



Mountain Plains Library Association

Big Horizons Close Community

Newsletter

October 2018—November 2018

www.mpla.us

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Be sure to sign up for the big birthday bash when you register for the KLA/MPLA joint conference.

The party will be from 8 to 10 pm at the new Advanced Learning Library (the Wichita Public Library) located at 711 W. 2nd N.

It will include a dessert bar of desserts, wine, beer, coffee and birthday cake!

Tours of the new library will be available. Slideshows of past conferences, etc. will be shown at various areas.



Music at the 70th anniversary party!
--The Jim Pisano Trio will be providing wonderful jazz music!



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

KLA / MPLA Conference 2018



October 24-26, 2018 | Wichita, Kansas

[Still Time to Register](#) /// [Conference Presentation Schedule](#)

Keynote Speakers



Patrick "P.C." Sweeney is co-author of "Winning Elections and Influencing Politicians for Library Funding." He is the former Administrative Librarian of the Sunnyvale (CA) Public Library and Executive Director of EveryLibrary California, a statewide initiative to support library propositions. He currently works as the Political Director for EveryLibrary, the nation's first and only national Political Action Committee for Libraries and is a lecturer on politics at the San Jose State University iSchool. He is a 2015 Library Journal Mover and Shaker recipient for his advocacy work in California and across the country. He can be found online as PC Sweeney.



Marci Penner is the executive director of the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation, and author, speaker, promoter and supporter of rural Kansas. Marci and her dad founded the Foundation in 1993. The mission of the non-profit is to preserve and sustain rural culture by educating Kansans about Kansas and networking and supporting rural communities. Some of the better known projects are the Kansas Explorers Club, the Big Kansas Road Trip, the Big Rural Brainstorm, the We Kan! Conference, the 8 Wonders of Kansas contests and guidebook, the PowerUp Movement, and Kansas Guidebooks for Explorers. Marci was named Distinguished Kansas of the Year in 2005 and has received other state and national awards for her work with rural communities.



Ed O'Malley—The titles "president" and "CEO" may conjure up traditional notions of authoritarian leadership, but Ed O'Malley, who holds those titles at the Kansas Leadership Center, doesn't see them that way. Author of *For the Common Good: Redefining Civic Leadership* (co-authored with David C. Chrislip) and *Your Leadership Edge: Lead Anytime, Anywhere* (co-authored with Amanda Cebula), O'Malley spent four years as a state legislator, with a ringside seat for both effective and ineffective displays of civic leadership. To him, leadership is not a title, personality trait or workshop topic. Instead, it's an opportunity that people can grasp and choose to exercise in many different ways and venues.



Liesl Shurtliff—I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah the fifth of eight children. My seven siblings tortured me but I really like them now. I loved dancing, singing, playing the piano and reading books by Judy Blume, Beverly Cleary, and Roald Dahl. I also read Grimms' Fairy Tales so often I wore through the binding. Today I live with my husband and four children in Chicago, which is a wonderful city except that it is decidedly flat and very cold in the winter. When I write, I often wander back to my childhood and gather the magic that still remains. I hope to share that magic with children everywhere. [bio from Liesl Shurtliff's website, [here](#)]



Our Anniversary Wish ...

**LIKE US ON
OUR NEW
FACEBOOK PAGE**

[@MountainPlainsLibraryAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/MountainPlainsLibraryAssociation)



**FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER**

[@MPLAtweets](https://twitter.com/MPLAtweets)

Stay in Touch

**** Election Results ****

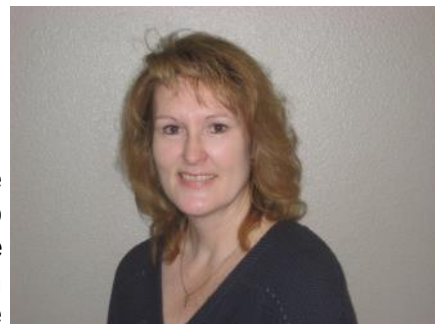


Stephen Sweeney
Saint John Vianney Seminary, Cardinal Stafford Library
Vice-President/President Elect

Thinking about the natural flow of this position, I bring strong conference planning skills to my VP/President-Elect year. I would sincerely look forward to working with NMLA to ensure a successful conference. Having spent time on many of MPLA's committees, I feel I have a broad sense of the Association, our values, and where we are headed. That positions me to keep us focused on our shared values while growing the membership while retaining the ones we have and continue to grow in our central mission of professional development opportunities.

I believe that there are two areas of growth potential for our Association, both around governing documents and professional development. I think that some good work has been done relative to thinking about our bylaws and Manual of Procedures and I would like to bring that to its conclusion. This would only be a temporary conclusion of course, because I recognize that we continue to grow and be strong because our governing documents are strong, living, and current. Professional development is one of the central strengths of our Association. I believe that MPLA is poised at the edge of making a significant investment in the technology necessary to continue to offer professional development. Working with the professionals involved in ongoing development and bylaws, I think we can make a continued impact for the good of the Association relative to membership, excellence in the profession via our awards program, and the success of our Leadership Institute.

Brenda Hemmelman
Collection Services Librarian, SD State Library
Recording Secretary



I've been an MPLA member since 1994 and served as a committee member on a few committees. In 2010, I became chair of the membership committee. I've served two terms (2012-present) as the MPLA state representative for South Dakota. I have also served in various capacities on the SD Library Association Executive Board. I was the SDLA Executive Secretary/Treasurer for almost 10 years as well as a committee chair and conference planner. I currently serve as the chair of the Professional Development Grants Committee and am assisting with a process to streamline conference planning duties.

I was privileged to be selected to attend the MPLA Leadership Institute in 2014. Through that, I was able to focus on improving not only leadership skills, but project management skills. Since then, as a trustee on my local library board, I started a trivia night with a local brew pub. This has become a trending thing with libraries, and it has given us an additional way to highlight and advertise library activities. I've also organized a craft show to raise scholarship funds for a local service organization, so keeping notes and organizing reports are a natural fit.

Supporting the MPLA board in a different capacity than my previous positions will be a great learning experience, and the position also affords the opportunity to continue to guide and offer support to a great library organization.

We're still here:

Kansas State University's Hale Library recovering from major fire

Submitted by: Sarah McGreer Hoyt

On May 22, 2018, a three-alarm fire caused significant damage to Hale Library, the flagship building in the Kansas State University Libraries system in Manhattan, Kansas. According to Dean of Libraries Lori Goetsch, the damage occurred on multiple fronts. "The fire was isolated to the roof, but several hundreds of thousands of gallons of water flowed through the building during the firefighting efforts," she said. "In addition, soot and smoke damaged everything in the building, including most of the books. Every surface, including ductwork, has to be cleaned."

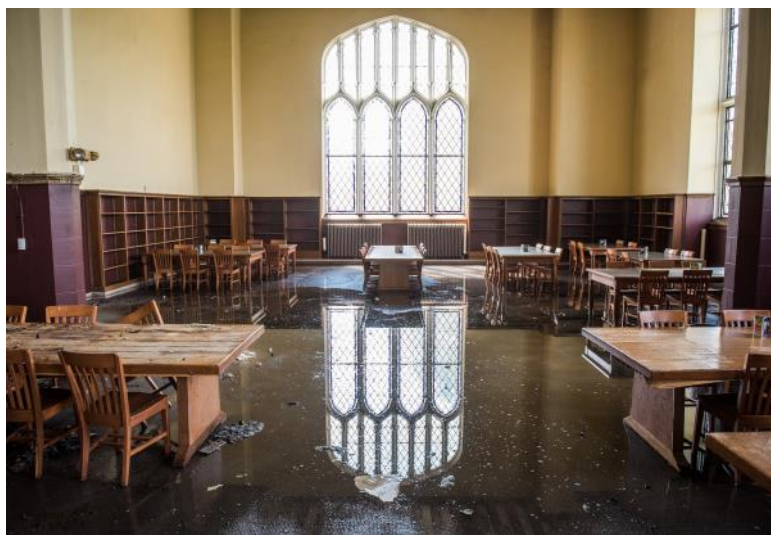
More than 100 employees from the Libraries and K-State IT Services were relocated to long-term temporary office space in 13 different locations across campus. Much of the furniture, shelving, carpet and drop ceiling throughout the 550,000-square-foot building had to be disposed of. Sections of drywall were removed: In some places, only the bottom two feet were damaged by water; in others, all of the drywall was wet, and the walls were stripped down to the studs. The scope of the damage can be difficult to comprehend.

"Not only is Hale Library the largest building on campus, the fire marshal told us it's the largest building in Manhattan," Goetsch said. "In fact, from what we've been able to ascertain, this is among the most severe fire-related library disasters in the United States. While it was devastating, we're taking this opportunity to make plans for a new Hale Library for K-State's future."

The Libraries is working with Belfor Property Restoration to pack out the entire collection, or more than 1.5 million items. It is likely that the process will be completed by the end of September. Over the summer, hundreds of industrial dumpsters were filled with debris, furniture and shelving. More than 4,000 boxes of wet books were shipped in refrigerated trucks to a Belfor preservation lab in Ft. Worth, Tex. Most of those books have been treated and 90% were deemed salvageable.

Ultimately, we estimate that 200,000 boxes of books will be stored in four different air-conditioned warehouses across the region. Because of the soot damage, books will be individually cleaned and re-boxed until they can be returned to a renovated Hale Library. In the meantime, librarians have relocated vital academic services.

-continued on page 6



A leaded glass window is reflected in a pool of water on the Great Room floor.

Our Ask a Librarian reference service (chat, email, text, phone or in person) was re-established within a week of the fire. Other services have been relocated to alternate spaces across campus. “We have been extremely concerned about the stress that Hale Library’s closure places on our K-State students,” Goetsch said. “We’ve worked non-stop to set up alternate service points and study locations, computer labs and printing stations, and we’ve set up a help desk in the Union, which is one of the places students can borrow textbooks on reserve or pick up their interlibrary loans.”

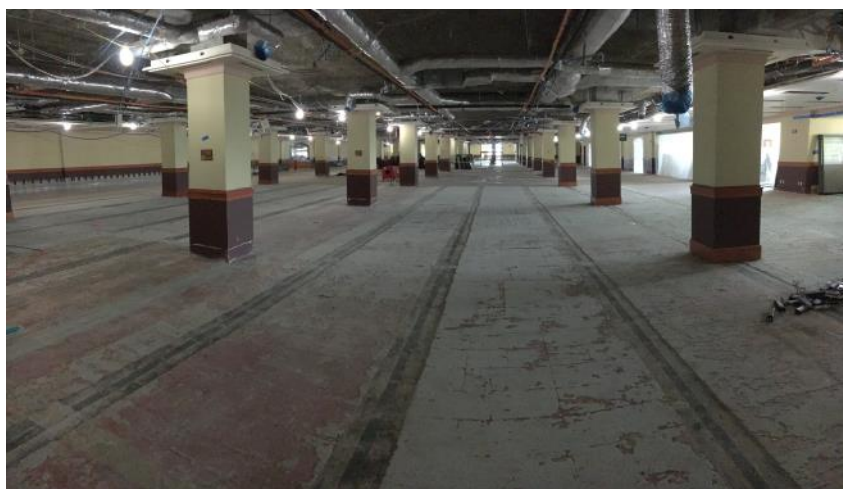
Since books won’t be available in the foreseeable future, the Libraries have ramped up interlibrary loan service. Requests were up 50% in the first week of classes. Goetsch joked that librarians all across the country will be hearing from K-State Libraries more frequently, but added how much she’s appreciated hearing from them since the fire.

“The response from librarians all over the country has been deeply moving,” Goetsch said. “In-state, libraries at the University of Kansas and Wichita State University have waived fees so our students can check out their materials at no cost, and many, many more institutions have offered their support. I am so grateful to be part of such an empathetic community.”

If you’d like more in-depth information about the books, preservation of historic spaces, the Libraries’ vision for rebuilding and amazing behind-the-scenes photos, subscribe to our blog, Hale Library: The Next Chapter, at blogs.k-state.edu/hale/. Up-to-date information about locations of library and IT services is available at k-state.edu/hale.



Dean of Libraries Lori Goetsch gives an overview of the plans to restore the Great Room, which is currently filled with scaffolding so workers can repair the roof and ceiling.



The fourth floor of Hale Library has been cleared of books, furniture, carpet, drop ceiling, and some sections of drywall.



The ASRT logo, featuring the letters 'asrt' in a lowercase, sans-serif font.

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.

In the News....

YALSA

Register now for YALSA's Young Adult Services Symposium, which will take place in Salt Lake City, Utah, Nov. 2-4, 2018, with the theme: Zeroing In: Focusing on Teen Needs. Programs will cover the entire spectrum of topics related to providing services for and with young adults, including how libraries can best support teens' social and emotional learning to help them effectively navigate a challenging world. Early registration runs through Sept. 15. All are welcome. View the list of programs and learn more at <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium>.

Library Leadership Podcast Update

Library Leadership Podcast is now on iTunes! Check it out! Listeners can subscribe wherever you get their podcasts. <https://itunes.apple.com/.../library-leadership.../id1409853466>

Upcoming Workshops: Sensory Storytimes for All

Storytime, sensory storytime and inclusion are the topics for fall workshops that will be held in two Kansas locations in early November. Sensory storytime techniques make programs more beneficial for all participants, regardless of ability and skill levels.

Our speaker, Sherry Norfolk, will present interactive workshops, Sensory Storytime for All. If you attended any of the seven Kansas Summer Library Program Workshops in 2017, you may remember Sherry as a dynamic and knowledgeable presenter from St. Louis.

At both of these day-long workshops, participants will experience a wide variety of sensory storytime strategies, learn ways to make all library programs more inclusive and leave with at least one storytime ready to go, including props!

The workshops will be held:

Tuesday, November 6 in Iola, sponsored by Southeast Kansas Library System: sekls.org

Wednesday, November 7 in Lawrence, sponsored by Northeast Kansas Library System: nekls.org

Visit the regional system website of your choice for details and to register.

We hope to see you there!

Sandy Wilkerson, SEKLS
Anna Foote, NEKLS



EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

School of LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Earn your Master of Library Science

A graduate degree in Library and Information Management complements previous education, offers prospects for increased earnings and provides flexible skills for the future. Be a part of the information profession that has exciting career opportunities such as public or academic librarian, media specialist, data manager, archivist, and many more.

- **Balance Online Learning and Occasional Weekend Intensive Classes**
Enjoy personal interaction between students and faculty as you combine your MLS studies with an active life. Cohort locations include:
Portland, OR Denver, CO
Salt Lake City, UT Emporia, KS
Overland Park, KS Sioux Falls, SD
- **Leadership Development**
Practice advocating for your library or information organization based on your new understanding of adaptive leadership.
- **SLIM's Heritage of Excellence for Over a Century**
Share the inherited legacy of a worldwide network of SLIM alumni to further your career objectives.

Special tuition rates available for certain residents of Oklahoma, Nebraska, Missouri, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana

For more information contact:
sliminfo@emporia.edu or 620.341.5203
emporia.edu/slim



Around the Region



VR Experience @ Yuma County Library

Enjoy the thrill of Virtual Reality! Adults and teens were invited to test Oculus Rift and PlayStation 4 virtual reality systems. Participants could experience three dimensional environments and learn how VR helps those with sensory needs. The systems were purchased as part of the Library District's new LEADing (Libraries Enabling Assistive Discovery) Technology Project for people of all ages with physical and developmental disabilities.



National Day of the Cowboy Movie Marathon

National Day of the Cowboy was celebrated at the Wellton Library in Wellton, AZ. In July, families were invited to the library for a Cowboy Movie Marathon, enjoying a variety of Western movies based on books.



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



Annual Kids' Parade

The annual Kids' Parade had long been held in conjunction with the Colorado State Fair on Labor Day weekend, but for the past two years The Pueblo City-County Library District of Pueblo, CO has overseen the parade and used it to celebrate the end of its reading program. "Summer Reading is our library's most important literary program and encourages our youngest residents to get excited about reading," said Midori Clark, the district's director of community relations and development. "This was a festive and fun way to wrap up 'Libraries Rock!' The music-themed programs this summer helped kids get interested in coming to the library and we are pleased that so many families took advantage of free concerts and other cultural programming at our libraries and at Books in the Park."



Per tradition, the Kids' Parade made its way through the Mesa Junction, where an estimated 300 onlookers cheered on 500 marchers representing nearly 25 entries, from dance academies to music troupes to churches to law enforcement. Representatives from the Colorado State Fair and the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center gifted all young parade participants with free admission tickets. In line with the celebration of reading, The Friends of the Library handed out hundreds of books to the young boys and girls.

New Executive Director @ JCPL

Donna Walker, newly appointed executive director for Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL), began her new job Sept. 1. She replaced Pam Nissler, who retired at the end of August.



"JCPL is a great organization," Walker said. "We have incredible employees, widespread Board and community support, and a shared vision to be a best-in-class library. I look forward to working together to make our vision a reality." JCPL is the third largest public library in the state of Colorado and the essential destination where all generations connect, discover and create. Prior to her time at JCPL, Walker spent 18 years at Arapahoe Library District (ALD) in various capacities, where her notable achievements included managing construction of a 30,000-square-foot library, embedding a library outpost in a new recreation center, and implementing early learning environments enterprise-wide.

In 2011, Walker was named a "Mover and Shaker" by Library Journal in an annual award program that spotlights librarians who are doing extraordinary work to move libraries and library services forward. She is a member of the American Library Association, the Public Library Association and Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy; she has completed leadership programs sponsored by the Public Library Association and Mountain States Employers Council; and she has presented at numerous state, national, and international conferences on library outreach and innovations.



Celebrating History and Community at the Library

April Hernandez, Director Lincoln Library

Lincoln Library in Medicine Lodge, Kansas, is 120 years old this year. Celebrations are no stranger in Medicine Lodge since we have a Peace Treaty Pageant every three years. The community is very experienced at coming together to pull off a large and wonderful celebration, so when we decided to commemorate our 120th anniversary it seemed fitting to do so during this year's Peace Treaty.



Since we were one of 52 libraries across the United States to participate in the Public Library Association Inclusive Internship Initiative this year, we had an extra pair of hands. Those hands had to complete a connected learning project that benefited the Library and the community, and that became our historical digitization project. With the help of South Central Kansas Library System we were trained, and she began scanning library history, creating metadata and getting items uploaded to our digitization site at medicinelodge.digitalsckls.info.



Since we are a library and books are a large part of our business, we decided to participate in the Pageant Parade all three days and hand out a total of 1500 books to children. The funding for this portion of our celebration is provided by the Louise DeGeer Memorial.

Next up we decided to partner with the school librarian and students to create an interactive history tour map for use during Peace Treaty and beyond. You can view our interactive map at <https://maphub.net/kasmom2/interactive-medicine-lodge>. Eventually, the school librarian would like to have a virtual reality application built using all of this information.

The best part is that this celebration will continue for years to come. Our digitization project will be opened up to other organizations and community members so that our digital history site will contain an extensive Medicine Lodge history. From Peace Treaty items to personal items, from cemetery and obituary information to school scrapbooks and beyond, this project has an incredible potential not just for the community but for anyone, anywhere, who is interested in our area history.

None of these wonderful events and future programs would be possible without former and current library staff and board members volunteering their time to participate in the parade, sit in the meeting room and organize books. We are lucky to have such a supportive and involved community.



MONTANA

UM's Mansfield Library lands grant to preserve rare books, historic photos

The University of Montana's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library has landed a \$20,671 Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant will help fund a project to improve storage for the library's rare books, historic photographs, archival collections and other materials. "Part of the library's overall mission is preserving and protecting cultural heritage materials in its trust," said Shali Zhang, UM dean of libraries. "This grant allows us to work with an interdisciplinary team of experts to survey and assess the library building and its mechanical systems and will provide an actionable and sustainable plan for development."

One project goal is to stabilize the climate in certain storage areas and another is to determine whether additional air filtration systems are needed to mitigate the impact of smoke from forest fires on the library's cultural heritage collections. According to Donna McCrea, head of the library's Archives, Special Collections and Preservation unit, the collections at the heart of the project, including unpublished diaries, letters, photographs and oral histories, are primarily about the people and activities of Montana, particularly western Montana.

More information about the Mansfield Library's Archives and Special Collections and its holdings is online at <http://www.lib.umt.edu/asc>.



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

September 26
November 28

QUESTIONS?

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



Nebraska Library Association - Thank you, Jake!

If you follow Jake Rundle on social media, you know he has announced that he will be leaving Nebraska for a new opportunity at Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado Springs, effective October 1. Since this means we will not be able to give him a proper farewell at conference this year, I am writing to extend my congratulations to Jake on behalf of NLA and wish him the best in this new chapter of his life and career.

I also write to express my gratitude to him for his service to NLA, as there have been few members that have done more for the association in recent years than Jake. He has held multiple leadership roles in a relatively short time and, as the current MPLA Councilor, his work to improve collaboration with this regional organization will undoubtedly bear much fruit as we head to the NLA/MPLA Joint Conference in 2024 (October 2-5 in La Vista for you advance planners!). He was also a strong presence on the Board of Directors (even when frequently arriving at least 30 minutes late to meetings), constantly advocating for new ways to engage our membership and improve the value of NLA membership.

Finally, Jake was also a fantastic friend and adviser to me and I will miss all the insights he would give me as I sought to make informed decisions over the last two years. I don't know what I'm going to do without Jake (guess no spontaneous Nintendo Night in my conference hotel room this year!) but, MUCH more importantly, I don't know what NLA is going to do without him. I do know, however, that the association is better off for having him and we will all be hearing about his great success for decades to come!

Sincerely,
Andrew Cano, NLA President



Fifth Annual Tomato Tasting

The Fifth Annual Tomato Tasting at the Beatrice Public Library in Beatrice NE was also a celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum. It began with special children's activities provided by the Arboretum and continued with face painting and antennae making. The staff of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum provided free tours of the Beatrice Public Library Arboretum. The Beatrice Public Library site and building became a member of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum in 1992 at the first Arbor Day celebration at the current location. The Tomato Tasting awards included favorites chosen by the attendees. Other activities during this special event include self-guided tours of the Library Pollinator Garden as well as samples of foods made with tomatoes. Since the 5th anniversary gift tradition is items made of wood, pencils and wooden plant markers were given away, compliments of the Beatrice Public Library Foundation. The Nebraska State Arboretum sponsored a drawing for plants that were donated for this celebration.



Mesquite Nevada opens New Library

Mesquite, a rural community located 82 miles away from Las Vegas, opened a new 13,313 sq. ft. library in May. Their existing building, just north of the new library, was redesigned and is now the Mesquite Library Learning Center. The 1.63 acre lot was donated to the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District by the City of Mesquite. Included in the new library are an Artspace to showcase local artists, a café with drive-thru window service, a Makerspace, a homework help center with laptops and class materials, an outdoor play area with STEAM and sensory-related activities, a dedicated teen lounge, a multigenerational club room and a community room.



Washoe County Library System: Quad Makerspace

Washoe County Library System, based in Reno, Nevada, recently opened their new Quad Makerspace at their downtown branch. The grand opening was attended by 100 people, including Nevada State Senator Julia Ratti. U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto gave a commendation. The Quad includes a vinyl cutter, button machines, soldering station, laminator, leather crafting tools, sublimation printer & heat process, and sewing machines. Attendees received 3D printed keychains and magnets made with the tools.

Participants could make an "I Can Solder" button, complete with LED light; a personalized leather coaster or keychain; practice sewing; and watch the 3D printer in action. They also had 3 virtual reality stations available to explore.





IMLS Grant funds TV WhiteSpace Networks for Tribal Libraries

San Jose State University (SJSU-iSchool), the Tribal Libraries Program of the New Mexico State Library, the New Mexico State Department of Information Technology, the Gigabit Libraries Network (GLN), and the University of California, Santa Barbara, will collaborate with tribal libraries across New Mexico to explore improving tribal internet connectivity, equity, and inclusion through the design and implementation of several TV WhiteSpace (TVWS) networks statewide. In telecommunications, white spaces refer to frequencies allocated to a broadcasting service but not used locally. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded a National Leadership Grant for Libraries to fund this collaboration. These grants support projects that address significant challenges and opportunities facing the library and archives fields and have the potential to advance theory and practice with new tools, research findings, models, services, practices, or alliances that will be widely used.



GIGABIT LIBRARIES NETWORK
supporting library reinvention worldwide

Libraries Rock Kick-off at Rio Rancho Public Library

Rio Ranch Libraries in Rio Rancho, New Mexico commemorated the summer program theme, “Libraries Rock” with a display case of various instruments and musical influences. In addition, at the kick-off guests saw fantastic Irish Dancers from Celtic Steps.





NORTH DAKOTA

Book Bike

The Fargo Public Library is taking the 'library on wheels' concept to a whole new level. They're 'rolling' out a Book Bike. It's a custom-made tricycle that'll bring a small library to community events and places like parks or just on the sidewalk. Anyone with a library card can check out books, place holds and register for programs.



NASA @ MY LIBRARY: Sun-Earth-Moon Connection Kits

The North Dakota State Library has partnered with the Space Science Institute and the Cornerstones of Science to develop three NASA @ My Library kits that can be checked out to libraries around the state. The first kit, which is now available to be reserved through KitKeeper, is called the Sun-Earth-Moon Connections Kit and focuses on activities and experiences that better help people understand how science impacts their everyday life and how the Sun and Moon interact with Earth. There are 4 activities included in the kit that can be used for programming with patrons of all ages. The major content areas are follows:



- Modeling both lunar and solar eclipses with easy to use tools
- Detecting ultraviolet light in a creative way
- Using sorting cards to explore concepts relating to size, distance, and temperature
- Experiential activity that allows for a greater understanding of the vast scale of our Solar System.

Also included are two sunoculars (used to safely observe the sun), 3 books (*Moonbear's Shadow* by Frank Asch, *Oh Say Can You Say What's the Weather Today?* by Dr. Seuss, and *Getting a Feel for Lunar Craters* by NASA), a tactile sheet of the Moon's craters, and a 3-ring binder with all the information needed to complete the activities.





National Library Card Sign Up Month

The Hulbert and Tahlequah Public Libraries, two branches of the Eastern Oklahoma District Library System, are celebrating Library Card Sign-up Month. Special activities at Tahlequah include no-charge replacement cards, a Cheesy Pick-up Lines Contest, an opportunity for anyone to recommend their favorite books to other readers, and adults and teens 15 and up can help save the world by participating in the Pandemic tabletop game. Small prizes will be handed out to those who sign-up for a new card or refer a friend to get one.



Lexicon 2018

From the Flash to the Joker, heroes and villains alike were out in full force. Stillwater Public Library in Stillwater, OK comic-con community flooded Duck Street for Lexicon 2018. Paula Long, Stillwater Public Library's adult reference librarian, said it was the largest turnout she'd seen in Lexicon's history. "It's almost impossible to keep track of the number of attendees with it being spread across three locations," Long said. "But just by how packed the venues have been, we will top a thousand easy. We will host between 1,500 and 2,000 (people)." There were 52 vendor booths ranging from EmmyJane Arts and Knights and Arms Tabletop Games to a Super Smash Bros. tournament that Game X-Change hosted. Greg Feagan, the area manager for Game X-Change in Stillwater, spearheaded the tournament. "This is our third year at Lexicon," Feagan said. "However, this is the first time we have held a tournament along with a whole gaming room."

Utah Digital Newspapers Addition

The University of Utah's J. Willard Marriott Library is celebrating a new addition to Utah Digital Newspapers — the complete run of Hill Air Force Base's Hilltop Times. Hill Air Force Base, which was founded shortly before the U.S. entry into World War II, went on to serve a critical maintenance and supply role during the war. The bombers that defeated the Axis powers in World War II — the B-29, B-25, B-24 and B-17 — were repaired, modified or maintained in some way at Hill Air Force Base.

More than 61,000 pages of the Hill Air Force Base newspapers, covering the period 1943 to 2006, have been digitized and are now available to the public. The first issue of the official base newspaper was published on Jan. 1, 1943. "Every page of every issue is available in the base's archive, which also houses some 50,000 original photographs covering the building of the base and the history of aviation in Utah," Tina Kirkham, digital library project manager, said in a statement. For more information about the Utah Digital Newspapers program and online access to the Hilltop Times, contact Kirkham at tina.kirkham@utah.edu.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Gruener recognized at 2018 Distinguished Achievement in the Humanities

Maria Gruener was among three people and one organization honored by the South Dakota Humanities Council for 2018 Distinguished Achievement in the Humanities awards for their contributions to humanities in South Dakota. Gruener is from Watertown, where she works as assistant director at Watertown Regional Library and is the current vice president/president elect of the South Dakota Library Association.

She is a community leader and volunteer and has coordinated numerous SD Humanities Council events at the Watertown library, including annual One Book South Dakota discussions, and has hosted or volunteered with One Book Author Tour events.

Why Didn't I think of that?

Gregory Public Library keeps a collection of local restaurant menus for library visitors. Director Diane Althoff says there are a couple of restaurants that only advertise daily on Facebook, so she also finds out what is their specialty du jour. A great idea not only for locals, but especially for visitors traveling through your location who stop at the library to use the internet!



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

Chalk Walk Festival



Artists from around Utah filled sidewalks with unique artwork at the Salt Lake County Library's second annual Chalk walk art festival held at Viridian Event Center. The public enjoyed the art, music and other festivities during the free, all-day event, as registered artists of all skill levels fill 6-foot by 6-foot sidewalk squares surrounding the Library's Viridian Event Center. Attendees had the opportunity to vote for their favorite artwork. Event coordinator Tayler Allen said, "It's a great opportunity for everyone to come enjoy one last summer weekend with amazing chalk art drawn by artists right here in our own community."

ULA Legislative Award for Excellence in Political Affairs and Library Advocacy

An East Carbon girl who started a grassroots campaign to save bookmobile services in Carbon County has received a statewide award from the Utah Library Association (ULA). Eleven-year-old October Hamilton was honored with the ULA Legislative Award for Excellence in Political Affairs and Library Advocacy. In presenting the award, Summit County Library Director and ALA Past President Dan Compton noted the award is given only once a year to recognize an individual or group who has demonstrated consistent dedication in being an advocate for libraries either on the national, state or local political stage. ULA Bookmobile Program Manager for the State of Utah Britton Lund also commended October saying, "I have never seen a child get this award." She said it usually goes to legislators, county commissioners or other adults. "To do your civic duty, to be involved in the process of government in making laws and making a difference, that's something all of us can do," she said. "But not very many of us take the opportunity and to have a child lead the way, it's absolutely incredible."

Welcome Richard!



Lincoln County Library in Kemmerer, Wy welcomed Richard Landreth as their new director. Richard is a long-time MPLA member, a previous Wyoming Rep to the Board, and a 2007 Leadership Institute Fellow.

Farewell Brad!



Casper College Goodstein Foundation Library is saying goodbye to Director Brad Matthies. Brad has accepted a position as Associate Dean of the Foley Library at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. His last day at Casper College is September 28.

Brad has been in academic libraries for 17 years total. For the last six, he's been at Casper College where he updated library services and spaces, doubling patron gate count over a five-year period. (Not to mention, he caught a lot of Wyoming trout!)

"There are too many Wyoming librarians for me to thank individually," Brad said of his time in Wyoming. "I'll definitely miss working with many of you — especially those of you who are in higher education, the WYLD organization, and at the State Library. Wyoming has a great group of public and academic librarians that support each other on a level that I haven't seen elsewhere."

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

Sources: Agreement icon made by Grigor Ovinar; Telescope icon made by Freepik; Network icon made by Nadezhda from www.flaticon.com

www.MPLA.us



Welcome, New Members!

**Ellen Barlow**

Head Librarian
Southeastern Public Library System
McAlester Public Library
McAlester OK

Dario Bellettini

Head Librarian - Branch Manager
Southeastern Public Library System of
Oklahoma Coal County Public Library
Coalgate OK

Jessica Brents

Head Librarian
Southeastern Public Library System
Mattie Terry Public Library
Valliant OK

Shawna Lea Busby

Head Librarian
Southeastern Public Library System of
Oklahoma Latimer County Public Library
Wilburton OK

S. Kirsten Davis

Application Administrator
University of Central Oklahoma
Chambers Library
Edmond OK

Shawna Rae Gilbert

Access Services Librarian
Assistant Professor of Library Science
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
J.W. Martin Library
Alva OK

Kameron Wayne Huggins

Branch Manager/Library Systems
& Consumer Technology Coordinator
Southeastern Public Library System of
Oklahoma Stigler Public Library
Stigler OK

Chandra Jackson

Outlying Branch Department Head
Las Vegas-Clark County Library District
Laughlin Library
Laughlin NV

Mary King

Head Librarian
S.E. Public Library System Arkoma
Public Library
Arkoma OK

Shannon Leaper

Director of Library Services
Northwestern Oklahoma State
University J.W. Martin Library
Alva OK

Diedre Lemon

Executive Director
Dodge City Public Library
Dodge City KS

Susan Mark

Publications Specialist
Wyoming State Library
Cheyenne WY

Holly Mercer

Director
Southwest Kansas Library System
Dodge City KS

Rachel Holly Morton

Branch Manager
Southeastern Public Library System
Heavener Public Library
Heavener OK

Glenda Stokes

Branch Manager
Spiro Public Library
Spiro OK

Delilah Belle Swink

Branch Manager
Southeastern Public Library System
of Oklahoma Choctaw County Public
Library
Hugo OK

(Lora) Lee Toliver

Head Librarian
Southeastern Public Library System
Talihina Public Library
Talihina OK

Cathy Diane Tucker

Head Librarian
Southeastern Library System of
Oklahoma Hartshorne Library
Hartshorne OK

Jennifer Wilhelm

Business Librarian
Texas A&M University
College Station TX



2018 Conference Calendar

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

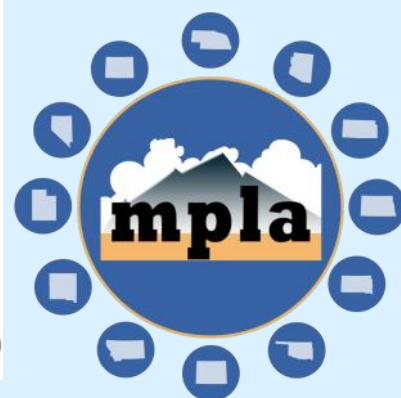
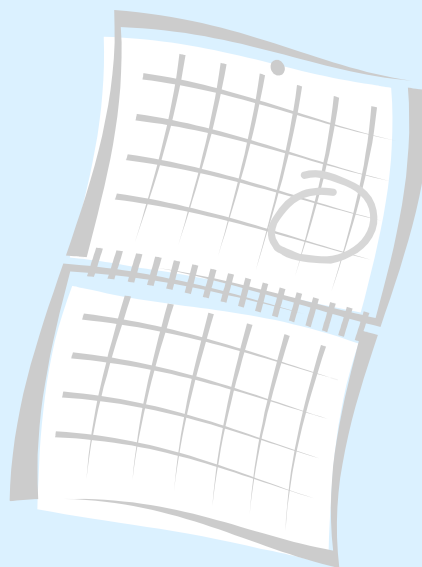
October 31– Nov 2; Albuquerque, NM

Wyoming State Library Association

August 2-3; Casper, WY

Nevada Library Association

October 12-14; Las Vegas, NV



Or pick your own charitable organization:

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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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www.mpla.us/personnel/executiveboard.html

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www.mpla.us/events/mplaprof2014.pdf

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- **November 1**

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