Institute’s co-chair Adriane Juarez (leadership@mpla.us) with your questions or to discuss the level that is right for you or your organization.

Your generosity helps support our libraries and colleagues.

Aubrey M. Madler, MLS | Information Professional

aubreymm@gmail.com | www.linkedin.com/in/aubreymadler

NEW MEMBERS

Marsha Ballard

Faculty Librarian
Scottsdale Community
College
Scottsdale, AZ

Laurie Covington

Librarian
Sanders Middle School
Sanders, AZ

Lee Cruzan

Librarian
Gilbert Public Schools Gilbert
High School
Gilbert, AZ

Jasper Halt

Librarian
Florence Community Library
Florence, AZ

Maren Hunt

Librarian
Mesa Public Library
Mesa, AZ

Ted Liebler

Adult Services Librarian
City of Chandler Downtown
Chandler Public Library
Chandler, AZ

Kathy Lynch

Chair. Library Dept.
GateWay Community
College Library
Phoenix, AZ

Dale Savage

Continuing Education
Coordinator
Arizona State Library
Phoenix, AZ

Catherine Strong

Branch Manager
Pima County Public Library
Tucson, AZ

Paula Wilson

Library Consultant
AZ

MPLA is Fundraising

Announcing the rollout of MPLA's new Fundraising project with King Soopers/Kroger Grocery Gift Cards! This project was discussed at the last MPLA board meeting and was then referred to the Membership Committee, which gave the go-ahead. Dan Chaney, MPLA's WebWizard and System Administrator Roy Degler have worked intensively to create the forms to make this possible.

The King Sooper/Kroger Neighborhood Reward Program offers fundraising for non-profit organizations. Purchase grocery cards from MPLA, use and re-load them, and MPLA receives a 5% rebate. There is no extra cost to either purchaser or MPLA. For instance, a \$25 gift card is redeemable for \$25 in merchandise. A card can be reloaded for any amount up to \$500 and can be used indefinitely. (A card linked to MPLA cannot be purchased at stores.) If you shop at any of the stores below, please consider purchasing, and continuing to re-load, an MPLA linked grocery gift card!

See below for list of stores in which you can use these cards.

For information about purchasing a grocery card, go to <http://mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html> on the MPLA website. Or go directly to the order form at <http://mpla.us/forms/grocerycard.html>. The card will be mailed from MPLA within 5 days of payment.

Not all MPLA states have Kroger stores, but most do. The stores, under various names, include:

- Kroger
- Fred Meyer
- Ralphs
- Fry's
- Fry's marketplace
- King Soopers
- Dillons
- Smith's food & Drug
- City market
- QFC
- Littman & Barclay Jewelers
- Food 4 Less
- Owen's
- Foodsco
- Hilander
- Pay-Less
- Cala-Bell
- Baker's
- JAYC
- Fred Meyer Jewelers
- Loaf and Jug

Questions? Contact Judy Zelenski, Executive Secretary: execsecretary@mpla.us.

MPLA PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
GRANT APPLICATION
DEADLINES 2013

FEBRUARY 6

APRIL 3

JUNE 5

AUGUST 7

OCTOBER 2

DECEMBER 4

[WWW.MPLA.US/COMMITTEES/
PROFDEV/GRANTSLINKS.HTML](http://WWW.MPLA.US/COMMITTEES/PROFDEV/GRANTSLINKS.HTML)

WWW.MPLA.US/COMMITTEES/PROFDEV/GRANKLINKS.HTML

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The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

FACEBOOK.COM/MPLALIBRARIES

The LinkedIn logo, consisting of the word "Linked" in black and "in" in white lowercase letters on a blue square background.

[WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/GROUPS/MOUNTAIN-
PLAINS-LIBRARY-ASSOCIATION-3041358](http://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/GROUPS/MOUNTAIN-PLAINS-LIBRARY-ASSOCIATION-3041358)

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AROUND THE REGION

ARIZONA

How do you grow community between employees at your library? As a large organization with several locations across 5 campuses and extended locations as well, ASU Libraries employees often aren't familiar with what each department does outside their own, especially regarding individual jobs. As one option to promote understanding between employees across all our locations, we started an Employee Showcase feature in our internal employee newsletter. So far, it's been a blast! Two of us facilitate the project on behalf of an organizational development group. For each department we talk with the head and get an overall description as well as a list of units in the department (if applicable), then we go unit by unit or just by groups of employees in the department and feature 2-4 employees each week with a group photo, department and unit descriptions, and each employee's answers to a short online survey form. The survey includes: name, position title, department, contact phone and email, and answers to four questions: 1) How long have you worked at ASU Libraries? 2) Briefly describe your position responsibilities. 3) What is your favorite aspect of your job? Or, what do you like best about working at ASU? 4) Please share one fun fact about yourself. We've all grown our understanding of what each person does in our large organization, and with the fun facts, we get to know something unique about each person too – these definitely make for great conversation starters at meetings or other times when we get to see each other in person.



The Pima County Board of Supervisors honored four library staff members for “inspiring youth, lifelong learners, community-minded citizens, and library workers throughout Pima County and beyond,”

COLORADO

Jean Anderson returns to Colorado as the Business Librarian for the Loveland Public Library. She held the same position at the Fort Collins Public Library from 1998-2006. She also was the "Business Sense" columnist for the MPLA Newsletter from 2005-2007.

A hearty congratulations to our four Colorado librarians who have been selected to attend the 2014 MPLA Leadership Institute!

Nicanor Diaz – Librarian, High Plains Library District

Annie Epperson – Head of Reference/Research Services, Associate Professor and subject librarian University of Northern Colorado's James A. Michener Library

Laura Ruttum Senturia – Library Director, Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center, History Colorado

Stephen Sweeney – Library Director, Saint John Vianney Theological Seminary / Cardinal Stafford Library and Past President of the Colorado Association of Libraries



Laura Miller, former Colorado House Representative and longtime resident of Jefferson County recently donated her 58 box collection of newspaper clippings, campaign ads, ballot initiatives, relating to Jefferson County political and education issues to the Jefferson County Archives. The collection, spanning more than 50 years, will be named the Laura Miller Papers. Ms. Miller is also an inductee of the historical society hall of fame. (image from Denver Post, 01/05/14).

The Colorado State Library and the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) are excited to announce the 2014 Colorado Teen Video Contest! Teens, 13-18, individually or in teams, are invited to create a short Public Service Announcement promoting the 2014 summer reading theme, "Spark a Reaction." Win money for you and your library! Entries due February 21, 2014. <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/summerreading/TeenVidContest.htm#sthash.owhvWQo5.dpuf>

NEBRASKA

I hope you all have enjoyed the first year of our new practitioner journal, Nebraska Libraries! I would love to hear your comments and suggestions as we begin moving into our second year of publication. If you haven't seen the journal, view it here: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neplib/>

Currently, I am gathering content for the first issue of our second volume, which will be published in February 2014. Submission deadlines are coming up--January 1st, 2014.

If any of you awesome librarians has any great article or column ideas and you'd like to contribute please email me and let me know! It can be anything related to librarians and libraries! Have an awesome program you want to tell everyone about--write an article! Had a not so awesome program you want to warn everyone about to spare them the pain you endured--write an article! Use a new technology recently everyone should know about--write an article! Read a book you just absolutely loved--write a review! Know a librarian with some cool off-duty hobbies--ask them to be featured in the journal! Have some news you wanna share--tell me about it! Have a photo you think would make a fun cover for the journal--send it to me!

All topics are welcome! You DO NOT need to be a member of NLA to write for and enjoy our issues! The publication is open to all librarians!

For more info about submissions and possible topics see here:

<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/neplib/guidelines.html>



NEVADA

Nevada's McPhee Scholarship winners for 2013 are Kevin Bowman, Mayara Corn, Gloria Jertberg, Lisa Peters, Rochell Schriener, and Tammy Westergard. Congratulations!

Nevada Library Association election results:

President-Elect: Carol Lloyd, Churchill County Library Director

American Library Association Delegate: Steve Dimoulas, LVCCCLD/ College of Southern Nevada

Executive Secretary: Kristy Isla, LVCCCLD

Finance Officer: Anne Marie Hamilton-Brehm, Henderson District Public Libraries

Mary (Scottie) Wallace, Washoe County Library System, was also elected Nevada's representative to MPLA but will be unable to assume the office due to added job responsibilities. A state representative to MPLA will be appointed at the January 21 NLA Board Meeting.

Nevada is proud to recognize its two Leadership Institute attendees: Ann-Marie White (Las Vegas-Clark County Library District / Whitney Library) and Sena Loyd (Library Director, Carson City Library).

A Family Place Parent-Child Workshop Series will be held this year at select Las Vegas – Clark County Library District branches. Made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, this enjoyable five-week workshop series allows parents / caregivers and children in the 1 – 3 years age group to spend time together, play, make friends and talk one-on-one with specialists on child development.

LVCCCLD Youth Services are excited to participate in this project, which is an opportunity to make libraries and literacy an integral part of early childhood development. Sessions will be held in the evening to accommodate caregivers' work schedules.

The Nevada Library Association is preparing to host ALA's Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26 – July 1. NLA will coordinate up to 100 volunteers to help, from the Opening General Session and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on the 27th to the Closing General Session. NLA will share an exhibit booth with MPLA and CIMA.

NEVADA CONT.

The Carson City Library is partnering with the Carson City School Board and Supervisors to establish a 5-year strategic plan for learning. The library's business branch, the Business Resource Innovation Center, spent hours discussing the library's vision for the next five years, in partnership with the Carson City School District strategic plan, Empower Carson City – 2017, and the City of Carson to address “excellence in education and life-long learning.”

<http://www.carsonnow.org/story/12/14/2013/carson-city-schools-supervisors-and-library-partner-strategic-plan-through-2019>

Joyce Betts, Children's Librarian at Churchill County Library, has retired after thirty-six years of devoted service! Joyce retired in October and is enjoying time to read, knit, sew, and explore new avenues of adventure.

NORTH DAKOTA

A new North Dakota State Librarian has been chosen. Kirsten Baesler, North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction, has hired Mary J. Soucie as the new North Dakota State Librarian. She begins January 6, 2014. Ms. Soucie, who has an ALA/MLS from Dominican University, has been the Director of the Three Rivers Public Library District in Channahon, IL since 2009. She has been a school librarian, an adjunct professor at Joliet Junior College, and a member and mentor for ILEAD USA.

Greta Guck, Technology Coordinator from Minot Public Library, has been hired as the new Director at Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, ND. She replaces Bonnie MacIver who retired December 31st.

Aubrey Madler is the new Assistant Director and Technical Services Librarian at Mayville State University's Byrnes-Quanbeck Library. For the last five years she worked as an Information Specialist on the Rural Assistance Center Project at the UND Center for Rural Health. Aubrey began her new position on November 4, 2013.

The Bismarck Public Library started a Senior Citizen Nook Program in May. Using funds donated by the Library's Friends group, they partnered with Touchmark on West Century and Valley View Heights to purchase 10 Nook eReaders to be used for their book clubs. The first step was teaching residents how to operate the Nooks. The program is now in full swing and is proving to be popular. The books on the eReaders are requested by residents and are purchased and loaded by bookmobile staff. The eReaders are checked out to the institution and activity directors at each facility manage individual checkouts to their residents.

The results of a survey done over the summer show that respondents favor the idea of building a new facility over remodeling the current Grand Forks Public Library. 43% of the 720 respondents strongly agreed with the idea of building a new library compared to 18% who strongly supported a remodel. Praxis and the Library Working Group offered the survey on a voluntary basis. The survey showed that respondents place a high priority on the building's safety and accessibility. At its final meeting on October 3, the Library Working Group task force recommended constructing a new building to house the Grand Forks Public Library. The group's final report and recommendations were reviewed at the October 16 Library Board meeting.

The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council held its quarterly meeting at the North Dakota State Library on October 23-24, 2013. Among the agenda items were a review of current grant round applications, a report on the Summer Breeze workshops,

NORTH DAKOTA CONT.

and an update on the status of the State Librarian search. The NDLC awarded the following grants: WorldCat (to join the statewide online library catalog) - \$118,638 to Carnegie Regional Library and its two branches, Lakota Public Library and McVille Public Library; adaptive technology to provide access to information - \$6,718 to West Fargo Public Library; and technology to provide access to information – Williston Community Library (\$15,570), Valley City Barnes County Public Library (\$10,397), Hazen Public Library (\$6,993), Forman Public Library (\$3,171), and Lakota Public Library (\$2,948). The Council is also planning statewide focus group meetings in the spring to gather public and librarian input on revising Library Vision 2014 and improving library development in North Dakota.

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department in association with the North Dakota State Library has expanded its Library Loan Program. Through the program, library patrons can “check out” a pass providing entrance to any state park, effectively waiving the \$5 daily pass fee. The program first began in May of 2011 with the 11 public libraries in the Central Dakota Library Network. The program proved so popular that a decision was made to offer it statewide starting this fall.

Bismarck Public Library adult readers can now choose from a total of 25 Reader's Voice Book Club kits. Each canvas bag kit contains 7-12 copies of a book, a list of discussion questions, a sign-up sheet to keep track of individual copies of the books, and tips on leading a good discussion. The five newest adult kits are *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho, *The Good Earth* by Pearl Buck, *Not So Wild a Dream* by Eric Sevareid, *Postcards from Tomorrow Square* by James Fallow, and *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. Seven youth kit titles are also available: *The Familiars* by Adam Jay Epstein, *Goblin Secrets* by William Alexander, *Mira's Dairy: Lost in Paris* by Marissa Moss, *Splendors & Glooms* by Laura Schlitz, *Tomorrow Code* by Brian Falkner, and *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio.

War – Cake War, that is -- was recently declared at the Minot Public Library. Sixteen teens participated in a cake-decorating contest. Each was given a cake to decorate and the winner received a gift card to a local grocery store, which sponsored the activity and provided the cakes and supplies.

OKLAHOMA

OLA is offering three \$750 scholarships for graduate study leading to a degree in Library and Information Studies. In addition, there is a new \$750 scholarship established to honor the memory of Dr. Connie Van Fleet.

Oklahoma has had more than its share of disasters in 2013 so now OLA's Public Library Division is sponsoring a "Disaster Preparedness" Workshop was held in January. The workshop will help libraries and communities be better prepared when disaster strikes.

The Oklahoma Library association's Annual Conference will take place March 31-April 2, 2014 in Tulsa, OK at the Southern hills Marriott.

The Pioneer Library System opened the nation's first 24-hour public library kiosks in Norman, Oklahoma. People can choose from a collection of up to 400 print and digital items by using their library card. There are currently 2 locations in Norman offering the 24/7 machines, which also allows patrons to return books and pay any library fines via credit card.

Wayne Hanway, Executive Director of the Southeastern Public Library System of Oklahoma announces the opening of a new library building in Poteau, OK. Patrick Lynch Public Library, formerly Buckley Public Library, moved into the new multi-million dollar facility in September 2013. Named for a beloved elementary school teacher, the Patrick Lynch Public Library is a 21,000 square foot state of the art facility.



SOUTH DAKOTA

James McShane is the new director of Rapid City libraries. He comes to South Dakota from Suffield, Connecticut and began his duties in late December.

Steve Zalusky of ALA (American Library Association) wrote a three-part series about the 21st Century School Library Awards in South Dakota. Read the articles at the following links:

Part 1:

<http://atyourlibrary.org/libraries/school-libraries-small-town-school-library-equips-its-students-21st-century>

Part 2:

<http://atyourlibrary.org/libraries/school-libraries-green-screen-technology-one-many-innovations-south-dakota>

Part 3:

<http://atyourlibrary.org/libraries/school-libraries-welcoming-space-21st-century-learners>

The South Dakota State Library, in collaboration with the South Dakota Humanities Council, is offering 20 mini-grants for free registrations for the One Book South Dakota program for 2014. The 2014 title, chosen in honor of South Dakota's 125th is *Dakota* by Kathleen Norris. Norris describes the book as a "spiritual geography" set in and around Lemmon, SD, where Norris inherits and moves into her grandparents' place.

On December 9 Lynda Lowin joined the Braille & Talking Book Program at the SD State Library as Educational Materials Coordinator.

The South Dakota State Library is pleased to welcome Nina Mentzel in January as the new Metadata Cataloger. For the past six years Ms. Mentzel served as the Instructional Librarian with the South Dakota Library Network (SDLN). Prior to joining SDLN, she worked in public, military and corporate libraries. She will head-up the original metadata cataloging of digitization projects, and will also serve as a consultant and trainer for all librarians throughout the state in regard to cataloging, online systems and digitization.

SD Library Association annual Legislative Day will be held in Pierre on Thursday, January 23rd. Activities will be held throughout the day, culminating in recognition of libraries achieving accreditation from the SD State Library, and the Legislative Reception which will be held at Rawlins Municipal Library.

SOUTH DAKOTA CONT.

The Platte Public Library recently had a virtual visit from an author in the UK. As a way to encourage a love of books with story time kids, librarian Miranda Brumbaugh did some searching for a free Skype visit with an author. She stumbled across a page by children's author Kate Messner, which lists dozens of authors including Messner who offer free 20-minute Skype visits. Visit:

www.katemessner.com

Faith Public/School Library's Story Hour had a special guest recently. The local school's music teacher visited and brought Conga Drums to share with the preschoolers attending. Participants received an opportunity to play the drums and learn about the letter C. Library Supervisor Angela Ostrander then had the Story Hour Participants listen to a story about the letter C, make interactive paper crocodile puppets and decorate large sugar cookies.

Cozard Memorial Library in Chamberlain celebrated 100 years as a library with their 2013 Parade of Homes fundraiser during the Christmas season. Also in Chamberlain, the local reading council and library hosted a Late Night Literacy Lock-In at the library. The reading council hosts events year-round working to promote reading not only in the school but also in the home. 58 fifth, sixth, and seventh graders had an entertaining evening.



UTAH

With more than 174,000 visits per year by genealogists, scholars and others seeking historical information of some nature, The Utah Digital Newspapers (UDN) is an online archive in high demand. Founded in 2002 by the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah, the digital archive contains historic newspapers from across the state. And the archive has recently experienced a growth spurt with the addition of 130,000 pages from 11 Utah newspapers, including content from four rural newspapers new to the digital archive.

Various issues of the Brigham City Bugler (1891-1895), the Gunnison Valley News (1909-1935), the Milford/Beaver County News (1916-1946) and the Mt. Pleasant Pyramid (1912-1950) are now accessible, along with a total of 150,000 plus issues contained in 1.5 million pages of historic Utah newspapers that make up the UDN <http://digitalnewspapers.org/>.

Dell Vaughn McDonald, a retired Air Force colonel from Milford City, inquired several months ago about the possibility of adding the Milford News to the archive. "I spend a good deal of time doing historical research, so having my hometown paper at my fingertips is a wonderful convenience," says McDonald. This recent digitization push also increased the digital holdings of The Salt Lake Tribune. The years spanning 1914 through 1919 have been added – valuable and interesting issues from the WWI era. These additional years bring The Salt Lake Tribune's digitized pages total to 175,000 covering the years 1871-1919.

This expansion of the UDN was made possible in part by a grant from the Utah State Library Division, Department of Heritage and Arts, and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services that administers the Library Services and Technology Act. The Park City Museum, Davis County Library, Uintah County Library and Grand County Library also contributed funds to the project. Over the years, several county libraries have provided funding to have their regional newspapers added to the UDN. In Vernal, director of the Uintah County Library System Sam Passey comments, "Our patrons are thrilled to have online access to the Vernal Express. The investment we've made to the project has reaped great benefits and we hope to continue our support, bringing even more issues online."

UTAH CONT.

Elementary school librarian DaNae Leu is the recipient of the 2013 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award given by the faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ms. Leu is being honored for her efforts to defend the picture book *Our Mothers' House* by Patricia Polacco against her school administration's decision to remove the book from the library shelves of the district.

Utah is sending four candidates to the 2014 MPLA Leadership Institute. The four chosen to represent Utah this year are: Elizabeth Smart (Brigham Young University Library), Jennifer St. Clair (LDS Church History Library), Lyndi Hatch (Salt Lake County Library Services), and Elizabeth Woolcott (Utah State University Library).

The Gingerbread Diorama in the Duchesne County Library in Roosevelt brings to creation no fewer than 15 fairy tale themes, all created with completely edible art and crafting materials. Each year the Moon family cooks, invents, and designs a new Gingerbread House, along with a theme for the project. Stephen and Sabrina Moon worked together, along with a new family member, Matthew Moon, to create the annual presentation. Fairy tales represented in this year's scene include, "Jack and the Bean Stalk, Rapunzel, Princess in Disguise, Seven Swans, Little Red Riding Hood, the Swine Herder, Three Little Pigs, Little Mermaid, the Frog Prince, the Red Shoes, the Gingerbread Man, Snow White, Hansel and Gretel, the Brave Little Tailor, and the Shoemaker and the Elves.



MPLA Leadership Institute
April 27 - May 2, 2014

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Aubrey M. Madler, MLS | Information Professional
aubreymm@gmail.com | www.linkedin.com/in/aubreymadler

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

MPLA sponsors a professional development grants program to improve library services in the Mountain Plains region by supporting continuing education and research experiences for individuals employed in the library or related professions and grants to states.

Individual grants are available to current MPLA members residing in the MPLA region. These include:

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

Regular Grants of 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).

State Association Grants are available to all state association for funding pre-or post conference sessions up to \$500.

More information on the grants and the grant applications can be found on the MPLA website:

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

OFFLINE 2014

What's Next for Montana Libraries? Pieces of the Pie

February 7-8, 2014

Carroll College Campus, All Saints Hall

Register at <http://mtlib.org/Conferences/default.asp>

CONFERENCES

The annual Offline conference is an MLA event, hosted in 2014 by the Montana State Library. This year's theme encourages Montana librarians to ponder what's on the horizon that scales successfully statewide and encourages resource sharing and collaboration. Together, we will identify potential projects for library collaboration and sharing that provide Montanans with exceptional library resources.

Montana libraries have come a long way in the last two decades. A statewide shared catalog, discovery system, legislatively funded databases, downloadable e-content, a digital repository of Montana materials, centralized patron authentication, a growing courier, a statewide learning portal....there is much to celebrate! Where do we go, together, from here?

Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President of OCLC Research & Chief Strategist, will launch this conversation with a keynote address. Two session tracks will follow, both of which will keep us engaged in this year's Offline focus. Track One sessions revolve around innovative technologies that scale for collaborative resource sharing statewide. Track Two sessions look at the library's engagement with its local community, online and offline. Conference attendees will be able to select sessions from either track.

Conference presenters and participants will be asked to keep these pivotal questions in mind during the sessions:

- How does the technology, activity or service being discussed develop and sustain resource sharing and collaboration among Montana libraries?
- Does the idea scale well statewide and if so, how might this be achieved for the benefit of all Montana libraries as they strive to better serve their patrons?
- How does the technology, activity or service being discussed benefit Montana library patrons?

A final plenary session will bring us back together to share ideas generated during the conference. As part of these wrap up discussions, we will compile a list of the top new ideas we feel are crucial to what's next for Montana libraries... what are those "pieces of the pie".

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

ARIZONA

DAN STANTON
Arizona State University
danton@asu.edu
arizona@mpla.us

COLORADO

TIFFANIE WICK
Western State College
of Colorado
twick@western.edu
colorado@mpla.us

KANSAS

DAN IRETON
Kansas State University
dli6873@k-state.edu
kansas@mpla.us

MONTANA

NORMA GLOCK
Columbus High School
nglock@cablemt.net
montana@mpla.us

NEBRASKA

JAKE RUNDLE
Hastings Public Library
rundleje@gmail.com

NEVADA

ELLEN FOCKLER
eafockler@gmail.com
nevada@mpla.us

NEW MEXICO

LEANN WELLER
University of New Mexico
Valencia Campus Library
wellerleann@yahoo.com
new_mexico@mpla.us

NORTH DAKOTA

PAULETTE NELSON
Minot Public Library
pnelson@srt.com
north_dakota@mpla.us

OKLAHOMA

LESLIE LANGLEY
Wister Public Library
langley@oklibrary.net
oklahoma@mpla.us

SOUTH DAKOTA

BRENDA HEMMELMAN
South Dakota State Library
brenda.hemmelman@
state.sd.us
south_dakota@mpla.us

UTAH

RUBY CHEESMAN
Salt Lake County Libraries
rcheesman@slcolibrary.org
utah@mpla.us

WYOMING

STEPHEN BOSS
University of Wyoming
Libraries
sboss@unyo.edu
wyoming@mpla.us

MPLA BOARD & STAFF

PRESIDENT

WENDY WENDT
Director, Grand Forks Public Library
2110 Library Circle
Grand Forks, ND 58201
Phone: 701-772-8116
Fax: 701-771-1379
librarywendy@gmail.com
president@mpla.us

VICE-PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT-ELECT

ANNIE EPPERSON
Head of Reference Services
University of Northern Colorado
Michener Library Campus Box 48
Greeley, CO 80639-0091
Phone: 970-351-153
Fax: 970-351-2963
annie.epperson@unco.edu
vicepresident@mpla.us

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

JANAE KINIKIN
Science Librarian, Stewart Library
Weber State University
2901 University Circle
Ogden, UT 84408-2901
Phone: 801-626-6093
Fax: 801-626-8521
jkinikin@weber.edu;
pastpresident@mpla.us

RECORDING SECRETARY

MELISSA CLARK
Information Services Librarian
South Dakota State University
H.M. Briggs Library
2115 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57006
Phone: (605) - 688 - 5955
melissa.clark@sdstate.edu
secretary@mpla.us

AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

MARY ANN THOMPSON
214 Northridge Drive
Hays, KS 67601
785-628-6399
awards@mpla.us

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

NICOLE SUMP-CRETHAR
Digital Library Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University
Edmon Low Library, DLS
Stillwater, OK 74078
Phone: 405-564-0888
Fax: 405-744-7579
ansumpcre@gmail.com
communications@mpla.us

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COORDINATOR

AUBREY MADLER
Information Specialist
UND Center for Rural Health
Rural Assistance Center
501 N. Columbia Road Stop 9037
Grand Forks, ND 58202
701-777-6025
aubreymm@gmail.com
coordinator@mpla.us

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COMMITTEE, CO-CHAIR

ADRIANE JUAREZ
Director, Park City Public Library
1255 Park Avenue
Park City, Utah 84060
Phone: 435) 615-5600
adriane.juarez@parkcity.org
leadership@mpla.us

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COMMITTEE, CO-CHAIR

ANALI MAUGHAN PERRY
Associate Librarian-
Collections & Scholarly
Communication
Arizona State University
P.O. Box 871006;
Tempe, AZ 85287
Phone: (480) 727-6301
anali.perry@asu.edu;
leadership@mpla.us

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

DANIELLE LOFTUS
TECHNOLOGY/FINE ARTS LIBRARIAN
University of South Dakota Library
414 E. Clark
Vermillion, SD 57069
Phone: (605) - 677 - 5123
danielle.loftus@usd.edu
membership@mpla.us

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

EILEEN WRIGHT
Reference Librarian/Archivist
Montana State University
1500 University Dr.
Billings, MT 59101
Phone: 406-657-1656
Fax: 406-657-2037
ewright@msubillings.edu
nominating@mpla.us

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

JUDY ZELENSKI
Mountain Plains Library Association
14293 W. Center Dr.
Lakewood, 80228
Phone: 303-985-7795
execsecretary@mpla.us

WEBMASTER

DAN CHANEY
Associate Professor Oklahoma State
University
306 Edmon Low Library
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74075
405-744-9772
dan.chaney@okstate.edu

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

ROY DEGLER
Digital Library Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University
215A Edmon Low Library
Stillwater, OK 74078
405-744-6541
roy.degler@okstate.edu
mpla20@mpla.us

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

ABBY MOORE
Education Librarian
University of South Dakota
ID Weeks Library
414 East Clark Street
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-677-6094
abby.h.moore@usd.edu
editor@mpla.us

PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

TOM TAYLOR
Member Library Services Coordinator
South Central Kansas Library
321 N. Main St.
South Hutchinson, KS 67505
Phone: 800-234-0529 x 149
Fax: 620-663-9797
tom@sckls.info
prof_development@mpla.us

PROGRAM COUNCIL CHAIR

ANNIE EPPERSON
Head of Reference Services
University of Northern Colorado
Michener Library Campus Box 48
Greeley, CO 80639-0091
Primary Phone: 970-351-153
Fax: 970-351-2963
annie.epperson@unco.edu
program@mpla.us

BYLAWS & PROCEDURES

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR

ROBIN BROOKS CLARK
Director, Sump Memorial Library
222 North Jefferson
Papillion, NE 68046
Phone: 402-597-2042
Fax: 402-339-3918
robin.r.clark@gmail.com;
bylaws@mpla.us

NEWSLETTER

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SUBMISSIONS

SUBMIT TO

Abby Moore, Editor
MPLA Newsletter
University of
South Dakota
I.D. Weeks Library
414 E. Clark
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-677-6843
editor@mpla.us

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www.mpla.us/documents/newsletter/index.html

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