



Mountain Plains Library Association

Newsletter

Big Horizons Close Community

April—May 2016

www.mpla.us

Volume 61, Number 2

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**MPLA Leadership
Institute 2016**

MPLA/CALCON 2016

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**Welcome New
Members**

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**ADVERTISERS
SUPPORTING MPLA**



The Rock Springs Library LEGO Club made leprechaun traps in March, and they caught this cute green monster!

Check out more happenings at the libraries in Sweetwater County, WY, on the Sweetwater County Library System [Facebook page](#). Get the latest news from [Wyoming](#) and all of the Mountain Plains states in [Around the Region](#).

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



The 10th MPLA Leadership Institute will be held in Estes Park, CO, May 15-20, 2016.

Facilitator Maureen Sullivan has more than 25 years of experience in leadership development, and is the Past President of the American Library Association.

The Leadership Institute offers world-class professional development and mentoring, right in the heart of the Mountain Plains region.

The Mentors for the 2016 Leadership Institute are:

[Robert Banks](#)

Chief Operations Officer
Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library

[Robin Clark](#)

Library Director
Emporia Public Library

[Samantha Hines](#)

Head Librarian
Missoula College Campus Library
University of Montana

[Mary Soucie](#)

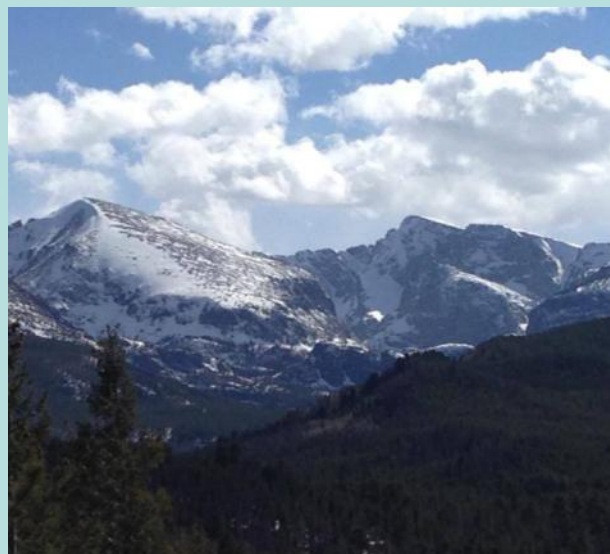
State Librarian
State of North Dakota

[Wendy Wendt](#)

Director
Grand Forks Public Library

Like the Mentors, the Fellows of the 2016 cohort are a diverse group of library professionals from around the region.

Read on to meet these emerging leaders.



MPLA Leadership Institute 2016

Continued on page 3

FELLOWS

MPLA Leadership Institute 2016

The 2016 MPLA Leadership Institute Fellows come from public, academic, K-12, and special libraries in ten of the twelve Mountain Plains states. Read more about all of them [here](#).



Savannah Ball
Southwest Kansas
Library System, KS



Heather Braum
Northeast Kansas
Regional Library
System, KS



Leanne Cheek
Pioneer Library
System, OK



Jason Cornelius
Logan Public Library,
UT



Ashley Creek
University of Saint
Mary, KS



Becca Cruz
Pikes Peak Library
District, CO



Stephanie Espinoza
College of Southern
Nevada, NV



Ellen Greene
Arizona State Archives,
AZ



Maria Gruener
Watertown Regional
Library, SD

Continued on page 17



October 20—22, 2016

Embassy Suites, Loveland, Colorado

CALCON generally attracts more than 500 members of the Colorado library community. The 2016 conference, which includes MPLA, promises to be even more dynamic.

Join your friends and colleagues from Colorado and throughout the twelve state Mountain Plains region to learn, collaborate, and expand your professional network.

Look for conference information [here](#), and registration [here](#). Register early to save on one-day or full conference registration.



The Embassy Suites Loveland is located at 4705 Clydesdale Drive, Loveland, CO 80538. Look for booking details [here](#).

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Nicolle Davies
Arapahoe Libraries

Steven Bell
Temple University



Donna Scheeder
International
Federation of Library
Associations

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



Smith's



Around the Region

AZ ARIZONA



[ONEBOOKAZ](#) has announced this year's winning titles for children, teens, and adults. The selected books have been digitally published by the Arizona State Library, Archives, & Public Records, and are available online for all Arizona residents to enjoy.



The Arizona Library Association is currently accepting program proposals for the 2016 AzLA Annual Conference.

The conference will be held in Tucson, November 2-4. The deadline for preconference, program, and workshop proposals is April 25. Poster, roundtable, and blitz session proposals must be submitted by May 23. Look for conference and program submission details [here](#).



[Prescott Public Library](#) celebrated St. Patrick's Day in style, with piping by reference librarian Russ Miller, of Southwest Skye Pipe and Drums, and an appearance by Prescott's Sacred Heart Step Dancers.

CO COLORADO

April 11-25, the One Book 4 Colorado program will distribute copies of the same picture book to more than 75,000 four year olds across Colorado.



This year's book selection will be announced on April 11. Read about this innovative public-private partnership [here](#).



Denver Public Library has released a [45 rpm vinyl record](#) featuring two local bands, to raise awareness of DPL's local music service, [Volume Denver](#).

Volume Denver collects music by Denver area artists, and makes songs available for DPL cardholders to download and stream at no charge.

Durango Public Library hosted Ivy Beville and her dragon Chompers at a special storytime in honor of National Children's Dental Health Month in February.

Beville is an Outreach and Education Representative for the Colorado Medicaid Dental Program.



KS KANSAS



Hays Public Library hosted the Central Kansas Library System's annual Tri-Library Conference in January. The event serves as a mini-conference for the public libraries in Salina, Hays and Great Bend, as well as for CKLS staff. The conference features a keynote speaker, workshops, and plenty of networking opportunities. This year's keynote address was from Pat Wagner (Siera), a library consultant from Denver. Wagner spoke about the importance of communication within the library. Workshop sessions ranged from library security and safety to mobile technology.



Kansas House Bill 2719, a bill related to bonds and taxation, threatens funding streams for more than 100 Kansas libraries, according to Wichita television station [KAKE](#). The Kansas Library Association and library professionals throughout the state took immediate action to [oppose the bill](#) in March.

The University of Kansas Libraries have acquired a collection of more than 1,000 zines on a variety of subjects. The zines have been added to the Wilcox Collection of Contemporary Political Movements in KU's Kenneth Spencer Research Library. Read more about the collection [here](#).

MT MONTANA



Montana Library Association

From the Mountains to the Prairies

The Montana Library Association Conference, *Find your Inner Superhero: Protect! Empower! Inspire!* will be held April 6-9, in Missoula. MPLA members may attend the conference at the Montana membership rate. Conference details are available [here](#).



Lewis & Clark Library has introduced the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program in Helena. Youth Services

Librarian Marissa Bazan explains that the program “encourages reading aloud to children, from birth through age 5, to prepare them for school and beyond. Once parents and children reach certain goals, we reward them with incentives. When families reach 1000 books, we will celebrate with a party!”

Bozeman's Hyalite Elementary School has received a \$3,000 grant from author James Patterson, which it will use to buy books for its summer mobile library. Hyalite Principal Mike Van Vuren created the mobile summer library — a bicycle pulling a cart full of books — to reach children in the school's neighborhood, which is across town from the Bozeman Public Library. This will be the third summer that teachers and community members have biked books to kids.



The Mansfield Library Archives and Special Collections at the University of Montana have a unique mascot — a cat who plays the banjo! Meet Banjo Cat on the library's [Facebook](#).



Patrons of all ages got into the act at the Kalispell Mini Maker Faire in February.

MONTANA, continued...



ImagineIF Libraries (Kalispell) and Flathead Community College held a Mini Maker Faire on February 27. The family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness gave people a chance to show what they have made, and share what they learned in the process.



The event featured more than 30 local makers, “how to” demonstrations, kids’ activities, and informative speakers.



The Nebraska Library Association held its annual Advocacy Day on March 8. NLA legislative priorities for 2016 include supporting library funding, and opposing changes in state statutes relating to libraries. Read more [here](#).



Springfield Memorial Library was one of 13 libraries across Nebraska to receive a Library Improvement Grant from the Nebraska Library

Commission. Statewide, the grants totaled more than \$58,000. Grant funds will be used to facilitate the growth of library programs and services, according to the [Papillion Times](#).

NV NEVADA



The [Nevada Reading Week Conference](#) was held in Sparks, February 26-27. One of this year's featured authors was Matt de la Peña, winner of the 2016 Newbery Medal for his picture book *Last Stop on Market Street*. Longtime MPLA member and MPLA Membership Committee Chair Ellen Fockler chaired the 2016 Nevada Reading Week Conference Committee.



The University of Nevada Las Vegas Lied Library will host a Human Library event on April 12 and 13. This unique program gives members of the UNLV community a chance to "check out" human books, and learn about subjects, hobbies, or lifestyles that are new to them. Read about the Human Library [here](#).



Melissa Stoner, Workflow Manager for the Nevada Digital Newspaper Project at University of Nevada Las Vegas Lied Library, has accepted a new position as

Native American Studies Librarian at the University of California Berkeley.

NM NEW MEXICO



The New Mexico Library Association 2016 Mini-Conference will be held in Las Cruces, April 28-29. Conference details are available [here](#).



New Mexico State University Library's Jenny Lockwood (Library Specialist II, Acquisitions) and Yolie Chacon Valle (Library Specialist, Access Services) have retired. Both look forward to having time to enjoy some new activities, along with some plain old leisure.

Academic library staff from around New Mexico have been making a splash on a national level recently. Cassie McClure, NMSU Library Communications Specialist, was awarded the [Border Regional Library Association](#) 2015 Staff Member of the Year for her "outstanding library service to the community."

Jacob Nash from UNM Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center has had a paper published in [Digital Libraries Magazine](#).



Jon Eldredge, Laura Hall, and Karen McElfresh, with others, published a paper in the January issue of the [Journal of the Medical Library Association](#).

NEW MEXICO, continued...



Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, in Las Cruces, has introduced the FastPencil for Libraries platform for self-publishing and e-publishing. The platform allows users to create print books, or distribute ebooks through OneClickdigital. The library will offer classes to introduce the product in conjunction with National Poetry Writing Month and National Library Week, April 10-16. Look for more information on the library's [website](#).

NEW MEXICO, continued...



[Placitas Community Library](#) displayed 14 quilts by area quilters in March, in honor of National Quilting Month.

The Placitas Community Library hosted Poets in Placitas events on March 12. The program featured poet Larry Goodell and Professor John Roche, leading a program entitled "The Literary History of Poets in Placitas." After the lecture, participants took a walking tour of Placitas, highlighting places where noted artists and poets lived. The event was co-sponsored by the Placitas Community Library's History Project, Duende Press, and Jules' Poetry Playhouse.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY Doña Ana Community College

LIBRARY SCIENCE PROGRAM

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ND NORTH DAKOTA



The North Dakota State Library, along with many other state agencies, faced a budget cut of 4.05% for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. After careful consideration, the State Library opted to make changes to some statewide databases as a cost saving measure. As a result, Auto Repair Reference Center and Literary Reference Center will be discontinued after June 30. The State Library will still offer access to Novelist, but will discontinue Novelist Plus and Novelist K-8 after June 30, 2016. More information about the budget adjustment process can be found in the February 2016 [Flickertale Newsletter](#).

The North Dakota State Library Spring Workshops will be held April 11-12, in Bismarck. Topics will include Grant Writing, STEM & Libraries, Passive Programming, Digital Initiatives, and more. Workshop details are available [here](#).



The North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference will be held in Dickinson, September 21-23. The keynote speakers

will be musician Jim Gill, and author Taylor Brorby. As conference plans are finalized, details and registration will be available on the [NDLA website](#).

Red Trail Elementary School (Mandan) and Solheim Elementary (Bismarck) have each received \$1,000 for books from Kupper Automotive's fourth annual \$1K Reading Giveaway Facebook promotion.

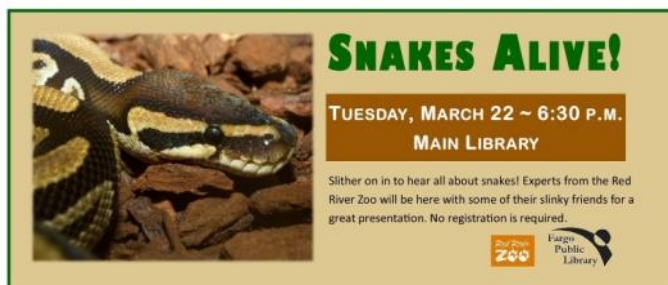
NORTH DAKOTA, continued...



The University of North Dakota's Chester Fritz Library is undergoing a mini-renovation, including a fresh paint job in the Reference area, and some new furniture.



Teens and tweens at Minot Public Library got some hands-on experience with digital animation in March as part of the Library's Makerspace initiative.



Real snakes from the Red River Zoo visited Fargo Public Library in March, along with zoo staff members who shared all kinds of interesting facts about them.



Patrons at Grand Forks Public Library were able to clear up library fines

and help a local food bank with a Food for Fines program, March 13-19.

OK OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma Library Association annual conference was held March 30–April 1, in Tulsa. The keynote speaker was Jamie LaRue, a library consultant and Director of the American Library Association’s Office for Intellectual Freedom, Jame. MPLA’s Oklahoma State Representative, Tim Miller, staffed the MPLA booth.



Oklahoma State University’s Edmon Low Library has hosted a [Noon Concert Series](#) this spring, featuring ensembles from the University’s music department. The first Noon Concert Series was offered in 2004, and since then it has grown into an OSU tradition.



Oklahoma Department of Libraries

State agencies in Oklahoma faced budget cuts in January and again in February. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries budget has been cut 8% this fiscal year, which brings the cumulative 3-year cut to Oklahoma’s libraries to 33%. With a budget shortfall projected for the 2017 fiscal year, libraries in some communities may be forced to close.



Tulsa City-County Library now offers its patrons access to an extensive collection of video courses through [Lynda.com](#). Subjects include digital animation, web design, marketing, business communication, and more.

SD SOUTH DAKOTA



Craig Johnson, author of the Walt Longmire series, paid a special visit



to the Belle Fourche Public Library to do a Christmas reading and honor retiring library director Pat Engbretson, who retired in January after 37 years. Engbretson brought Johnson to the library as a budding author, and Johnson gave the longtime librarian a cameo role in his Longmire book, *The Serpent’s Tooth*. Read about Johnson’s recent visit to Belle Fourche in the [Butte County Post](#).

The Faulk County Library offered a "Winter Reading Advisory" reading program in January and February. The program provided a fun diversion from winter weather.



Viborg Public Library received a \$147,500 grant to assist with a library expansion project. Improve-

ments will include additional book storage, improved reading areas, a more defined children’s area, and new computer space.

Sturgis Williams Middle School recently received a \$4,000 grant from bestselling author James Patterson to support its school library. Scholastic Reading Club will match each dollar of Patterson's donation with bonus points that teachers can use to acquire books and other materials for their classrooms.



Attendance was great at this year's South Dakota Library Legislative Luncheon. The event was held on January 20, in the Capitol Rotunda.

SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...



The South Dakota State Library has added a collection of governors' messages to the library's Digital Collections site. The governors' messages collection includes inaugural, state of the state, and special session messages from as far back as 1890. All of the messages are text searchable and text readable for visually impaired readers. Access the collection [here](#).

SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

Eight South Dakota public libraries have been accredited by the State Library in 2016. Accredited libraries demonstrate that they meet [important benchmarks](#) for providing high quality library services to their communities. The accredited libraries are: Brookings Public Library, Watertown Regional Library, Dell Rapids Carnegie Public Library, Edgemont Public Library, Madison Public Library, Hill City Community Library, Scotland Community Library, and Potter County Free Public Library.

Teen artists are adding their talents to the walls of the Huron Public Library. Teen librarian Mary Olson says the displays really give local teens ownership of the teen area.





SOUTH DAKOTA, continued...

The principal and superintendent of schools in Faulkton (above) really got into the spirit of Read Across America when they read and acted out *Green Eggs and Ham* for elementary students in February. Watch their excellent performance [here](#).



Ashia Gustafson is the new director of the [Brookings Public Library](#). Gustafson comes from Minnesota, where she was manager of the Thief River Falls Library in the Northwest Regional Library System. She began her duties in Brookings on March 1.



The Utah Library Association offered its first-ever “failure conference,” *Strikethrough*, in February. The

purpose of the conference was to share and build upon lessons learned from experiences of failure. The conference was held at Salt Lake City Public Library, and the keynote speaker was Maureen Sullivan.

STRIKETHROUGH
THE UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
FAILURE WORKSHOP
Feb 19 & 20, 2016 • Salt Lake City

The Utah Library Association annual conference, *Open the Doors*, will be held in Layton, May 4-6. Look for conference details and registration on the [ULA website](#).



ULA 2015-2016
OPEN THE DOORS

UTAH, continued...



Salt Lake City Library’s Day-Riverside Branch hosted an art exhibit by local painter Anna Prosvirova in March. SLCL offers [art displays](#) at various locations year round.



Brigham Young University’s Harold B. Lee Library celebrated Women’s History Month in March with a display of publications and artifacts relating to the Relief Society. The LDS church-based Relief Society was formed in 1842, making it one of the oldest women’s organizations in the world. Read about the Special Collections display in the [BYU Daily Universe](#).



The Wyoming Library Association held its annual Legislative Reception on February 11, at the Wyoming State Library. The refreshments were potluck, a Wyoming Library Association tradition.



Finalists for the Dean of Libraries position at the University of Wyoming visited UW to participate in public forums in January and February. The candidates are Ivan Gaetz, library director at Colorado College; Clement “Clem” Guthro, director of libraries at Colby College in Waterville, Maine; Catherine Hamer, associate director for user services with the University of Texas Libraries; and Marilyn Moody, dean of the Portland State University Library. Read more about them [here](#).

Finalists for the Dean of Libraries position at the University of Wyoming visited UW to participate in public forums in

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We want your news!

Do you have news to share with the MPLA community? We want to hear it! Promotions, awards, interesting programs, and photos are all very welcome.

Submit news through the [MPLA website](#) any time. Deadlines for upcoming issues are May 1 (for June-July 2016), July 1 (for August-September 2016), and September 1 (for October-November 2016).

WYOMING, continued...



Longtime University of Wyoming librarian Michael Nelson died on December 27. Nelson had worked at UW since 1984, as a Social Sciences Librarian, French bibliographer, and ultimately in the Collection Development Office. Read

more about his life and work [here](#).

Tina Jayroe has joined the Fremont County Library System as the Lander Branch Library manager. She began her new position in February. Jayroe received her MLIS from the University of Denver, and has worked at Denver Public Library, and as Aurora Public Library's Systems Department Supervisor.



WYOMING, continued...



[Erik Larson](#), the acclaimed author of bestselling non-fiction including *Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*, will visit the University of Wyoming on April 20. Larson will give a free, public presentation in the College of Education Auditorium at 1:30 pm. He will also serve as keynote speaker at a UW Development Board dinner that evening. Read more in the current edition of [Check it Out](#), from UW Libraries.

MPLA Leadership Institute 2016 Fellows



Matthew Harp
Arizona State
University Libraries,
AZ



Eva Jacobson
Los Alamos County
Library System,
NM



Mary G. Johnson
O’Gorman High
School Library,
SD



Amber Kent
City of Casa Grande
Public Library, AZ



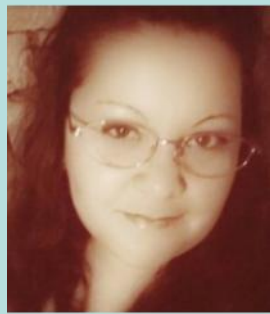
Sarah Landeryou
Wilkinson Public
Library, CO



Mary Jo Lorenz
Grand Forks
Public Library, ND



Sarah Nelson
 Fargo Public Library,
ND



Ruby Nugent
University of Colorado
Health Sciences Library, CO



Jim Nyland
Pingree-Buchanan
Elementary School, ND

This year’s cohort of Leadership Institute Fellows represent libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Utah.

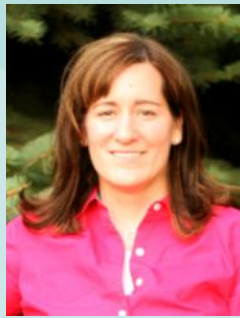
Along with their library work, one of these professionals operates a dance studio. Another Fellow spent time teaching English in Xinxiang, China. Get to know the 2016 Fellows [here](#).

Continued on page 18

MPLA Leadership Institute 2016 Fellows



Ana Olivier
Mikkelsen Library,
Augustana University,
SD



Kara Pearson
Sandy Library, UT



Joy Poole
New Mexico
State Library,
NM



Allison Reisig
Western Nebraska
Community College, NE



Terri Rickel
University of
Nebraska Libraries ,
NE



Sky Seery
North Platte
Community College,
NE



Emily Swanson
Westminster College,
UT



Becky Thoms
Utah State University,
UT



Melanie Toledo
Ak-Chin Indian
Community Library, AZ

The MPLA Leadership Institute offers a unique blend of mentoring, networking opportunities, and chances for reflection. Past participants have described their experiences as energizing, inspiring, and invaluable (2012 LI Fellows).

Meet this year's Leadership Institute Fellows [here](#).

Continued on page 19

MPLA Leadership Institute Fellows 2016



Natalie Vaughn
Oklahoma Department
of Libraries, OK



Coreen Wagner
Maricopa County
Library District, AZ



Diana Weaver
Basehor Community
Library, KS

Since the first MPLA Leadership Institute in 2002, Fellows have tackled a wide range of topics including work and leadership styles, interpersonal communication, leading organizational change, leading in MPLA and state associations, and many more.

Read about the history of the Leadership Institute [here](#), and learn about this year's Fellows [here](#).

THANK YOU

MPLA Leadership Institute Sponsors



SPRINGER NATURE



Welcome, New Members!

Andrew J. Cano

Virtual Learning Librarian
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Love Library
Lincoln, NE

Leanne Marie Cheek

Teen Coordinator and Selector
Pioneer Library System
Norman, OK

Jessica Deel

Library Assistant
St. Thomas More High School Library
Rapid City, SD

Christine A. Egger

Student
Emporia State University
Emporia, KS

Jacqueline Frank

Lead Staff Member & Commons Assistant
Montana State University Library
Bozeman, MT

Jessica Ellen Grey

Librarian
Pagosa Springs, CO

Jessica Henrichsen

Library Assistant
St. Thomas More Middle School Library
Rapid City, SD

Colleen M. Kulp

Librarian High Plains Library District
Centennial Park Library
Greeley, CO

Cynthia Lea

Landis Library Assistant
University of Denver Anderson Academic Commons
Lakewood, CO

Susan Lee Mergenthal

Graduate Student, Library & Information Science
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer

State Librarian
New Mexico State Library
Santa Fe, NM

Amanda Nicole Mongolo

Programs and Outreach Librarian
Washoe County Library System, Incline Village Library
Incline Village, NV

Annette Parde-Maass

Health Information Literacy Coordinator
Creighton University Health Sciences Library
Omaha, NE

Rachel S. Rose

Student
Fredonia, KS

Maribeth Shafer

Automation Consultant and ILS Manager
Central Kansas Library System
Great Bend, KS

Christie A. Snyder

School Library Consultant
Central Kansas Library System
Great Bend, KS

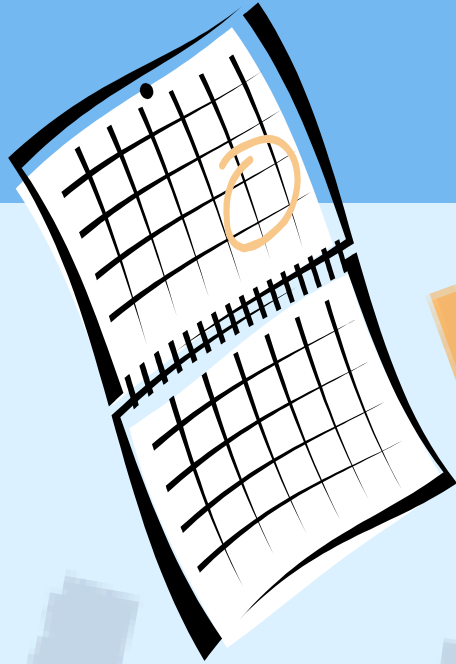
Alaina Wheeler

Library Assistant
St. Thomas More Middle School Library
Rapid City, SD

New Mexico State Library

Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer, State Librarian
Santa Fe, NM

2016 Calendar



Public Library Association 2016 Conference
April 5—9; Denver, CO

Montana Library Association Conference
April 6—9; Missoula, MT

**Mountain Plains Library Association
Leadership Institute**
May 15—20; Estes Park, CO

**American Library Association Annual
Conference**
June 23—28; Orlando, FL

**North Dakota Library Association
Conference**
September 21—24; Dickinson, ND

South Dakota Association Conference
September 28-30; Watertown, SD

Nebraska Library Association Conference
October 19—21; Omaha, NE

**Mountain Plains Library Association /
Colorado Association of Libraries Joint
Conference**
October 20—22; Loveland, CO





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

Executive Board – Officers, State Representatives and Staff:
www.mpla.us/personnel/executiveboard.html

Join MPLA or Renew Membership:
www.mpla.us/membership/index.html

Professional Development Grants:
www.mpla.us/committees/profdev/grantslinks.html

Calendar: www.mpla.us/calendar.html

Awards Nomination Form:
www.mpla.us/forms/awardsnom.html

Grocery Card Program: www.mpla.us/projects/grocerycard.html

Send Newsletter Information:
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

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>

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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.

MPLA Membership:

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

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(303) 985-7795
execsecretary@mpla.us