



Mountain Plains Library Association

Big Horizons Close Community

Newsletter

June 2018—July 2018

www.mpla.us

Volume 63, Number 3



HELLO SUMMER!

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINI GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Funding for projects requiring minimal financial support.
Member for 2 consecutive years
(Maximum amount: \$150)

REGULAR GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Funding for projects requiring substantial financial support, and for occasional funding of professional development opportunities requiring travel outside the United States.
Member for 3 consecutive years
(Maximum amount: \$600)

DEADLINES FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

July 25
September 26
November 28

QUESTIONS?

Ryan Buller, Chair of the MPLA PDC,
with any questions
at Ryan.Buller@du.edu

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

Library Systems & Services

2018 Leadership Institute Sponsor

Library Systems & Services (LS&S) is a library operations company committed to the social mission of providing free access to information, technology and programs to promote lifelong learning. Founded in 1981 by passionate library professionals dedicated to improving patron service, Library Systems & Services operates more than 80 public libraries nationwide.

Building strong leadership and driving innovation in the library profession are core values of Library Systems & Services. Every library director and over 14 percent of staff are professional librarians with an MLS degree from an ALA-accredited library school. Library Systems & Services offers many professional development opportunities to its 1,000 team members across the country, including tuition reimbursement and loan forgiveness.

Library Systems & Services operates vibrant libraries using operational methods to enhance sustainable library service. As patron expectations and library services evolve, Library Systems & Services rises to the challenge by channeling insight and expertise to create a new paradigm for libraries—resources not just for literacy, education and enrichment, but springboards for economic and workforce development and neighborhood cohesion.

While public libraries are changing rapidly, Library Systems & Services remains focused on the most important part of public library service: People. The patrons that we serve and our expert teams are the heart of Library Systems & Services, where quality library service is fundamental.

CONGRATULATIONS MPLA LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FELLOWS!

Library Systems & Services believes in building *strong leadership* and *driving innovation* in the profession.



library
systems
services
www.lssllibraries.com



- KLA/MPLA Conference 2018 -
CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

**DUE: JUNE 15
SUBMIT FORM
ONLINE TODAY!**

**HYATT HOTEL
WICHITA, KS
OCT 24-26**

FORM LINK: [HTTP://BIT.LY/MPLAKLA](http://bit.ly/mplakla)

Spring Conference Recaps...



Were you at the Montana Library Association Conference this April? If not, you missed out on a lot of fun; for example, the annual Sheila Cates Scholarship fundraiser was a talent show. There was dancing, there was singing, all to support Montana's aspiring librarians as they pursue their graduate degrees. I am told that's the important thing, not the images currently burned onto my retina, haunting me. Just kidding, everyone did a great job.

Bozeman Public Library (which is still new, beautiful and shiny. I barely cried with jealousy this time.) hosted a reception for the Montana Book Awards. They served delicious, Montana-shaped cookies (that almost made up for the lack of alcohol) and presented the Montana Book Award to Jim Robbins for his wonderful nonfiction book *The Wonder of Birds*.

Oh, and there were classes! Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, former director of Montana's State Law Library and current executive director of the Montana Innocence Project, is our venerable leader this year, serving as MLA President. Coincidentally, our theme this year was Big Skies, Library Highs, and Legal Ties! One of our sacred duties is providing access to resources in our communities, and that includes the tools needed to attain justice. Plus, with all the discussion about legal issues going on, I also learned about some of the scandalous pasts of my fellow librarians (you know who you are, wire me \$50 by Monday or your secret is out!)



Pictured from left to right: Jo Flick, Della Dubbe, Lisa Mecklenberg-Jackson, Mary Guthmiller, Anita Scheetz, Jim Kammerer

The awards dinner is always my particular favorite, and I prove it by crying the whole time. Even for people I've never met before; if you win an award I will cry during your speech. The camaraderie, the feeling of being surrounded by people working together toward the same goals, celebrating people who truly deserve to be celebrated; it gives me feelings, you guys.

Debbie and Doug Kramer planned a great conference, and they're planning next year's conference too! Join us, and maybe you too will learn information to blackmail your friends and colleagues with. If nothing else, you will definitely witness me sobbing loudly in the middle of a nice awards ceremony. Oh, and learning, meeting new colleagues, all that important stuff too.

AUTHOR MEMBERSHIP

Published authors, including those who write for children and young adults are eligible. Author membership includes a credit which can be used toward an advertisement or combination of advertisements in the MPLA Newsletter.



The Utah Library Association will be welcoming the state's librarians to "Level Up" at the Annual Conference in Provo, UT in May. ULA President Dan Compton states, "I hope you'll join us for the Utah Library Association's Annual MMC—Massively Multiplayer Conference—in Provo, May 16 – 18. You'll come from all over the state to gain experience points and learn from your fellow players. You'll come to recruit players for your next journey or to team up to defeat the obstacle that stands in your way."

This year's conference will feature keynotes by Kris Boesch, CEO and founder of Choose People, a company that transforms company culture, increases employee happiness, and boosts the bottom line; and Roger Altizer from the University of Utah. Roger is the co-founder of Entertainment Arts and Engineering, the top ranked game design program in the nation, the Director of Digital Medicine for the Center for Medical Innovation, the founding director of The GApp Lab (Therapeutic Games and Apps) and former Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Art and Technology at the University of Utah.



The 111th annual meeting of the Oklahoma Library Association was held in Tulsa on April 23rd-25th. Dare to Imagine was the theme and around 500 school, academic and public librarian from across Oklahoma gathered to share and learn from their colleagues. The conference offered over 80 individual sessions covering all aspects of librarianship in Oklahoma.



The keynote speaker this year was Lisa Hinchliffe, a Professor at the University of Illinois. Her keynote was titled "Appreciative Imagination". She challenged the attendees to find what about their library work they find energizing and meaningful and think of that during the difficult times in public service work.

The late David Oberhelman was posthumously recognized as an Oklahoma Library Legend at the banquet. The Oklahoma Library Legend award is one of OLA's highest awards and is intended to recognize significant contributions to the growth, development, and excellence of Oklahoma's libraries.

The OLA GOLD Leadership Committee, in conjunction with the Endowment Committee, also raised funds at the conference to endow a scholarship in David's honor to the triennial GOLD leadership institute. With a goal of \$5,000 needed to endow the scholarship, the Endowment Committee raised almost \$8,000.

At the close of the conference OLA President Linda Pye passed the gavel to incoming President Dr. Stacy Schrank. Dr. Schrank's message to attendees was that "We are stronger together". An inspiring message to Oklahoma's libraries in a time of budget stress particular for Oklahoma's school libraries. The conference will next meet in Norman in April of 2019.

asrt

National
Library
Partnership

The ASRT National Library Partnership offers grants of up to \$2,000 to public library systems to purchase selected books about medical imaging and radiation therapy.

With 153,000 members, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists is the premier professional association for individuals working in medical imaging and radiation therapy. Radiologic technologists are the medical personnel who perform diagnostic imaging examinations and administer radiation therapy treatments.

The program is part of ASRT's ongoing commitment to educate the public about the radiologic technologist's role on the health care team and the science behind radiological procedures.

Our easy, one-page application form takes just minutes to complete.



Learn more at
asrt.org/WeLoveLibraries
or follow the hashtag
[#asrtloveslibraries](https://twitter.com/asrtloveslibraries).

Impact Stories @ Pima County Public Library

Reading Rocks! — Sometimes It Is All About the Books

Holly Schaffer | Community Relations Manager
Pima County Public Library | 101 N Stone Ave Tucson AZ 85701
520-594-5610 | holly.schaffer@pima.gov | www.library.pima.gov

At 10 months old, Avery was holding board books on her own. At age 2, she was memorizing stories her parents read and reciting them back. In kindergarten, at her parent's request, her teacher tested her reading ability. It surpassed the 3rd grade level.

Now, at nearly 7 and in first grade at Cottonwood Elementary in the Vail Unified School District, Avery is an avid consumer of books. At last count, the completed shelf in her online Pima County Public Library account featured more than 2,500 titles.

"I love reading. I love everything about it," says Avery. Her eyes light up, her arms wave, and her voice takes on a certain lilt as if she's talking about something magical.



Avery unzips a rolling suitcase, her personal Bookmobile, to reveal the contents inside.

"Her backpack couldn't hold all we were checking out, so we got this suitcase," says Avery's mother, Brie, an aspiring children's book author.

The suitcase is chock full of books. Hardcover and paperbacks spill out revealing everything from *Amazing Animals – Meerkats* to *Peppermint Patty Goes to Camp*.

"We come at least once a week. Honestly, I can't picture our life without the Library. Financially, it would be impossible to keep up with her reading habit. Can you imagine stifling that? With the Library, she'll never run out of reading material."

But it's not just the sheer number of books available to them that Brie loves. "It's a great place for the phases kids so often go through. Thor, Cars, Rapunzel, Peanuts, Legos - you name it, the Library has it."

From the beginning, books have played a crucial role in Avery's life. They've sparked her imagination and inspired in her a love of words that seems to know no bounds.

"I invented Supermeow. He's a cat with superpowers like heat vision. He can also freeze stuff," exclaims Avery. "I'm going to publish a book about him," she continues. "It's called Supermeow and the Unusual Letter."

Avery, Brie adds, also writes about Benny, the family's 13-year old Basset Hound and Beagle Mix, and his ongoing adventures with Sirius, the neighborhood cat. "That series is called The Big Bark."

- continued page 8

For Brie, a passionate reader and writer herself, there was never a question about embracing books at home. “It was the one thing I was most excited about when I was pregnant with Avery. I would dream about reading books to her.”

One thing is certain, the impact it’s had on Avery’s life is incalculable.

When Summer Reading rolls around, Avery tracks her daily reading using an old cellphone. She’s now using the Library’s catalog on her own, exploring topics and requesting books. Last year, she won her school’s kindergarten spelling bee.

But not before turning to the Library for some encouragement.

“She was nervous and said she didn’t want to compete,” Brie says. “So we checked out *What to Do When You Worry Too Much* and found some ideas about how to overcome anxiety.”

Avery excitedly adds, “We made a bottle cap necklace with lots of brave characters. Ariel, Merida, and Thor were on it... girl Thor, not the boy Thor.”

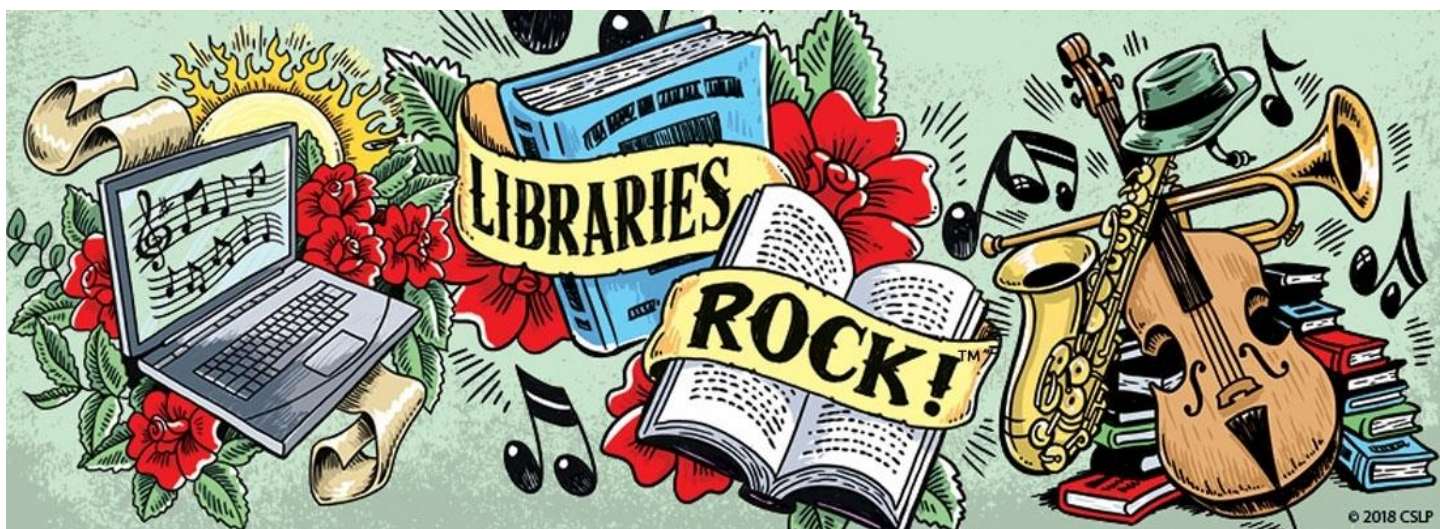
It should come as no surprise that when her school sponsored a Read-a-Thon, Avery won. In two short weeks, she logged 1,813 minutes of reading.

Brie laughs as she admits, “It was challenging to find friends and family to sponsor her. No one wanted to go bankrupt.”

When last year’s birthday came with a new bookshelf, one of the first things Avery did was organize it. “Nonfiction is on top. Storybooks go together. Holiday books have their own section.”

For now, it’s all about the Nevergirl series and lots of National Geographic Kids. Who knows what tomorrow’s interests will be, but the Library will always be here to keep Avery’s bookshelf fully stocked.

Check Out more success stories here - <https://www.library.pima.gov/blogs/category/success-stories/>



Around the Region



ARIZONA

2018 AZLA Regional Forum

Arizona Library Association held a “Because Access Equals Opportunity” regional forum for libraries. The forum featured sessions on equity, diversity, inclusion and access presented by academic and public librarians around Arizona. The event, held at the University of Arizona on April 27th, included tours of the University of Arizona Libraries and iSpace, a planning session for the 2019 Young Adult Summit, keynote speakers, and ended with a Happy Hour to relax and refresh with colleagues and friends.

Baby Shower at the Library

The Safford City-Graham County partnered with First Things First (<https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/>) to hold the fourth annual community baby shower. The event was designed for expectant mothers, as well as parents of babies a year old or younger. A number of organizations are there to provide a plethora of information to help parents with their babies as well as offer door prizes and games.



COLORADO

Engaging Local Leaders

The Pueblo City-County Library District won the Leslie B. Knope Award, named after actress Amy Poehler's character on the NBC show "Parks and Recreation." The award recognizes the group that is the best in the country at engaging local leaders. The come-from-behind-victory was a culmination of more than two months of local cheer-leading and a social media campaign that included help from Gov. John Hickenlooper and even "Miles," the Denver Broncos mascot. March 17th was dubbed "Pueblo City-County Library District Day" by Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper. Midori Clark, director of community relations for the library district said, "This is just an awesome thing for Pueblo, and we have really been overwhelmed with all of the support and kind words about our library district and the community."



Open Mic Night

In April, the Cañon City Public Library hosted an open mic poetry event to celebrate National Poetry Month. All ages were welcome, and each participant was invited to share a poem, rap or story or to read something that speaks to them or that they have written.



**WE WANT
YOUR
PHOTOS!**

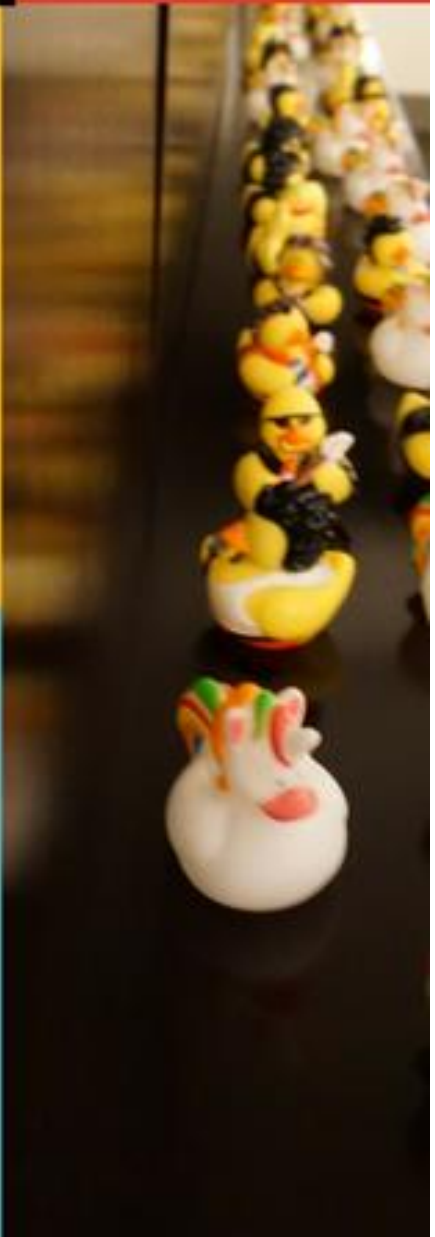
**MPLA TURNS
70
IN WICHITA, KS**

We are planning to celebrate and Mary Ann Thompson needs your help!

If you have photographs from past MPLA events/conferences/leadership institutes that she can include in a dazzling slideshow please send them to her at:

maryannthompson459@gmail.com

Also, she'd love your help planning the BIG birthday bash!



Labette Community College Holds Open House for Library



On April 10th, the long-expected open house for the "new" Labette Community College Library was held. Approximately sixty members from across the Parsons and LCC community listened to Bethany Kendrick, Director of Public Relations, welcome those gathered. Labette Community College President, Mark Watkins, spoke about his thanks for the vision and completion of this project and how he saw the future of libraries. Director of Library Services, Scotty Zollars, combined the open house, National Library Week, and National Library Workers' Day, summarizing a history of those directors

who had gone before him, thanking his staff, and commenting about his concerns about the state of academic libraries across the state. Friends and neighbors enjoyed refreshments and tours of the facility.



Scotty Zollars
Director of Library Services

2018 April Poetry Series

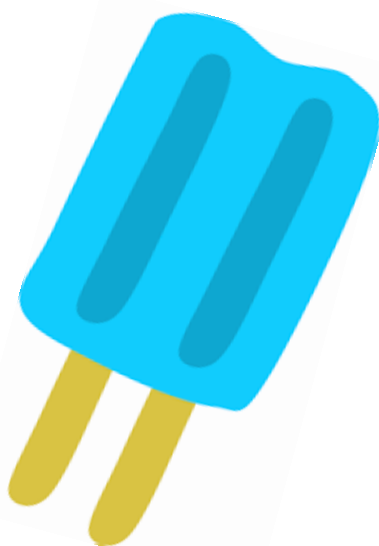
The Salina Public Library in conjunction with The Salina Arts and Humanities and the SPARK Artist Resource Exchange held their annual poetry reading series which featured these poets.

Wyatt Townley — Poet Laureate of Kansas from 2013 to 2015, he has published multiple books of poetry, including 2011's *The Afterlives of Trees*, which was selected as a Kansas Notable Book and winner of the Nelson Poetry Book Award.

Brennan Bestwick — A Kansas State University graduate whose poems have been published in *Hobart*, *Winter Tangerine* and *the Colorado Review*.

Laurie Ann Guerrero — Named Poet Laureate of the city of San Antonio in 2014 and Texas State Poet Laureate in 2016, Guerrero is author of the poetry collection *A Tongue in the Mouth of the Dying*, winner of the 2012 Andres Montoya Poetry Prize.

Kathryn Nuernberger — Author of two poetry collections and director of Pleiades Press, Nuernberger is associate professor of creative writing at the University of Central Missouri, in Warrensburg.



I'M NEW! NOW WHAT?

A BI-YEARLY MEETING OF THE MINDS!

WHO'S INVITED?
EVERYONE IS WELCOME BUT OUR FOCUS IS NEW/POTENTIAL MEMBERS!

WHAT'S COVERED?

- MPLA HISTORY
- WAYS TO MAKE YOUR MARK
- COMMITTEES; OFFICERS; PRESENTING
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
- GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED HERE!

WHEN'S IT HAPPENING?
EARLY SUMMER/LATE FALL
UTILIZING ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

Want to know more? Jake Rundle Membership, Chair
E: membership@mpla.us P: 402.461.2346

MT MONTANA

Librarian of the Year

Gale Bacon was named the Librarian of the Year by the Montana Librarian Association. In Bacon's twelve years of service, the library has grown substantially and has earned a number of honors. The library, Belgrade Community Library, was chosen as the best small library in America by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and American Library Association. Under Bacon's leadership, the library now offers a number of programs that go beyond just books, including computer coding and technology classes for students in the Belgrade Community.



Scouts work together to support Library

Clayton Wilson, a Cub Scout of Pack 206, is working to become a Boy Scout by building a better community through the movement known as the Little Free Library. He and his mom, Emily Free Wilson, along with others from the Cub Scout Pack 206, created a Little Free Library to sell with proceeds benefiting the Lewis and Clark Library. To learn more about Little Free Library or to find registered libraries near you, visit <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>.

NE NEBRASKA

Beatrice Public Library Celebrates 125 years!

In April, Beatrice Public Library celebrated National Library Month and their 125th Anniversary combined! Special events included a presentation by researcher and writer for the Museum of Nebraska Art, Lonnie Dunbier, who discussed the role of fourteen Beatrice women artists who were active before 1945.



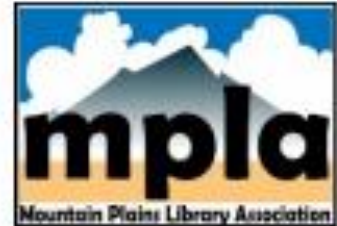
Beatrice Mayor Stan with Librarian Laureen Riedesul presenting proclamation.

The celebration included English touring guitarist, Claude Bourbon, as well as a Doll Research Night and a spring gathering of genealogists. There was a dedication of the library on April 29th.

Playing Around With Words

The Keen Memorial Library hosted Nebraska State Poet Twyla Hansen who presented on "Playing Around With Words: Poems, Stories, and the Creative Process." This presentation was made possible by Humanities Nebraska, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and Keene Memorial Library as part of the HN Speakers Bureau. Creative writing is a process that thrives on practice. This writing workshop focuses on the creative process for both poetry and short prose. Hansen used readings of her own and others' writing, along with guided writing exercises, to create an interactive and supportive workshop. Through these exercises, participants retrieved their own and others' experiences to generate new possibilities for unique stories that might also be shaped into a poem or essay. For beginning and seasoned writers, middle school through adult.

Guiding Principles



1. Pursue outreach opportunities

- Foster relationships
- Increase professional sharing
- Include diverse communities



2. Encourage caring, respectful relationships

- Mentoring
- Networking
- Collaborations
- Learning



3. Realize our potential

- Leadership development
- Professional growth opportunities
- Engagement with library community

Source: Agreement icon made by Gregor Orosar; Telescope icon made by Freepik; Network icon made by Madetiyeliver from www.flaticon.com

www.MPLA.us

Boulder City Library Turns

Recently Boulder City Library (Nevada) celebrated its 75th Anniversary. Library Director Kim Diehm said the activities started with the Garrett Middle School Show Choir's twenty minute performance, followed by several other presentations and activities, finishing with a movie outdoors in the amphitheater.



The library started as part of the high school with a 3000 book donation from The Library of Congress in 1933. It became its own entity in March 1943. Outgrowing the building, which now serves as the Senior Center, it moved into a 50,000 square foot building with amphitheater settled inside a local neighborhood by the schools.

Director Diehm said the next step to request a 3.5 cent increase in the levy during the November election so they can remodel and expand the 25,000 square foot basement floor which is currently being used for storage only. Expansion hopes to include creating a Youth Services department with teen area, computer area and outdoor play area for younger children, and a makerspace/community room. The current main floor space will be redesigned to expand their adult collections, adding a café and additional meeting rooms, including kitchen space for demonstrations and a makerspace for adults. If the levy passes, groundbreaking will be in fall 2019 or spring 2020.

Virtual Reality in Nevada Libraries

Nevada State Library, Archives & Public Record (NSLAPR) has selected eleven Nevada libraries to participate in the Emerging Technology Early Adopter Program (ETEAP) for virtual reality in Nevada libraries. Participating libraries are Boulder City Library, Carson City Library, Churchill County Library, Churchill County School District, Douglas County Public Library, Elko-Lander-Eureka County Library System, Henderson Library System, Humboldt County Library, Mineral County Library, Pershing County School District, and Washoe County Library System.

ETEAP is designed to help librarians develop basic skills and knowledge to create virtual reality programs in the library. Through instruction from subject matter experts (XR Libraries) and benefiting from best practices from early adopter national peers, participants will get their own gear, have the opportunity to practice with this technology and get guidance about launching and managing their library's virtual reality learning programs.

This continuing education/professional development opportunity is designed to help libraries learn how to integrate content-specific, virtual reality programs into their systems. They will learn to teach patrons how to more effectively use this emerging technology to support their own learning. The key takeaways will be how to use virtual reality as an instructional tool and how to help patrons remain self-guided in their own learning. They will also be given suggestions and tips to work with teachers, professors, instructors, and the workforce.

The pilot program begins on June 1 and ends on November 30, 2018. Additional information is available at <https://nsla.libguides.com/nevada-virtual-reality/home>.



NEW MEXICO

New Bookmobiles!

Two new bookmobiles are being dispatched to serve thousands of rural New Mexicans without access to a public library by the New Mexico State Library, a division of the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs. "As the fifth largest and fifth most sparsely populated state, New Mexico has many small and rural communities with no access to a public library," said Cultural Affairs Deputy Secretary Michael Delello. "Our staff finds that in each community these bookmobiles serve, the patrons are effusive in their appreciation for this program and grateful to have access to thousands of volumes without having to travel for miles to a large community with a public library."



Each bookmobile is equipped with shelves of books and a circulation desk. The customized specialty vehicles built by LDV are designed to carry the heavy weight of library materials. The exterior of each of the new vehicles features southwestern books written by New Mexico authors and the slogan "Driven to Read." The exterior "wrap" was designed by the Museum Resource Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

PLA selects Grants Public Library for Inclusive Internship

INCLUSIVE INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE!

PLA picked the Grants Public Library in Grants, NM for participation in the Public Library Association's (PLA) Inclusive Internship Initiative. This program proved to be highly successful during its pilot last summer. As a result, with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the PLA was able to offer this program again this summer.

One upcoming Grants High School junior or senior, or first-year college student, will be selected through an application process to complete the internship program, while working closely with the library's director, Ron Gonzales. In addition, the recipient will receive \$3,500, a trip in June with Gonzales to a program kickoff event in Washington, D.C., with a program wrap-up trip to Chicago in September.

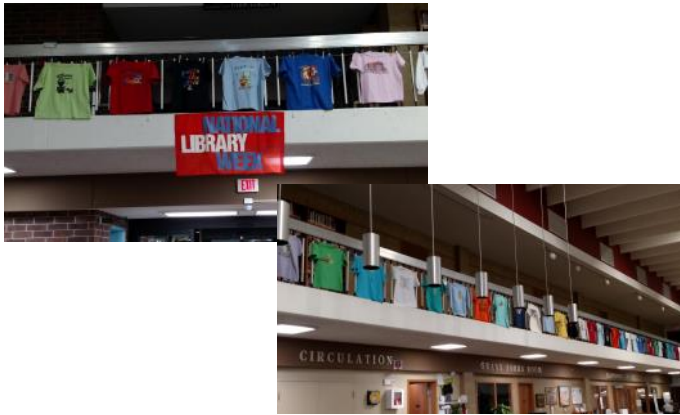




NORTH DAKOTA

Spreading the Love

During National Library Week, the Grand Forks Public Library spread the love across the balcony with library T-Shirts! Years of books, love and summer reading programs! Who could ask for more?



Food for Fines

The Minot Public Library held a Food for Fines week during National Library week and they collected 947 pounds of food for a local homeless shelter!



Support MPLA!

GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

KING SOOPERS/KROGERS

Buying and reloading a grocery gift card purchased through MPLA raises funds for MPLA's professional development, leadership, and educational programs.

MPLA will receive an amount equal to 5% of your grocery purchases. There is no additional cost to you!

<http://www.mpla.us/forms/grocery-card-program.html>

Cards Are Accepted By

- Kroger
- Fred Meyer
- Ralphs
- Fry's and Fry's marketplace
- King Soopers
- Dillons
- Smith's Food & Drug City Market
- QFC
- Food 4 Less
- Owen's
- Foodsco
- Hilander
- Pay-less Cala-Bell
- Bakers
- Jayc
- Fred Meyer jewelers
- Littman & Barclay Jewelers
- Loaf and Jug

OLA Library Legend Award

The OLA Library Legend Award was given to the late David Oberhelman and the award was accepted by his brother, Richard. During his 19 years of service at Oklahoma State University, Oberhelman stood out in his duties as a library liaison. He forged strong relationships with his academic departments, and his passion for both libraries and the humanities resulted in numerous successful programs and partnerships such as the Noon Concert Series—the longest-running library public program—and the recent Great War Lecture Series. Oberhelman also served the University as the Library representative to Faculty Council and member of the Allied Arts and Campus Entertainment Committee.



His work for libraries and the humanities did not end at OSU. Oberhelman held leadership roles in national and regional organizations such as the American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, the Modern Language Association, the Mythopoeic Society, and the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association. In 2015, his colleagues honored him with the Library Faculty Award for Notable Achievement, acknowledging his contributions to OSU and the field of librarianship. Oberhelman was also a member of MPLA since 1998 and served in many capacities including as Oklahoma Representative, Communications Committee Chair, Portal Task Force Chair, and Awards Committee Chair. He was also very active in the Oklahoma Library Association.

His passion for libraries will live on through the OLA's Executive Board decision to support David Oberhelman OLA Leadership Institute Endowed Scholarship.

New Logo

Oklahoma Library Association is thrilled to reveal our new logo! The new logo symbolizes both OLA's long history and its bright future, and we are thrilled to have a fresh and modern look for a new era of OLA. Designed by artist Josh Mindemann.



Read with a Cop

Rawlins Library (Pierre) recently hosted "Read with a Cop" Day. 156 children poured into the library to listen to officers read, and also to read to the officers. The children also got to meet Lennart the police dog and watch some demonstrations.



Translating the Dakota Literary Tradition

On March 27, Sarah Hernandez, assistant professor of English, spoke on "Translating the Dakota Literary Tradition." The event celebrated the acquisition of *The Dakota Friend*, a newspaper written in Santee Dakota and English and published in the 1850's in Minnesota. Participants at the event were able to examine physical copies of the newsletter. The *Dakota Friend* collection has been digitized and is available on the Digital Library of South Dakota (<http://explore.digitalsd.org>).



SDSU faculty member
Sarah Hernandez
Photo by: Ruby Wilson, Briggs Library

The event was sponsored by Mildred K. Huggins.

New Librarian @ USD McKusick Law Library

The University of South Dakota McKusick Law Library welcomed its newest librarian - Courtney Segota - in January 2018. Courtney serves as the Law Library's first ever Head of Instructional Services. She joins the Law Library from her prior position as Reference/Faculty Services Librarian at St. Thomas University Law Library in Miami, Florida. Courtney earned her B.A. in Anthropology from Iowa State University, her J.D. from the University of Illinois, and her M.L.S. from Indiana University.





Utah hires a New State Librarian

On March 5, the Utah State Library Division welcomed Colleen Eggett as its new Director and the fourth Utah State Librarian.

Colleen Eggett served as the Director of the American Fork Library from 2015 until hired at the State Library.

Prior to American Fork, Ms. Eggett worked for 16 years at the Utah State Library in the Continuing Education and Resources department as well as the Library Program for the Blind and Disabled. She is also a 2007 graduate of MPLA's Leadership Institute.

Colleen earned a Master's of Library Science from Emporia State University (thank you Kansas), and a Bachelor's of Arts in Family and Consumer Studies from the University of Utah. The Utah library community is lucky to have Ms. Eggett and certainly welcomes her to this new position.



Welcome Joe!

I didn't plan my involvement in MPLA as much as I fell into it. I knew that in May of this year I would be rotating off the Utah Library Association Board as an elected board member-at-large after a three year term and wanted to stay involved with my state association. I was aware that our state had gone through some unfortunate turnover with our MPLA representative and felt that I might be able to provide some stability to the position. Having been on the ULA Board, I knew what the MPLA representative did on the state association side of things but I wasn't very familiar with MPLA or what that association provided. Because this position is an elected position, I decided to throw my name in the hat and see if I might be lucky enough to be selected to serve in this position. In the short amount of time that I have been introduced to MPLA, it seems to be a very well-organized group that has been more than gracious in welcoming me aboard.



- Joe Frazier



Laramie County Seed Library Blooms

Gardening season arrives in Cheyenne with the second annual Seed Library Kickoff at the Laramie County Library. While the seeds are available all year long, the annual kickoff event is a chance to choose from 80 seed varieties that will be available, according to Elizabeth Thorson, Reference and Collection Services Manager. "From parsley to primrose, we've got vegetables, flowers and herbs - all varieties chosen by Laramie County Master Gardeners to fit our climate and soil." For the first time, seeds saved and 'returned' from last season will be available. Gardeners will have more than twice as many varieties to choose from this year.

New this year are five Pre-Planned Gardens: Beginners, Kids, Salsa, Herb and Fragrant. These curated sets of packets are designed for particular types of gardeners and gardens and make it easy to get started. Beyond the basics, the seed library has heirloom and specialty varieties available as well.





Welcome, New Members!

**Sheila Beeson**

Library Technician
Pima County Public Library
Oro Valley AZ

Honore Bray

Director
Missoula Public Library
Missoula MT

Carmen Clark

Bookmobile Librarian
Bozeman Public Library
Bozeman MT

Lois Dissly

Bozeman Public Library
Bozeman MT

Joe Frazier

Branch Manager
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2018 Conference Calendar

American Library Association

June 21-26; New Orleans, LA

Colorado State Library Association

September 13-15; Loveland, CO

South Dakota Library Association

September 26-28; Sioux Falls, SD

North Dakota Library Association

October 3-5; Minot, ND

Nebraska Library Association

October 4-6; Lincoln, NE

MPLA / Kansas Library Association

October 23-26; Wichita, KS

Arizona State Library Association

October 24-26; Mesa, AZ

New Mexico Association

October 31– Nov 2; Albuquerque, NM

Wyoming State Library Association

August 2-3; Casper, WY

Nevada Library Association

October 12-14; Las Vegas, NV



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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.

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