

# Newsletter

*Big Horizons Close Community*

April—May 2015

[www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)

Volume 60, Number 2

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Stretch-a-Straws from Bill  
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*Roseanna Andrade and Frosley Fowler, with their picture book **Letters from Luis / Las Cartas de Luis**. Read about the project on [page 3](#).*

Arizona Colorado Kansas Montana Nebraska Nevada New Mexico  
North Dakota Oklahoma South Dakota Utah Wyoming

# ONE BOOK 4



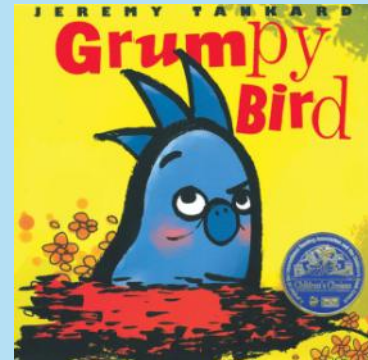
# COLORADO

## an interview with Beth Crist



### FAST FACTS

- One Book 4 Colorado was launched in 2012.
- In 2014, the program distributed more than 75,000 copies of the same book—*Grumpy Bird*, by Jeremy Tankard—in English and Spanish, to 4-year-olds throughout Colorado.



- OB4CO is a collaboration between Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia's office, Reach Out and Read Colorado, the Colorado State Library, the Denver Preschool Program, public libraries, the private sector, and Colorado nonprofit and foundation communities.
- OB4CO is modeled on the successful Preschool One Book, One Denver program.

**MPLA:** How has One Book 4 Colorado grown since 2012? Has the implementation changed at all from year to year?

**BC:** Each year, OB4CO has received more publicity statewide, as well as ever-increasing interest from parents, preschool teachers, and nonprofit organizations.

Public libraries across the state have offered excellent programming, outreach, and publicity that has gone a very long way to spread the word about the program; they've also partnered extensively with local governments and nonprofits, which have sometimes expanded into larger collaborations.

In 2014 OB4CO had billboards in Denver, thanks to a company that heard about the program and donated the ad space, and McDonald's produces tray liners twice a year advertising the voting period and the giveaway period for every one of their restaurants in Colorado.

*Continued on page 18*

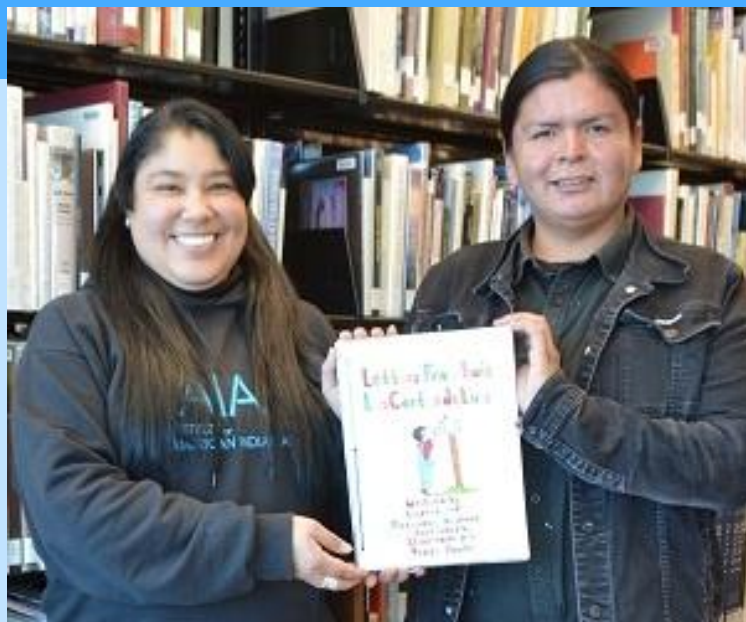


# Find Yourself in a Book: Students Create Book that Changes Lives

by Val Nye

Several weeks ago, Roseanna Andrade, a student at the Institute of American Indian Arts, came into my office with a folder in her hands. She set the folder gently on the table in my office and carefully opened it to reveal the colorful hand-drawn cover of a book with a yarn-tied binding: *Letters from Luis / Las Cartas de Luis*.

As I was to learn, it was a book she wrote and worked to illustrate with her friend and fellow student, Frosley Fowler. The children's book (for people of all ages) holds a powerful message of change and hope. Their book is already changing the lives of young people in Santa Fe.



I had the honor of talking to Roseanna and Frosley about their experience with the book thus far. It is a story of inspiration, collaboration, creativity, and activism.

Roseanna was inspired to write the text of the book after interviewing two women for an assignment in her Oral History class last fall. She interviewed Mara Taub and Demetria Martínez, who founded the Biblioteca Amigos Library at the Santa Fe County Youth Development Center. During the interview, Roseanna learned about the library's founding in 2014 and a poetry workshop the women started as programming for the library. As part of her research, Roseanna read the poetry written by incarcerated youth living at the youth detention center.

Roseanna was so inspired by the work of Taub and Martínez, and a poem written by a teenager named Luiz, that she felt compelled to write a story. Roseanna's story is about nine-year-old Ernesto, whose older brother, Luis, is incarcerated at the detention center in Santa Fe. In the story, Luis visits the library at the Youth Development Center, a place that inspires an idea for Luis that will allow the brothers to stay in contact.

*Continued on page 20*

# Awards Committee Seeks Nominees

by Mary Ann Thompson, Awards Committee Chair

**Looking for a unique gift for a colleague? Why not nominate them for a MPLA Award? We have something for everyone:**

The MPLA Awards Committee is seeking nominees for the following awards:

**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.

**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 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.

**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 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 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.

**The deadline for nominations is July 15, 2015, and the awards will be given out at the MPLA / Wyoming Library Association conference in September. The nomination form is available [online](#).**





# WLA-MPLA Conference

Cheyenne, Wyoming • September 23–25

The 2015 Wyoming Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association joint conference will be held at the beautiful Little America Resort in Cheyenne, September 23-25.



Planning for the conference is well underway. Conference organizers have already received more than a dozen program proposals, and additional proposals will be accepted through May 1 (see sidebar).

*Continued on page 22*

## MPLA President-Elect Eric Stroshane writes:

*Changing Libraries in the New West* is the theme for this year's MPLA conference, held jointly with the gracious folks from the Wyoming Library Association.



Now is the time to contemplate what you'd like to present, and submit your proposal to the conference committee. **All proposals are due at the end of the business day on May 1, 2015, so don't delay.**

For more information, visit the [official conference site](#). If you're ready, go ahead and [make your submission](#)—we are exceedingly excited to hear from you!



# Meet Hagrid and Friends



This is Hagrid, a dachshund mix who lives with MPLA's Colorado State Representative, Stephen Sweeney. Stephen writes:

While Hagrid may not be the size of his namesake, he most certainly thinks he's big stuff.

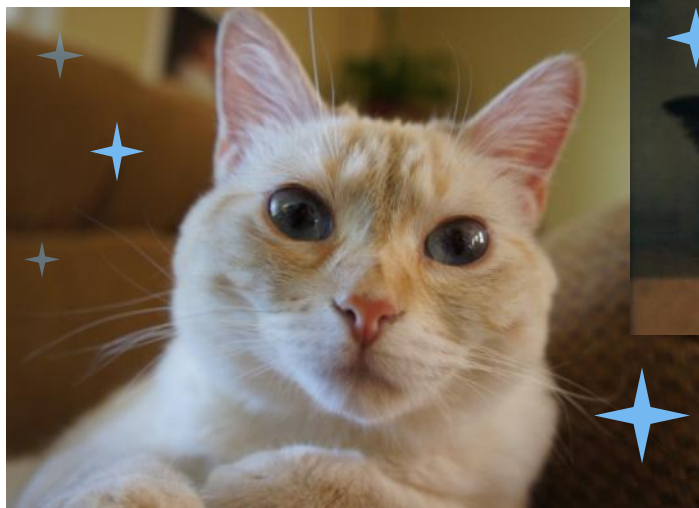
Hagrid was brought to the Dumb Friends League by a good Samaritan, where he waited until he found his loving forever home. He is about five years old, and is still as playful



as a puppy. His favorite activities include playing with his best friend, Mika, being jealous for attention, and biting his nails, even though he's been told what a bad habit it is.

## Me and My Pet

*Of course you know MPLA is a great professional organization, but did you know that MPLA members have the cutest pets anywhere? We do! You can see your pet here, too. Just send a photo or two, and a brief description of what makes your pet special, to [editor@mpla.us](mailto:editor@mpla.us).*



Dr. Tina Fuzzenstein, M.D. (left), and Lucky (above) live with MPLA President Elect Eric Stroshane, in North Dakota.

*Continued on page 23*



# MPLA Professional Grants for Individuals and State Associations

Grant monies go to support professional development. Individuals can receive mini-grants up to \$150, or regular grants up to \$600. (Must be a current MPLA member, plus immediate past year member, to apply for mini-grants up to \$150; must be a current MPLA member, and must have maintained membership for the previous two years, to apply for regular grants up to \$600). State associations can receive grants up to \$500.

## Upcoming 2015 deadlines for individual grants are:

**May 27**  
**July 29**  
**September 30**  
**November 25**



Grant details and applications are available [here](#).



## Highlighting Montana Leadership Institute Alumni

*Pam Arroues, 2010*

### What are you doing now?

I am the Senior Information Systems Specialist for the Water Quality Planning Bureau at the Montana Department of Environmental Quality in Helena. Along with running the library, I design and maintain various Access databases. I have also developed a tablet application for our water quality monitors to use in the field.

### What was the most valuable element that you took from the Leadership Institute?

It not only refreshed my love of librarianship but it also taught me to expand my horizons and grow with the needs of my users.

### What one piece of advice did you learn from LI that you could share with other MPLA members?

Don't be afraid to try new things.



I SUPPORT THE MPLA!



Buying and reloading a grocery gift card purchased through MPLA raises funds for MPLA's programs.

A full 5% of your purchases made using the card at participating stores goes directly to MPLA.

Visit the MPLA website for details, and remember MPLA/King Soopers/Kroger grocery cards make great gifts!





# Around the Region



On March 6, Arizona State University closed the Noble Science and Engineering library on its Tempe campus due to flooding. The flooding may have been caused by a sprinkler system in the building, and damage to the collection was reportedly minimal. Library services are being provided at ASU's Hayden Library while repairs are underway.



The Safford City-Graham County Public Library presented a "Fun with Letters" workshop for preschool children and their caregivers on February 27. The program included songs, stories, and games to help children recognize and be excited about letters. Each participating child received a free book, courtesy of First Things First and the library. Read more in the [Eastern Arizona Courier](#).



Meet the winning authors for [ONEBOOKAZ 2015](#) at Scottsdale Civic Center Library, April 1, 6:30-8:30 pm. Marcia Fine, Dan Trumpis, and Gale Leach will discuss their work, the ins and outs of digital publishing, and ONEBOOKAZ, with facilitator Michael Perkins.



The Colorado Association of Libraries Lobby Day was held on March 18. CAL Lobby Day is an annual opportunity to connect with state legislators to celebrate and share stories about the tremendous impact that libraries have in our communities around the state. CAL provided talking points, and encouraged representatives from all types of libraries to attend.



The Colorado Association of Libraries joins with the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Special Library Association and several other Colorado library and archives organizations each year to present Colleague Connection.

Colleague Connection is held each spring to encourage networking and learning among students, paraprofessional staff, librarians, archivists, trustees, and friends of libraries. All area information professionals are invited to join the event. This year's event will be held on April 16, in Denver. More information can be found [here](#).

# KANSAS

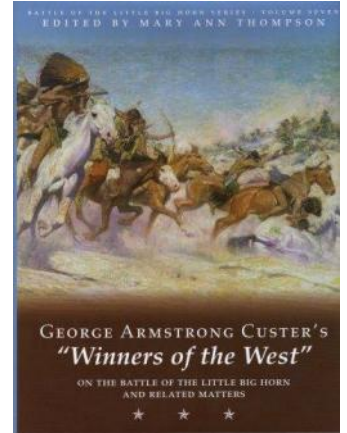
The Kansas State Library has introduced a pilot program to make Wi-Fi hotspot devices available to library patrons. The devices are available through several library systems in northeast Kansas, including Atchison Public Library, Leavenworth Public Library, and Silver Lake Public Library. Funding is provided by a grant from the Knight Foundation, through the New York Public Library. Read more about the program in the [Topeka Capital-Journal](#).



United States Senator Jerry Moran (R—Kansas) visited Lawrence Public Library in March, checking out updates to the library and meeting with library director Brad Allen about federal topics affecting libraries. Read about the visit [here](#).

## KANSAS, continued...

In February, Mary Ann Thompson presented a talk entitled, "George Armstrong Custer's Winners of the West," based on her book of the same name, in Hays.



Thompson has been a member of MPLA since 1984, and is currently Chair of the Awards Committee.

The Kansas Library Association and the Missouri Library Association will hold their first ever joint annual conference, *Libraries Without Borders*, in Kansas City, MO, September 30—October 2.

## HANDS-ON LIBRARY PROGRAMMING – STEM



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Connect ordinary drinking straws into imaginative projects using die-cut waste plastic from household waste such as milk cartons, ice cream cartons, cat litter jugs and other soft plastic containers.

**One hour Program Demo** includes using a die cutter to demonstrate cutting reusable connectors from milk cartons and the like, discussing briefly the difference between recycling and repurposing, and hands on activity with each artist getting a supply of reusable connectors and straws to assemble and additional supplies to take home.

**\$250 for each session**, plus mileage when appropriate  
Donations of clean plastic milk jugs or ice cream cartons, cat litter jugs or other clean, dry plastic containers welcomed.

Additional supplies for take home may be available for purchase.

We are now accepting bookings for this program.

Currently booked with Arapahoe Libraries and also in Estes Park.

Please call or email to reserve your dates.

Bill "Stretch" Coleman – Bill Coleman Entertainment  
303-922-4655 303-907-3855

https://www.stiltwalker.com/stretch-a-straw/



## KANSAS, continued...

Robin Clark is the new director of Emporia Public Library, replacing Sue Blechl, who retired in January. Clark moved to Emporia from Pappillion, Nebraska, where she served as director of the Sump Memorial Library. Clark is an MPLA member, and attended the MPLA Leadership Institute in 2010.



## MONTANA, continued...

*last year), provisions of the PATRIOT Act are still in place, and access to the Internet may soon be tiered, with those who can afford to pay more getting better services. This is why I chose **Access for All: A Montana Value** as the theme for this year's conference.*

Barbara Jones, director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom, will present the keynote address. Tim Tingle will be the guest speaker at the Author luncheon.

Conference information and registration are available on the [MLA website](#).

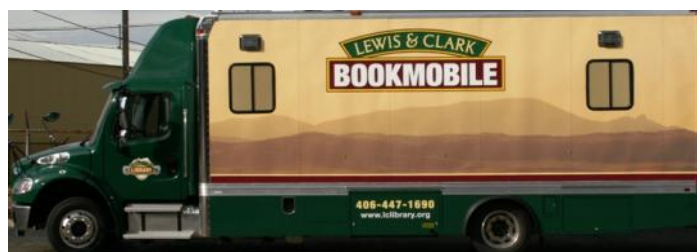


The Montana Library Association annual conference will be held April 8-11, in Bozeman. The theme is *Access for All: A Montana Value*. MLA President Sheila Bonnard explained why she chose this year's theme:

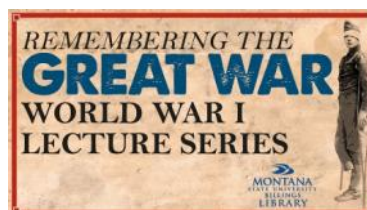


*Access, especially equitable access, has been and remains a core value for libraries. The ALA Library Bill of Rights that was adopted in 1939 is essentially a document affirming the right to access information. The Bill of Rights highlights inclusivity, the importance of valuing differing points of view, the need to fight censorship, and the importance of libraries being open to all. And it mandates us all to defend and advocate for such access.*

*Threats to access are persistent, and of increasing concern in this age of technology. Filtering is still alive and well, challenges to library materials are common (including here in Montana, where Adam Rapp's young adult novel Punkzilla was challenged*



Lewis & Clark Library in Helena had a fun contest to capture their Bookmobile in the wild over the winter. From January through March, area residents were invited to share photos of the bookmobile as it delivered books and internet access throughout the county. People could share their photos on the LCL Bookmobile [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) for a chance to win prizes.



From September through March, Montana State University Billings Library hosted a lecture series commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of World War I. The lectures were free and open to the public, and featured the research of MSUB faculty in the fields of Native American studies, science, communication, history, and English.

Program details and accompanying materials are available [here](#).

# NEBRASKA

Nebraska State Senator Burke Harr has introduced a bill to legalize seed libraries and seed sharing programs in the state. Three Omaha Public Library branches currently offer seed libraries, along with the libraries in Beatrice and South Sioux City. Several other Nebraska libraries have expressed interest in starting their own programs, but have not moved ahead because of the legal questions involved. Read more in the [Omaha World-Herald](#).

The Nebraska Library Association unveiled their new website in February. The URL is [nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com](http://nebraskalibraries.site-ym.com). The web address will be updated when the transition to the new site is complete.



# NEVADA

The Nevada Library Association will attend Nevada Library Legislative Day on April 13, to engage with state officials and advocate for libraries state-wide.



The Nevada Library Association will coordinate Library Snapshot Day events during National Library Week, April 12-18. To learn more, or sign your library up, contact

NLA Government Relations Chair Joan Dalusung, [jdalusung@hdpl.org](mailto:jdalusung@hdpl.org).

# NEW MEXICO

The New Mexico Library Association Mini Conference will be held April 9 & 10, at Laguna Pueblo. This year's theme, *Libraries United*, focuses on how librarians can emphasize and appreciate our common mission, goals, and passions as information professionals working for our communities. Conference details are available [here](#).



February 5, 2015 was Library Legislative Day at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe. Public librarians, school librarians, and academic librarians gathered to meet their legislators and to thank them for supporting General Obligation Bonds benefiting libraries. Librarians urged support for various capital improvement projects.

The NMLA Annual Conference will be held in Albuquerque, October 21-23.



Rio Rancho's Loma Colorado Main Library hosted Star Wars Fest 3 on February 21, featuring Star Wars activities for all ages. Offerings included edible crafts, a "droid hunt," and hourly prize drawings.

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library in Las Cruces presented the Jennie Curry Storyfest on February 21. Storytellers included Don Walker and family, Gloria Hacker, Sarah Addison, and other members of the Storytellers of Las Cruces.



## NEW MEXICO, continued...



Interlibrary Loan and Periodicals Librarian Rosie Klopfer has retired from Roswell Public library after 29 years of service.

Klopfer was destined to be a

librarian. Her mother and father were both librarians, and she met her husband because he worked for her father. She has been a driving force for change at Roswell Public Library by promoting Books for the Blind and reorganizing periodical collections. She plans to return as a library user, and as a volunteer at the library bookstore.

## NEW MEXICO, continued...

Orlando Romero, retired director of the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library at the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, and a noted author and historian focusing on Spanish culture, has been knighted into the Spanish Royal Order, La Orden de Isabel la Católica, the Order of Isabela the Catholic. Romero was honored for his efforts to preserve Spanish culture, history, language and traditions. The award, signed by the king of Spain, is one of that country's highest honors. Romero says that being named to La Orden de Isabel la Católica, "is really special and very exciting."





# Doña Ana Community College

# LIBRARY SCIENCE PROGRAM



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## NEW MEXICO, continued...



Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer has been appointed to lead the New Mexico State Library. Ms. Moeller-Peiffer will commence her duties as State Library Director in early June.

Moeller-Peiffer has more than 35 years of experience in library and information science, and most recently served as Deputy State Librarian for Lifelong Learning in New Jersey. Read more about the appointment [here](#).

## NORTH DAKOTA

The North Dakota State Library has started a new program called “Librarian for the Day.” State Librarian Mary Soucie has volunteered to travel around to different libraries in North Dakota throughout the year, to be an extra set of hands. The goal of the program is to get a better understanding of the needs of North Dakota libraries, get to know the librarians better, and let Mary get her hands dirty!



Mary’s first “Librarian for the Day” experience was at the McLean Mercer Regional Library on January 23. If you are interested in having Mary visit your ND library, contact Kristin at [ndsipa@nd.gov](mailto:ndsipa@nd.gov).

The North Dakota State Library now offers state residents access to Rocket Languages, an online language learning resource. Rocket Languages features fully downloadable, iPod/MP3 compatible, interactive audio lessons in various languages.

## NORTH DAKOTA, continued...



Libraries across North Dakota are encouraged to participate in Snapshot Day on Wednesday, April 15th 2015, or any day during National Library Week (April 12-18). Check the North Dakota State Library [website](#) for details on how to get involved.



Fargo Public Library reported record circulation in 2014, when patrons checked out more than one million items. The library also had record program attendance, with nearly twenty thousand people attending library programs.

## OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Snapshot Day was held on March 5, with strong participation from across the state.



Oklahoma Library Association

Oklahoma Library Legislative Day will be held April 7. The state is facing a budget deficit, and state agencies including the Department of Libraries are facing cuts. Library staff are encouraged to help lawmakers recognize the importance of library services.

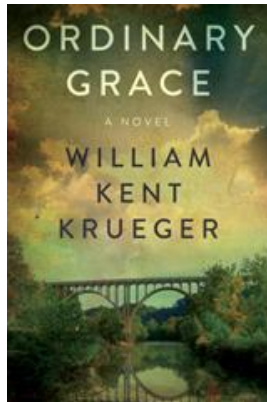


The Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference will be held in Midwest City, April 29—May 1. Mountain Plains Library Association President Annie Epperson will be in attendance representing MPLA.

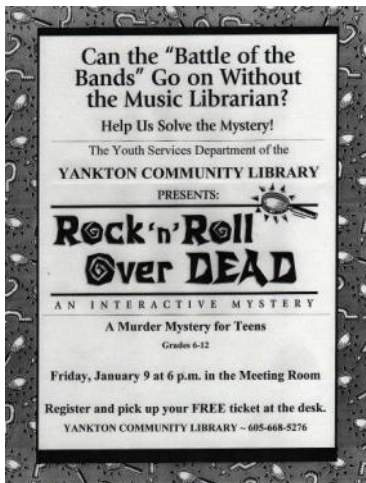


# SOUTH DAKOTA

The South Dakota Humanities Council has announced that *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger, was chosen as the One Book South Dakota for 2015.



Megan McDonald will be the 2015 Young Readers One Book South Dakota author. Two volumes of her "Stink" series will be combined to serve as the common read for students across the state.



Yankton Community Library hosted a murder mystery night for teens in January. The popular event was open to students in grades 6-12.

Deadwood's historic Carnegie Library, built in 1903, will undergo a window restoration project in 2015, at a cost of \$110K.

Rawlins Municipal Library, in Pierre, offered a special "Read With Me" program for children ages birth through five in January and February. The program encouraged parents and children to read together at home.

Rawlins Library has also installed a new circulation desk. This was the last phase of an expansion/renovation project that began in 2014.



## SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...



Northern State University's Beulah Williams Library has launched an online exhibit about South Dakota's Oahe irrigation project. The exhibit focuses on the controversy in the 1970s and early 1980s surrounding the effort to bring water from the Lake Oahe reservoir, near Pierre, to northeast South Dakota for irrigation. You can view the exhibit [here](#).

Mitchell Public Library held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening for their newly renovated facility on February 20. The grand opening concluded an 18-month, \$2.3 million expansion that added 6,200 square feet to the building.



The Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library welcomes two new staff members. Beth Knedler is the new Youth Services Librarian. She was most

recently with the Vermillion Public Schools, as the middle school art teacher and high school librarian.

Siegrist Library also welcomed a new Adult Programming Coordinator/Information Specialist - Susan Heggstad, who also has an art and teaching background. Susan is a professional artist who actively exhibits her work, advocates for art in her community, and has served on the South Dakota Arts Council's roster of Artists in Schools and Communities.



## SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

Peggy Howard is the new K-12 Librarian at Takini School.

Aubrey Windish is the new librarian at O’Gorman Junior High School in Sioux Falls.

Rita Feldhaus is the new librarian at St. Thomas School in Madison.

Leisah Bluespruce, of the Dakota Club Library, was published in the *Black Hills Literary Journal*.

Karen Four Bear has joined the Dakota Club staff as Assistant Librarian/Children’s Librarian.

Sturgis Public Library hosted two American Girl Tea Parties in January 2015. The program was a hit, and will now be a yearly event. In February, the library offered a Star Wars Jedi Training program.



In October, a group of Utah librarians visited a little known gem: the Utah State Law Library at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse. Law Librarian Jessica VanBuren informed participants about the various collections housed in the library, and provided an overview of the legal resources they can provide.

Since 2011, Salt Lake City librarian Liesl Johnson has been on the front lines in promoting early childhood literacy.

“In order to really bolster early literacy in our community, we needed to do more than just provide resources and programs within our walls,” said Johnson, who serves as the Salt Lake City Public Library System’s director of children and family services. “We needed to go out into the community.”

Johnson oversees the library system’s Smart Start program, a community outreach project that serves more than 1,000 children each month.

Read more about the Smart Start program in the [Deseret News](#).



West Central Humboldt Elementary Counselor Lindsey Peters worked with her 3rd through 5th grades on the theme of "Random Acts of Kindness." The students were challenged to actively promote kindness in random ways. A visual of all of the random acts were put into a book in the library.

Siouxland Libraries and Rawlins Municipal Library have recently purchased the Gale Courses database for patron use. There are 365 free, six week courses ranging from understanding adolescent children to Microsoft Word and Excel, as well as courses on digital photography and many other subjects.



## UTAH, continued...



On February 7, the Salt Lake City Public Library System celebrated the grand opening of its new Glendale Branch. The Glendale neighborhood is one of the most diverse communities in Salt Lake City, and includes a high percentage of residents under age 18. The branch features nearly 20,000 square feet of space, making it the largest City Library branch, and offers 40,000 items for circulation.

The Utah State Library Division announced a number of promotions and staffing changes in March.

Juan Tomás Lee has been promoted, and is the Utah State Library (USL) Library Development Program Manager.

Jessica Whetman has been hired as the USL Continuing Education Coordinator.

Dr. Stephen Matthews, USL Grants Coordinator, retired effective March 1. Questions about grants may be directed to Juan Tomás Lee until a new Grants Coordinator is hired.

David Valentine has been promoted and is the USL Multistate Center West (MSCW) Director.

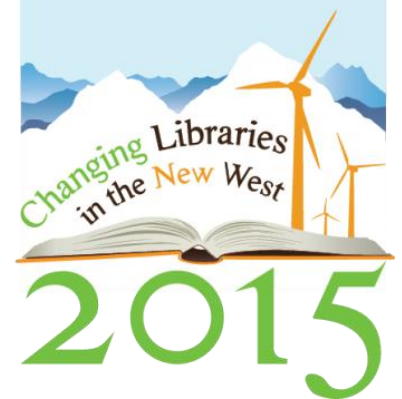
Joe Esquivel has been promoted and is the Administrative Assistant for the USL MSCW.



# WYOMING

WLA-MPLA Conference  
Cheyenne, Wyoming • September 23–25

The Wyoming Library Association/ Mountain Plains Library Association joint conference will be held September 23-25, in Cheyenne. Read more about the conference on [page 5](#).



LIBRARY JOURNAL  
**Movers  
& Shakers**

Children's Librarian Carrie Lucas, of the Laramie County Library System, has received the prestigious "Mover & Shaker" award from Library Journal, in recognition of her work in bringing an Early Literacy Center to her library.

The Campbell County Public Library System Foundation's fourth annual Cupcake Wars fundraiser will be held on April 18. The public is invited to donate \$5.00, taste all of the cupcakes, and vote for their favorites. Bakers will be eligible to win prizes, and all funds raised will be matched by the Wyoming Public Library Endowment Challenge Program.



Implementation gets a bit easier each year as the state level partners, public libraries, and Reach Out and Read Colorado clinics become more experienced handling logistics, programming, and publicity. Many libraries now offer more extensive and/or elaborate programming and outreach.

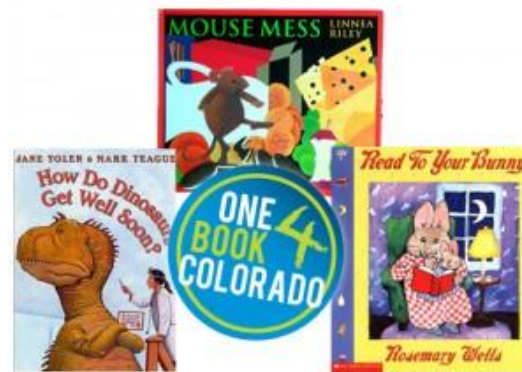
### **MPLA: What kind of feedback have you gotten about the program from parents and early childhood educators?**

Each year we've offered a survey for parents and caregivers about the impact the program has on their family. We've received hundreds of responses; here are just a few:

*"My daughter still won't read all the words, but she is getting better. But she is getting motivation from knowing other kids are all reading the same book. A kids book club is pretty motivating for her."*

*"This book was sitting in our van the day we received it and my 4 year old's older brother saw it, picked it up, and read it to him. This is HUGE for kids to have a positive experience with reading and I love that it doesn't just have to come from us parents."*

*"My child enjoyed receiving the book as a gift and appeared to feel special because of it. The librarian noticed she was the right age and offered it to her - so I think my daughter felt she had been "chosen" to receive it. We really appreciate this program. Thank you for the gift of reading! I am more excited about sitting down and reading since receiving this book - it seemed to revive my parental interest in reading to my kiddos :)"*



# 2015

The One Book 4 Colorado finalists for 2015 are *Mouse Mess*, by Linnea Riley, *How Do Dinosaurs Get Well Soon?*, by Jane Yolen, and *Read to Your Bunny*, by Rosemary Wells.

Voting was open from January 1 through March 1, 2015. The winning title will be announced on April 13.

Books will be distributed April 13-27, at public libraries, clinics, and preschools statewide.

*Continued on page 19*





Children and caregivers reading the 2013 OB4CO, *Duck on a Bike*, by David Shannon

**MPLA: If other states wanted to offer similar programs, what advice would you have for them?**

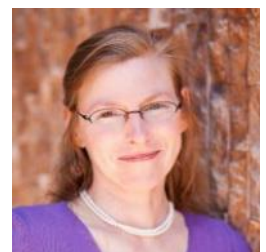


Author Jeremy Tankard gets grumpy with preschool students and their birds

This is a significant undertaking; it requires a great deal of staff time and funding each year, and careful planning to maintain sustainability of the program into the future. Partnering at all levels is critical for every aspect of the program. It is a very rewarding program, leading to increased literacy opportunities for families, awareness of the importance of early literacy, community goodwill, promotion of libraries, and community partnerships; it's also a fantastic opportunity to instill the love and fun of reading in young children.

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Beth Crist is the Youth & Family Services Consultant at the Colorado State Library. If you have questions about OB4CO, you can contact Beth at [crist\\_b@cde.state.co.us](mailto:crist_b@cde.state.co.us).



## Find Yourself in a Book, continued from page 3



He writes to his brother, Ernesto, explaining that Ernesto can visit the public library and check out the same books he is reading in the detention center library. They can read the same books while they are apart. Luis also learns to write poetry, and shares his poems with Ernesto in the letters they exchange. The poems in Roseanna's books were written by incarcerated teens in Santa Fe.

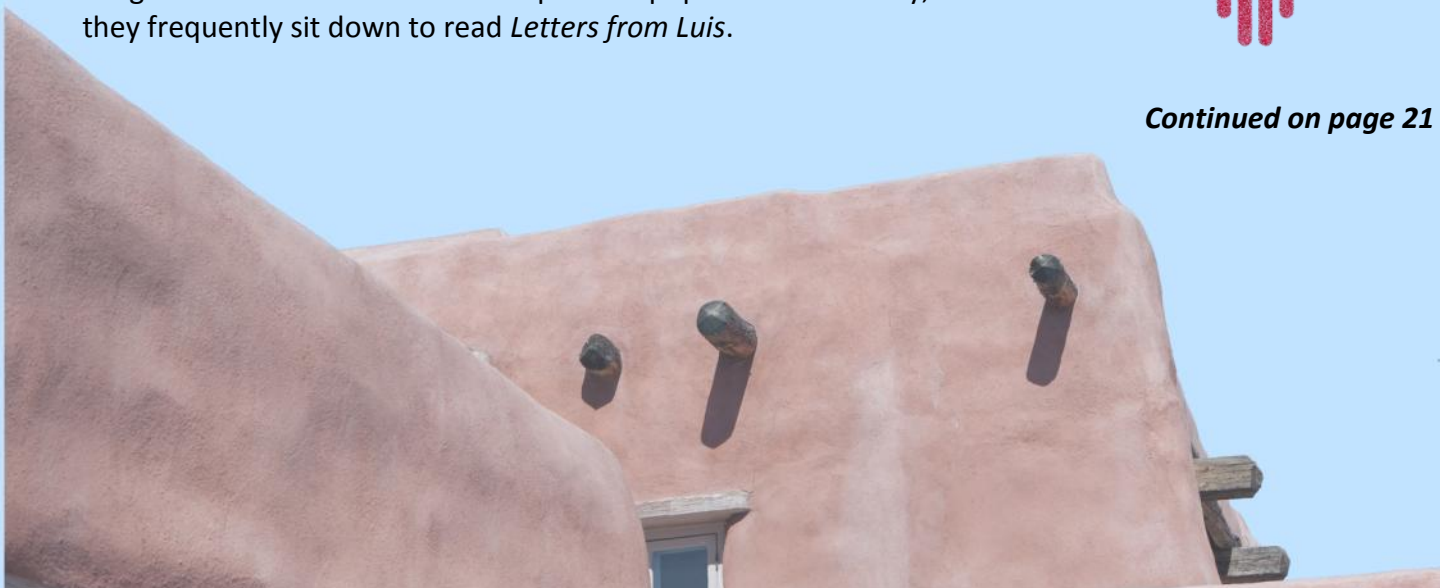
When Roseanna was considering illustrations for her story, she turned to her friend and collaborator, Frosley. The pair have developed a shared artistic partnership and understanding that some people search for their entire lives. Interviewing them

together, it was clear they share a creative energy. Roseanna said that as they were working on the book, she would describe the scene she had in her mind as she wrote the text, and Frosley would create illustrations that perfectly reflected her vision. Frosley, a Cinematic Arts and Technology major, explained that he used the skills he has learned for storyboarding films and creating perspective to illustrate the book from a child's viewpoint. This is the first book Frosley has illustrated, but he says he has been creating coloring books for his younger brothers and sisters for most of his life. Frosley's drawings were inspired by Native American illustrators Shonto Begay and Bahe Whithorne, Sr.

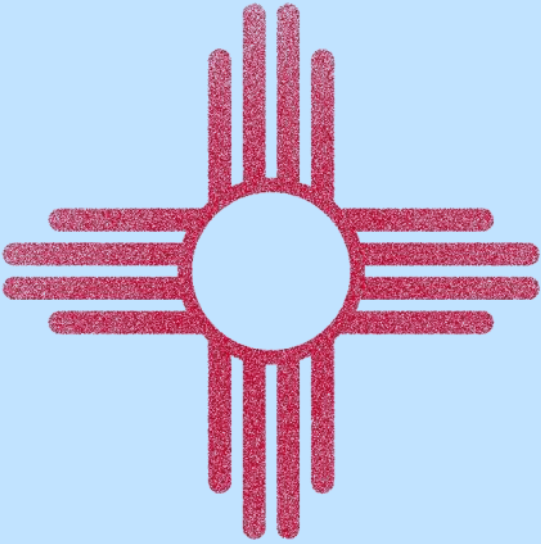
Both Roseanna and Frosley are interested in using books and art as a catalyst for change in their communities. Roseanna is now an intern at the Biblioteca Amigos Library where she sees first-hand how books can change the lives of teenagers. As part of her job, Roseanna welcomes teens into the library and encourages them to have conversations with her about books. When a patron says that they don't read books, she asks them if they would be interested in reading a book she has written. This question piques their curiosity, and they frequently sit down to read *Letters from Luis*.



*Continued on page 21*







The readers literally see themselves in her book. Luis wears the detention center uniform, and sits in a library illustrated to depict the library as it actually exists at the detention center. The book has become a conversation piece that has led patrons to search for other books in the library that reflect their lives. Roseanna also works to understand readers' interests, and is quickly becoming familiar with young adult books so that she can help teens find books that fit their interests. She also recently learned that her book has inspired at least one incarcerated teen to write her own life story; to write her own book.

Reflecting on the creation of the book, her new internship at the library, and the lives she and Frosley have already touched with this book, Roseanna says, "This was just a class project, but it goes way beyond that."

The two have future plans to expand the book's influence. They would like to explore publishing options, and distribute the volume to children and families who have incarcerated family members. Their goal is to place their book in prison libraries, youth detention centers, and elementary schools around the country.

Through their experiences with this project, Roseanna and Frosley have recognized that children are deeply affected by incarcerated family members. Talking about family members who are imprisoned is not a common topic of conversation. People who are incarcerated often become invisible family members, especially to children. The authors' hope is that their book will create avenues for children to talk about their family members and that there will be less of a stigma associated with families of the incarcerated.



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*Val Nye is the Library Director at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, and co-author of True Stories of Censorship Battles in America's Libraries (ALA Editions, 2012). She has been an MPLA member since 2003, and is MPLA's Recording Secretary for 2014-2015.*



## Dear MPLA we want your advice

**What advice would you give someone just starting out in a library career?  
What do you wish someone had told you when you started your first library job?**

Send your advice, 250 words or less, to [editor@mpla.us](mailto:editor@mpla.us). Please include your name and library.  
The deadline for inclusion in the June-July issue of the MPLA newsletter is May 1.

The opening reception will be held at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum, where attendees can enjoy the exhibits while mingling with colleagues.



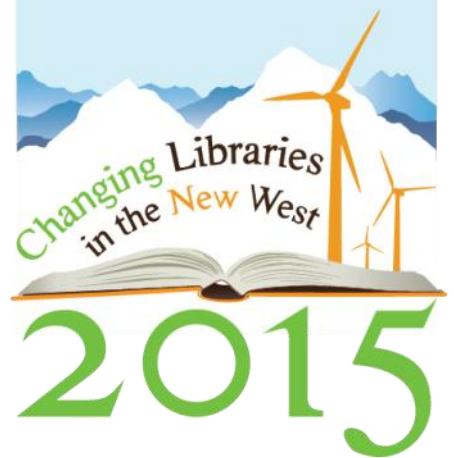
Trolley transportation between the Little America Resort and the Old West Museum will be provided.

Conference Chair Stephen Boss said, "We thought the trolleys would be nice touch

and would prevent us from having to engage in transportation logistics."

A keynote speaker and children's author have been confirmed. Conference details and registration information will be posted on the [conference website](#) as arrangements are finalized.

WLA-MPLA Conference  
Cheyenne, Wyoming • September 23–25



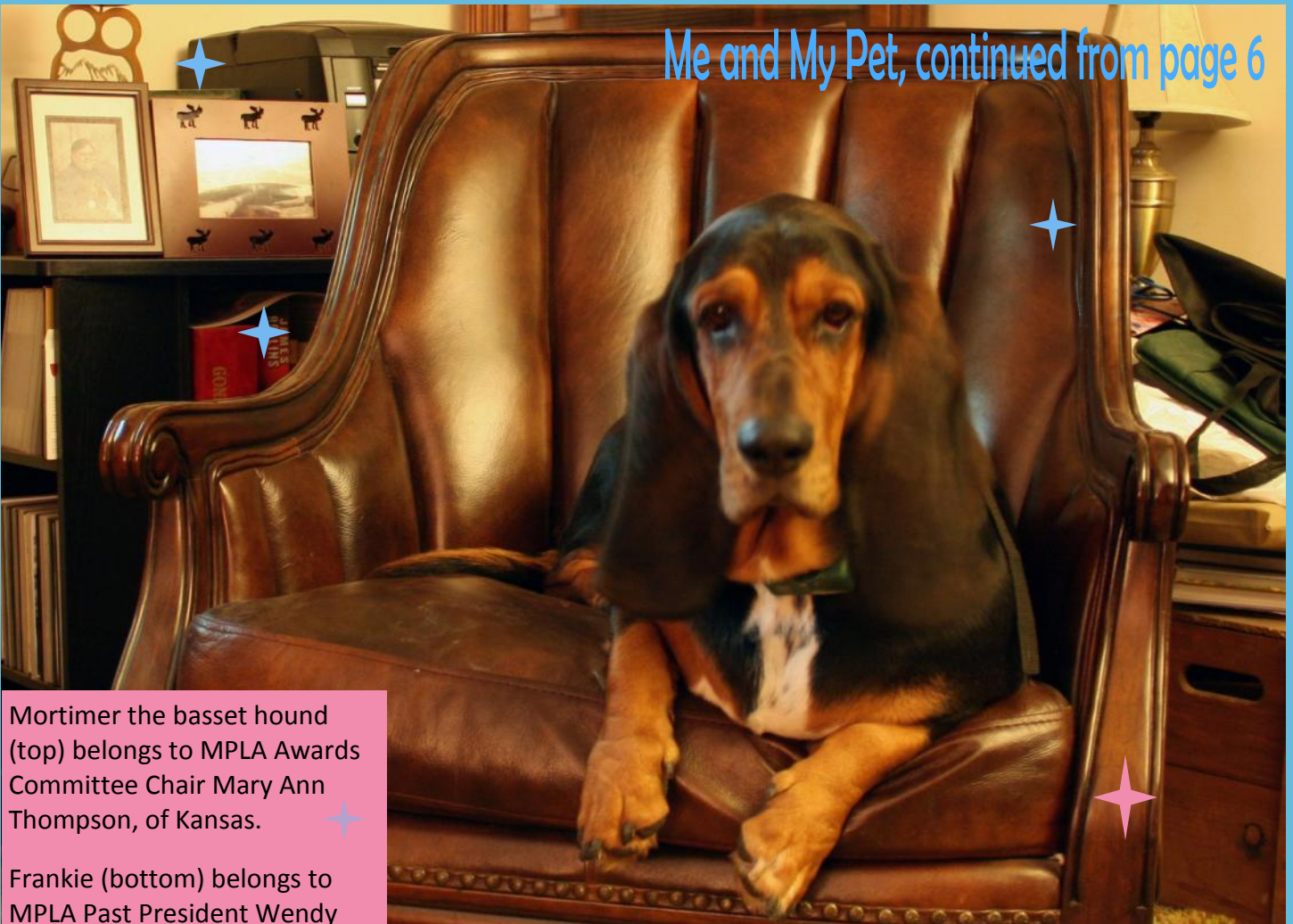
### Get to Know Cheyenne

- Cheyenne is the Wyoming State Capitol, and the seat of Laramie County.
- Cheyenne has a population of more than 60,000.
- The city's slogan, *Live the Legend*, is inspired by its Western history and culture.
- Cheyenne is home to Cheyenne Frontier Days, the world's largest outdoor rodeo, and Big Boy, the world's largest steam engine.
- Cheyenne is 90 minutes north of Denver, Colorado.





Me and My Pet, continued from page 6



Mortimer the basset hound (top) belongs to MPLA Awards Committee Chair Mary Ann Thompson, of Kansas.

Frankie (bottom) belongs to MPLA Past President Wendy Wendt, in North Dakota. Frankie is fascinated by this blue geometric toy, and likes having her picture taken.



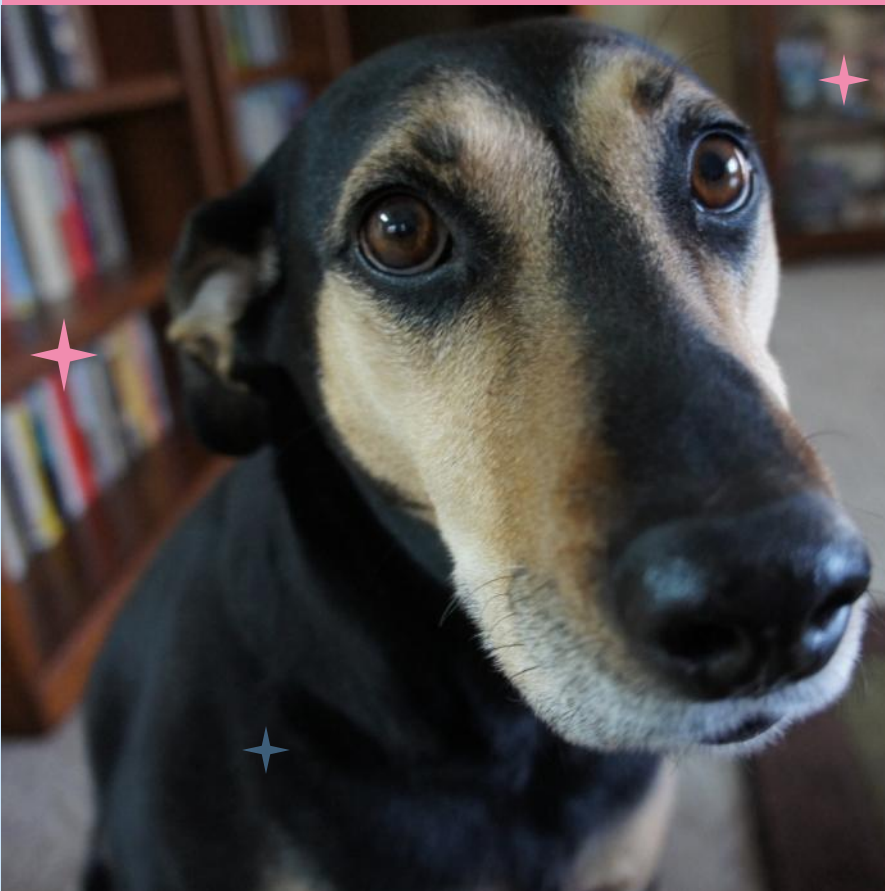
*Continued on page 24*



Me and My Pet, continued from page 23



PerGynt the Norwegian Elkhound (upper left, in barrel), and Sheila, the border collie/Australian shepherd mix (upper right), belong to MPLA's Wyoming State Representative, Stephen Boss.



Daphne (lower left), and Putney (lower right), live in North Dakota with MPLA President-Elect Eric Stroshane.



# Welcome, New Members!

**Vina L. Begay**

College Archivist  
Diné College  
Tsaile, AZ

**Lori M. Braun**

Director  
McLouth Public Library  
McLouth, KS

**Jessica Carsten**

Student  
University of Denver  
Denver, CO

**Amy Corey**

Senior Clerk  
Omaha Public Library, Abrahams Branch  
Omaha, NE

**Rachel H. Davila**

Library Clerk  
Hot Springs Public Library  
Hot Springs, SD

**Melissa J. Efta**

Librarian  
Havre High School  
Havre, MT

**Carl Jesse Elston**

Library Media Paraprofessional  
Englewood Schools, Clayton Elementary  
Morrison, CO

**Muriel Green**

Student  
Emporia State University  
Lawrence, KS

**Hyunjin Han**

Student  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Marinda Keller**

Customer Service Specialist  
Salt Lake County Library System, Bingham Creek Library  
South Jordan, UT

**Cathleen DK Kroeger**

Children's Librarian  
Hays Public Library  
Hays, KS

**Amanda Lehman**

Digital Librarian  
University of Wyoming Libraries, Coe Library  
Laramie, WY

**April K. Miller**

Sayre Campus Librarian  
Southwestern Oklahoma State University  
McMahan Library  
Sayre, OK

**Janet Quackenbush**

Associate Librarian  
Eloy Santa Cruz Library  
Eloy, AZ

**Bryan Ricupero**

Metadata Librarian  
University of Wyoming, Coe Library  
Laramie, WY

**Kate M. Scheeler**

Library Media Specialist  
Minot Central Campus Library  
Minot, ND

**KellyAnne E. Terry**

Director  
Lewistown Public Library  
Lewistown, MT

**Teresa S. Welsh**

Professor  
University of Southern Mississippi School of  
Library and Information Science  
Hattiesburg, MS

**Ashley Jo Will**

Reference Specialist  
Sweetwater County Library System,  
Rock Springs Library  
Rock Springs, WY

# 2015 Calendar



**Montana Library Association conference**  
April 8-11; Bozeman, MT

**Oklahoma Library Association conference**  
April 29-May 1; Midwest City, OK

**Utah Library Association conference**  
May 13-15; St. George, UT

**American Library Association annual conference**  
June 24-30; Chicago, IL

**Wyoming Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association joint conference**  
September 23-24; Cheyenne, WY

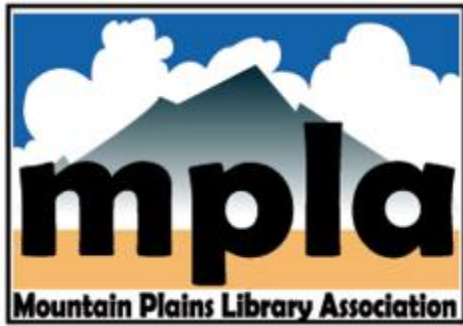
**South Dakota Library Association conference**  
September 23-25; Rapid City, SD

**Kansas Library Association conference**  
September 30-October 2; Kansas City, MO

**Nevada Library Association conference**  
October 13-14; Fallon, NV

**Nebraska Library Association conference**  
October 14-16; Lincoln, NE





The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities.

## Quick Links:

Website: [www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)

Executive Board – Officers, State Representatives and Staff:  
[www.mpla.us/personnel/executiveboard.html](http://www.mpla.us/personnel/executiveboard.html)

Join MPLA or Renew Membership:  
[www.mpla.us/membership/index.html](http://www.mpla.us/membership/index.html)

Professional Development Grants:  
[www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html](http://www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html)

Calendar: [www.mpla.us/calendar.html](http://www.mpla.us/calendar.html)

Awards Nomination Form:  
[www.mpla.us/forms/awardsnom.html](http://www.mpla.us/forms/awardsnom.html)

Grocery Card Program: [www.mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html](http://www.mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html)

Send Newsletter Information:  
[www.mpla.us/forms/newssubmission.html](http://www.mpla.us/forms/newssubmission.html)

Donate to MPLA: <http://www.mpla.us/forms/lidonation.html>

Professional Forum information:  
[www.mpla.us/events/mplaprof2014.pdf](http://www.mpla.us/events/mplaprof2014.pdf)

MPLA on Facebook: [www.facebook.com MPLALibraries](http://www.facebook.com/MPLALibraries)

The MPLA Newsletter is published bimonthly online by the Mountain Plains Library Association:

<http://mpla.us/documents/newsletter/index.html>

**ISSN 0145-6180**

Editor: Amadee Ricketts,  
Durango Public Library

Copy deadlines for articles, news, and advertisements:

- **January 1**
- **March 1**
- **May 1**
- **July 1**
- **September 1**
- **November 1**

## Advertising:

There is no charge to MPLA personal or institutional members for classified advertising.

Non-members are charged \$1.25/line. Display advertisement copy rates are available from [editor@mpla.us](mailto:editor@mpla.us).

## MPLA Membership:

For matters pertaining to individual or institutional memberships and address changes, contact:

Judy Zelenski  
Executive Secretary  
14293 West Center Drive  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228  
(303) 985-7795  
[execsecretary@mpla.us](mailto:execsecretary@mpla.us)