

# Mountain Plains Library Association

*Big Horizons Close Community*

# Newsletter

April 2019—May 2019

www.mpla.us

Volume 64 Number 2

## Love Your Library Month

*Here are some of the February celebrations!*

### Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, SD

*Rachelle Langdon*

During the month of February we brought back our popular passive program, Blind Date with a Book! This year we expanded the collection to include children's and YA along with adult books. We ultimately had around 100 wrapped books that were on display with brief descriptions of what each was about. Patrons check them out and then return them with a review slip that they enter into a prize drawing.

We were also interviewed by SDPB radio for a Library Lovers program that aired on February 14th. This interview featured information about our Blind Date with a Book program, as well as other activities and partnerships we have at the library.



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### Converse County Library is going fine free!

Converse County, Wyoming

*Cindy Moore*

Our board believes that removing barriers and increasing access for all readers is a priority. We do not like to see good readers and great library users feel discouraged about using the library because of fines. As of February 11th, our self declared "Celebration for Library Lovers", we will no longer be assessing fines for overdue books

During Library Lovers week we highlighted different aspects of library services, (Tuesday: Teen services, Wednesday: Juvenile services, Adult services: all week long). Computers were set up with some tech help for the new library app, Overdrive, our new website or other tech related patron questions. On Thursday and Friday we had refreshments and Saturday we held our Annual Chocolate Festival.

-Continued on page 3

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

# 2019 NMLA / MPLA Conference October 31 - November 2

Joint meeting of the Mountain Plains Library Association and the New Mexico Library Association.  
Hotel Albuquerque Old Town.

**New Mexico Library Association / Mountain Plains Library  
Association \*\*\* Call for Presentation Proposals \*\*\***



## **CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS** <http://tinyurl.com/nmlampla2019>

### **Here are some important things to know:**

1. Submission deadline is June 15th; we will try to notify all submitters by July 1st.
2. Include as much detail as possible on the proposal form.
3. If you would like to present more than one session, please submit a separate form for each session.

### ***Questions?***

Please contact Bradley Carrington, Conference Program Chair,  
at [Programs@NMLA.org](mailto:Programs@NMLA.org)

**Brookings School District JK-5, Brookings, South Dakota**

*Marilyn Mendenhall*

**100 Days and 100 Ways to Love My Library!**

The students in grades JK-Third used die cut numerals for 100 and arranged them in whatever order they wished to make their picture. My personal favorites were a child who made a cat on a unicycle and the three students who worked together to make a three car train. The board also tells us all the reasons to love our Hillcrest Library such as comfy chairs, Makerspace, audiobooks, and the black arrow points to a QR code which allows you to download some great ebooks. The ebooks, read to me books, Pebblego database, and QR codes are new this year. Coming soon are VOX books and reading group sets of audio books and print books to accompany them. Third grade has begged to be able to check out more books so we have a Third Grade Three Book Special before every long weekend.



**Harrisburg School District 41-2, Harrisburg, South Dakota**

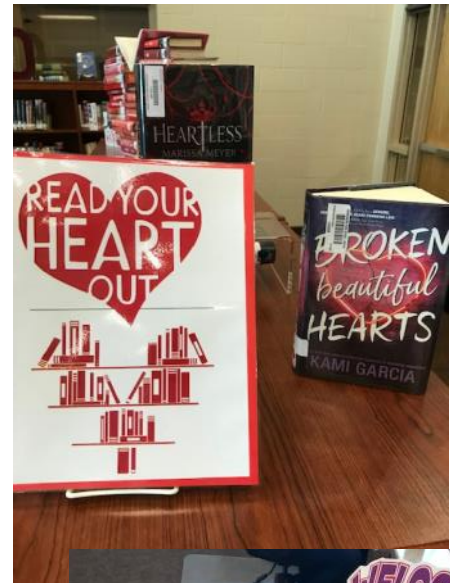
*Eve K. Langrock*

**What can the library do for YOU?**

In addition to the pictures, we have had library-related trivia questions each week for students to guess, with the chance to win candy and Scooters gift cards!

I also presented staff with reminders of how the library can serve them:

- Breakout EDU kits with hundreds of online games for all subjects
- 3D printer and other Makerspace activities
- Book talks or book tasting
- Resource Lists (department books, adult-interest, Habits of Mind)
- NoodleTools
- Research/Databases
- Plagiarism
- Staff Book Club (Tattooist of Auschwitz Feb. 26)



-Continued on page 4

**New Town MS/HS Library, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, New Town, North Dakota**  
*Angie Schneider, New Town MS/HS Librarian*

February was a busy month here at New Town Library. Students in grades 9-12 have been selecting topics and getting books for research papers. They have also taken advantage of the help sheets I have made available at the library for writing bibliographies and for doing database searches with NDSL site.

My 6th and 7th grade Library Skills students have been busy learning about reference tools such as almanacs, atlases, encyclopedias and dictionaries. Students were also able to access and use digital resources while doing their reports on their favorite hobbies. Students were surprised to learn how easy it is to navigate the NDSL database links and enjoyed the video and dictionary features while researching information about their hobby.

As a school we celebrate reading month in February. This year's theme is: Read S'More Books. Students who check out books are registered for a weekly drawing and winners were treated to a S'Mores party at the library on March 1st.



Students were also able to sign up for the read genre/format contest as well. Students who read 3 or more book genres and 3 or more formats of books won the contest and also got the S'Mores party!

Other activities that involved both MS and HS students include: Hand Games (Native American game) event, and a cooking activity where 7th grade students learned about the history of the cupcakes and made and decorated cupcakes to eat, and a 6th grader's event where they learned about the history of weaving as it relates to their ancestors (Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara tribes). They wove placements using pre-cut paper and strips of contrasting, colored, paper.

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You shop. Amazon gives.



Or pick your own charitable organization:

**Looking for another way to support MPLA?** Just visit [Amazon Smile](#), select the Mountain Plains Library Association, and automatically donate .5% of the purchase price of eligible goods to MPLA.

# MPLA Membership Rally

Your mission is to increase the number of members from your state.

## Rules:

The Contest will run from April 1 through June 30 2019

If you get an institutional member, you get an extra point towards the fabulous prize.

If your state has a conference during these three months, the 10 free memberships that are given out at the conference will NOT count.

The final winner will be announced and prize awarded at the New Mexico Conference in October.

As of January, these are the number of members from each state. I will send out updated figures in March after renewals end.



## CLiC Dropped from Lawsuit

February 27, 2019 by Jim Duncan

Centennial, CO— 2/27/2019 —

Last week a small group of parents calling themselves Pornography is Not Education (PINE) dropped their lawsuit against the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC), a nonprofit organization that serves several hundred libraries, schools and academic institutions across the state. The complaint, filed with Arapahoe County District Court in October 2018, was the result of a two-year campaign by the parents to censor and remove a variety of educational research products from schools and libraries across Colorado.

The lawsuit claimed that CLiC knowingly brokered various forms of pornography, including sexually explicit materials in the form of graphic images, obscene text, advertising for sex toys, and active links to escort service web sites. The suit further claimed that CLiC markets such content to schools and libraries.

"Librarians occupy a crucial role as professional selectors and managers of content, from books to e-resources... not pornography," said Jim Duncan, Executive Director for CLiC. "In today's Information Age, we celebrate the services provided by these qualified and knowledgeable individuals working throughout Colorado's libraries and schools. CLiC supports and helps libraries achieve greatness in our communities daily."

Prior to the lawsuit, the parents threatened legal action against Cherry Creek School District, and they claimed victory for that district's decision to remove vast amounts of educational material from its schools, including several thousand magazines, newspapers and other forms of electronic research resources. Local news coverage by Denver's Channel 9News, highlighting the parents' censorship success in pressuring the school district's decision, rippled through other schools and districts served by CLiC.

EBSCO Information Services, also named in the lawsuit, is a leading provider of research databases, e-journals, magazine subscriptions, and e-books to libraries of all types across the country and internationally. PINE has dropped the lawsuit against EBSCO as well. Although not named in the lawsuit, other vendors of products licensed by libraries, such as Gale/Cengage, ProQuest, and OverDrive also have been cited by the parent group as delivering pornographic content to schools and libraries.

"Money and time spent on CLiC's legal defense in this frivolous lawsuit could have been better used to support schools, libraries, and our communities," Duncan said. "CLiC unifies libraries so that they deliver a valuable return on taxpayer investments... throughout our state's many diverse regions, from rural to suburban to urban to mountain communities."

"Parents, grandparents, community leaders and students — across Colorado — continue to trust librarians. They are right to value the services and rich resources offered by libraries and schools," he said.

# 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
Las Vegas, NV	Boise, ID
- **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



## Book Challenges at the Andover Public Library

In October 2018, the Andover Kansas Public Library received Materials Reconsideration requests for three children's books: *George* by Alex Gino, *Lily and Dunkin* by Donna Gephart, and *I am Jazz* by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings, illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas. All three feature characters with gender dysphoria. The books are located in the children's section of the library. The challenges argued that the books encouraged unhealthy and inappropriate gender reassignment procedures and negative behavior like disrespecting police and clearing browser history. They wanted the books moved out of the children's section.

In accordance with library policy, a hearing committee was formed to evaluate the books. The committee voted 4-1 to keep the books in the children's area. Per library policy, the person who filed the challenges appealed to the library board. The board's decision is final.

Via social media, library employees heard comments that lead them to expect a crowd made up of both sides at the January board meeting. As a result, the board meeting was relocated to a larger room to accommodate the crowd. The challenger was given time to appeal to the board followed by time for public comment. Eleven people spoke, both for and against. The Board announced that they would make their decision at the February board meeting.

A reporter from *Wichita Eagle* attended. The story went out on January 11<sup>th</sup> and hit the Associated Press. Library director Tom Taylor was interviewed on camera by the local NBC affiliate and on by telephone by the CBS affiliate. Both stations ran the story on air and on their social media platforms. News outlets across the state and beyond picked up the story. It was shared on social media networks, drawing notable attention, including Tweets by author Donna Gephardt.. Organizations with vested interest in freedom of speech such as the Kansas chapter of GSLEN , the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, and the National Coalition Against Censorship reached out to the Library.

The infamous Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas contacted the Andover Police Department. They indicated their intent to protest at the Library on February 13<sup>th</sup>, the evening of the board meeting. Westboro Baptist Church is openly homophobic and hateful toward non-CIS people. They have a long history of picketing events and have gained notoriety for protesting at the funerals of dead soldiers. Parks staff had fenced off an area where they could picket. Police escorted the picketers to their location in the park across the street from the Library. Only six protesters attended. There were more uniformed and plainclothes officers on site.

### Transgender books to remain in children's section at Andover Library



The board meeting itself went as scheduled. The board voted 6-1 on each book to deny the appeal to remove the books from the children's section. The board's decision again made [the news in the Wichita Eagle](#). Taylor was also interviewed by the CBS affiliate, who aired the story that night.





## MPLA / NMLA Joint Conference

**Oct. 30 -  
Nov. 1, 2019**



**HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE**  
at old town

**Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town**  
800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87104

<https://nmla.wildapricot.org/Conferences/>

## Professional Development Calendar

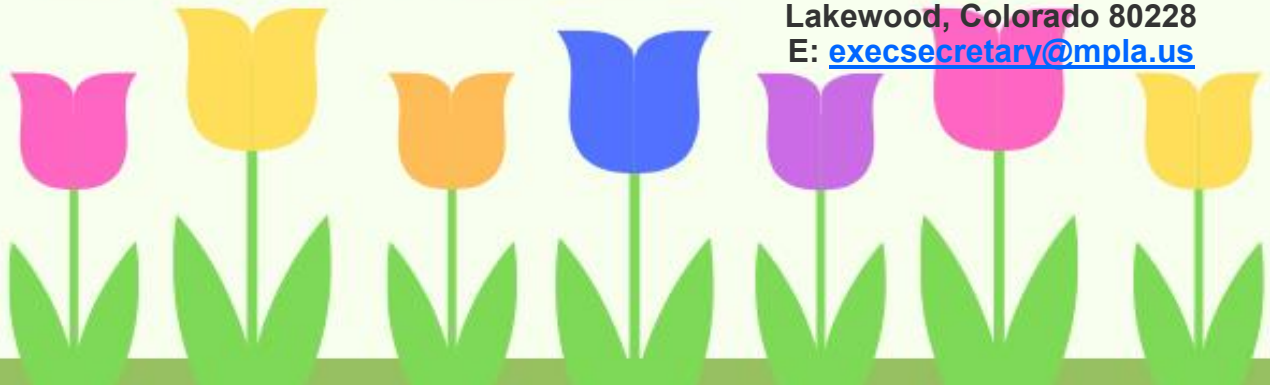
Individual Grant Application Deadline

29 May 2019  
25 September 2019  
27 November 2019

*Robin Newell*  
*Professional Development, Chair*  
*Emporia Public Library*  
E: [prof\\_development@mpla.us](mailto:prof_development@mpla.us)

State Associations: 1 June 2019

*Judy Zelenski*  
*Executive Secretary*  
*Lakewood, Colorado 80228*  
E: [execsecretary@mpla.us](mailto:execsecretary@mpla.us)

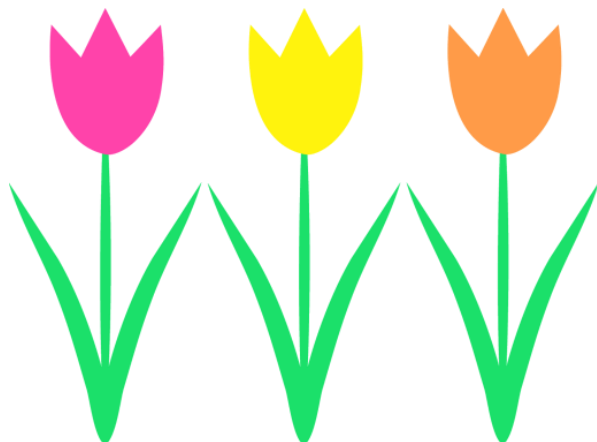


# Around the Region



## Tour de Biblio

The Pima County Library has organized its first Tour de Biblio, a group bike ride between a number of library locations. The first ride, scheduled for February 22, was cancelled due to winter weather. The next event, on March 9, features a 15-mile route connecting three midtown Tucson branches ([Himmel Park Library](#), [Woods Memorial Library](#), and the [Martha Cooper Library](#)). Organizers have planned for snack stops at the libraries, and a Bookbike craft. The program is offered in partnership with the Pima County Bike Ambassadors and the Living Streets Alliance. Read more at [This is Tucson](#).



## Renovations @ Mayer Public Library

The Mayer Public Library, in Yavapai County, will be renovated in time for its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May. The project will include a new layout for the library, a new circulation desk, updated furniture, and a new meeting room for up to 16 people. The project is being carried out with support from the Yavapai County Free Library District, the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, and the Friends of Mayer Public Library. The public is invited to a grand reopening and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Wednesday, May 15. Read more about the project at [Signals](#).

## “What You Don’t Learn in Library School”

The 2019 Arizona Library Association Virtual Conference, “What You Don’t Learn in Library School,” will be held on April 4, 2019. The goal of the Virtual Conference is to offer engaging, accessible professional development opportunities for front-line library staff. More information about the Virtual Conference is available at [azla.org](#).



# CO COLORADO

## Another Library Goes Fines Free

The Clear Creek County Library District has determined that in order to provide fair access to materials and to promote literacy in their communities, the Clear Creek County Library District will no longer charge fines for overdue reading materials. All existing fines for overdue reading materials were erased.

## Small Business Revolution

Canon City, Colorado competed to be in a reality show called Small Business Revolution and the Canon City Library was heavily involved. They were the only Colorado town represented as they made it to the final round.

Sadly, they were not selected. However, big cheers for getting to the final consideration round!

<https://www.deluxe.com/small-business-revolution/main-street/canon-city-co/>



# KS KANSAS

## Fortnite In Real Life (IRL)

A popular online game stepped into real life momentarily at the Emporia Public Library when it hosted Fortnite IRL. The game had participants wandering all over the library, gathering supplies, doing missions that tested their knowledge and tossing bean bags at each other.



Youth Services Librarian Tiffany Fay said the main purpose of the event was to allow participants to have fun emulating the popular game IRL — which stands for “in real life” in internet parlance.

“Everything that we do is to get the public into the library — 100 percent, that’s always our goal,” Fay said. “But yeah, after that, I don’t have an educational purpose for this. It’s just fun. It’s just something that we know that kids really love to do. This also gets them up, it gets them moving. They’re learning staff names, they’re learning each other’s names. But yeah, it’s just fun exercise, basically.”

## Emporia State SLIM Program Expansion

School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas will have new cohorts this fall in Las Vegas, NV and Boise, ID. Since late 1980’s, SLIM’s unique hybrid mode has proven its effectiveness in learning and professional development for future librarians. SLIM has a long history of advancing librarianship since 1902 and these two new locations will help SLIM to reach much wider audiences. If you have any questions or would like to know more about the new cohorts in Las Vegas and Boise, contact our regional director, Dale Monobe, at [dmonobe@emporia.edu](mailto:dmonobe@emporia.edu) or 801-946-5265. You may also visit our website at <https://www.emporia.edu/slim>



# MT MONTANA

## ImagineIF Libraries' Megan Glidden selected as ALA Emerging Leader

ImagineIF Libraries' Senior Librarian, Megan Glidden, has been selected as an American Library Association Emerging Leader for the Class of 2019. The American Library Association (ALA) Emerging Leaders (EL) program is a leadership development program which enables newer library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity.



As head of the Community Engagement Team at ImagineIF, Megan has brought forth many innovative projects to the Flathead Valley, including a Seed Library located at ImagineIF Columbia Falls, the result of a partnership with the Good Seed Co. She has also been a key leader in helping launch Making Montana, a two-day festival of invention and creativity featuring a Manufacturing and Technology Expo alongside the Kalispell Mini Maker Faire. This event takes place at the Flathead Valley Fairgrounds Expo Building each February and houses all kinds of makers, manufacturers and tech companies all under one roof. Her proven ability to find new ways to connect with the community by offering more interactive and hands-on programming makes her the perfect candidate for ALA's Emerging Leaders program.

## Kudos to Aaron LaFromboise

Aaron LaFromboise, Director of Library Services at Blackfeet Community College, was featured in the first week of January episode of This American Life. The episode was all about libraries.

See it at

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/664/the-room-of-requirement>.



# NE NEBRASKA

## Black History Month Celebration

Lincoln Public Schools and Lincoln city libraries partnered to offer the annual African-American Read-In in celebration of Black History Month. The read-in took place at the Eiseley Library branch and included performances, readings of book excerpts and personal stories by community leaders.

Pete Ferguson, who is the coordinator for the youth development team with LPS, said the read-in symbolizes an important opportunity for people in Lincoln to immerse themselves in the rich history of African-American literature.

"We will have readings and performances by community stakeholders, and the goal is to explore African-American history and the rich history and role and contributions that African-Americans have made in the world of literature and the arts," Ferguson said.



## Formation of The Lyon County Library Foundation

Located east of Carson City, Lyon County covers more than 2,000 square miles in northern Nevada. From rural agricultural districts to bedroom communities of the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, a 15,000 acre center 9 miles east of Reno, the five branches of the Lyon County Library System serve a diverse and rapidly growing population of more than 54,000.

The Lyon County Library Foundation was recently formed to support the Lyon County Library System in serving these diverse communities. The annual operating budget of the Lyon County Library System is determined each year from limited county resources; the mission of the Lyon County Library Foundation is to supplement this limited budget in order to provide programs and major capital improvements to benefit all branches of the library system, and to improve library services countywide. Foundation funding will come from granting agencies and organizations as well as contributions from individual donors.

The major goal of the FY 2020 through FY 2024 Lyon County Library Strategic Plan is to establish a staffed bookmobile, with mobile technology and makerspace capabilities, for our rural areas not serviced within 15 miles of a branch.

The Foundation has already held two fundraising events. The next fundraising event, a grand, formal masquerade ball, will be held October 26th at the Dayton Valley Golf Course, 12 miles east of Carson City. The Foundation plans to make this bash an annual affair!

## MPLA Membership Rally

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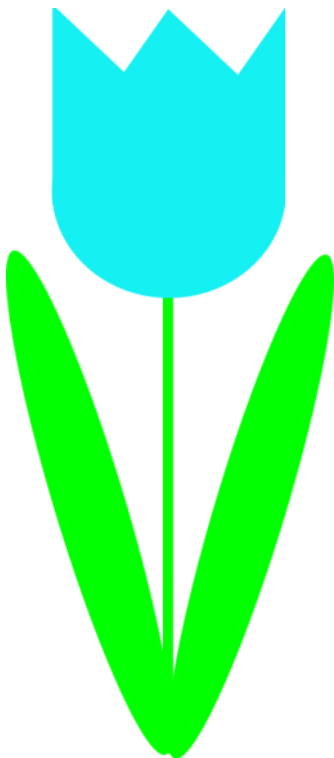
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# NEW MEXICO

## **Digitizing Native American language learning resources: The Zuni Language Materials Collection**

by Sarah Kostelecky

Did you know that New Mexico is home to 23 tribal nations who speak eight different languages? As with other Indigenous languages, they are vital to the traditions and culture of the people who speak them. Yet many tribal languages are endangered and lack fluent speakers, often the result of government policies meant to assimilate Native peoples and eliminate their cultures. The University of New Mexico has a sizeable Native American student population, over 5% (Spring 2018 enrollment report), and many come from New Mexico including Zuni Pueblo, the largest of the 19 pueblos in the state. University Libraries recently digitized books and posters published by the pueblo's bilingual education department to support learners of the Zuni language. The Zuni Public School District donated the items which comprise the Zuni Language Materials Collection. These language learning resources were initially intended to help Zuni Pueblo UNM students who are part of a grant program funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation called Zuni: Engaging Teachers and Community or ZETAC. Some of the UNM students were already working in the Zuni Public Schools and others wanted to work there after graduating.

The Zuni Public School District was the first tribally controlled public school district in the country, and content taught at the schools includes Zuni cultural knowledge in the language. UNM student Arin Peywa was hired with ZETAC funds to digitize the materials and describe the items, creating the metadata which is used to search within the Zuni Language Materials Collection. Arin was selected because of her involvement with the ZETAC program and her strong knowledge of the Zuni language, which was vital to the project's success. Having a project member from the community who created the materials led to this digital collection with meaningful and relevant terms and named artists that will help Zuni tribal members find items.

The collection was created with Zuni people as the primary users in mind. While the collection is publicly available, the project team plans to promote the ZLMC to specific targeted populations because these materials are culturally important to Zuni tribal members and not necessarily meant for all to view. Some materials contain culturally sensitive content which is why some materials have not been translated. However, to provide the greatest number of people access to the items, the New Mexico Digital Collections platform, which does not require a password, was chosen to view materials. This allows the Zuni people to look at the collection wherever they live using a variety of devices.

<https://libguides.unm.edu/blog/digitizing-native-american-language-learning-resources-the-zuni-language-materials-collection>



(Arin Peywa, Mary Wise and Sarah Kostelecky at the A:shiwí College & Career Readiness Center in Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico)



## NM Librarian selected for 2019 ALA Policy Corps cohort

The American Library Association (ALA) selected Kate Alderete, Library Director, Taos (N.M.) Public Library, as a member of its 2019 Policy Corps cohort. The ALA Policy Corps aims to expand our ability to advocate on key policy issues on behalf of the library community. The Corps builds on the Policy Revolution! Initiative and was launched in partnership with 2017-18 ALA President Jim Neal. Participants in the Corps focus on issues for which deep and sustained knowledge are necessary to advance ALA policy goals and library values among policymakers. The ALA Washington Office has partnered with PLA, the American Association of School Librarians, the Association of College & Research Libraries, and United for Libraries to develop and support the program.

We need both the front-line experience and perspective and the additional capacity to reach and influence more decision-makers. Such advocates may serve on a think tank panel to discuss how libraries advance small business and entrepreneurship opportunities, testify at a Congressional hearing on copyright policy, or accompany Washington Office staff on a visit to the Federal Communications Commission to discuss the E-rate program, for instance. The first year focuses on training. Subsequent years will deepen engagement with policy advocacy with ongoing activities and opportunities for networking across the cohort and among other policy advocates inside and outside the library community.

"Having a diverse Corps of library experts with a multi-year commitment to policy advocacy strengthens our ability to advance equity and inclusion with national decision makers," said ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo. "ALA celebrated significant legislative wins in 2018, but we also encountered serious threats to policies that ensure equitable access to information. The deeper and broader our policy engagement across the country and at all levels of government, the more quickly and successfully we can advance library priorities."



## MPLA / NMLA Joint Conference

Oct. 30 -  
Nov. 1, 2019

  
HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE  
at old town  
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town  
800 Rio Grande Blvd. NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87104

<https://nmla.wildapricot.org/>

# April Showers...

## Escape from Filch's Office

The Minot Public Library teens and tweens asked for an escape room. After researching these events and being Potterheads of the deepest dye, we decided to create a Harry Potter themed room.

The premise is that you are all Hogwarts students in your first year, learning to navigate the castle. As you are on your way to Professor McGonagall's classroom, you hear Peeves, the Hogwarts poltergeist, throwing dungbombs! You grab your mates and duck into what you think is an unused classroom. As you shut the door to avoid a smelly bomb, you realize you're in Filch's office! To escape, you must solve the puzzles you find within half an hour or you'll miss Transfiguration. If you miss class, Professor McGonagall will have you in detention and you'll lose House Points! Woe is you!

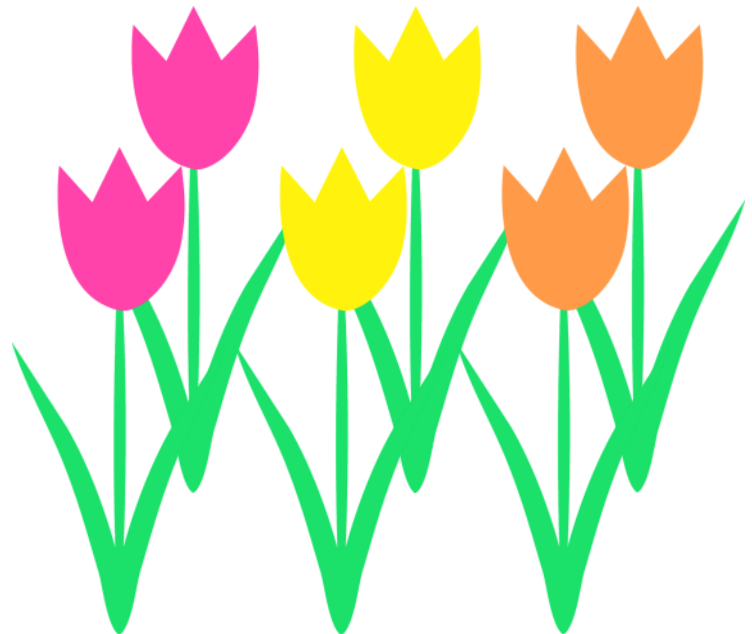
Before teens had a chance to try their luck, the escape room was used as a staff team builder with hilarious results and great reviews. If the March planned event goes well, a new escape room event will be held during Summer Reading.

## Sunrise Elementary Visits Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

Sunrise Elementary 4th graders enjoyed field trips to the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. The students were assigned topics relating to Lewis and Clark and the Northern Pacific Railway and their importance to Bismarck and North Dakota. Kate Waldera, Head of Information Services, gathered a variety of books and articles to assist the students in their research. Thanks to Sunrise Elementary for stopping over and utilizing our resources!



# Bring May Flowers





## Department of Libraries Director Announces Retirement



Susan McVey has announced her retirement from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL), after 17 years as State Librarian and State Archivist. McVey has served as the agency's fourth director since ODL was created in 1967 when the State Library merged

with the Oklahoma Libraries Commission. Prior to appointment as director in 2001, she served six years as deputy director. She also headed the agency's law and legislative reference division from 1991 to 1995.

A native of Duncan, Oklahoma, McVey received her masters in library science from the University of Texas at Austin, and a masters in public administration from the University of Oklahoma. She was reference librarian and later director at Oklahoma City University's Dulaney-Browne Library before joining ODL as a legislative reference librarian in 1986.

"It has been such an honor and privilege to serve Oklahomans as State Librarian," McVey said. "It's very rewarding to help our state government customers, as well as to help libraries throughout the state serve their communities. And thanks to the ODL team, we've been able to make tremendous progress, even during difficult financial times."

## New Logo to Represent Youth Services Librarians of Oklahoma!

The Oklahoma Library Association's Children and Teen Services Roundtable has chosen a new logo to represent the youth services librarians of Oklahoma. Inspired by the roundtable's acronym (CATS), Josh Mindemann (creator of the new OLA and Sequoyah logos), was commissioned to create a new and fresh logo. The design choices were narrowed down to three, and then were then put to a vote by CATS members to choose the winner. A light blue cat reading a book (seen here) was selected by the majority of the members.



Visit Josh's Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/mindemannphotography>

Visit the OLA Store to purchase items with this logo design: <https://www.cafepress.com/ola/15635311>

## Welcome April!

I'm April K. Miller, and I am pleased to serve as the OK Representative for MPLA. I work for Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) as an Assistant Professor, the Sayre Campus Librarian, and Outreach Coordinator for SWOSU Libraries.



I have been a member of MPLA since 2014. I have presented programs at WLA/MPLA in Cheyenne, WY in 2015, CAL-Con/MPLA in Loveland, CO in 2016, and KLA/MPLA in Wichita, KS in 2017. Aside from serving as the Oklahoma state representative, I am also co-chair of the MPLA Marketing Committee.

Locally, I have been an active member of the Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) serving as a member of the Marketing Committee since 2008, and as the chair 2013-2015. I maintain membership in the University & College Division of OLA, and I served as secretary of the division from 2017-2018. I am a member of many other committees and roundtables in the association. I am also a member of ALA, ACRL, and many other divisions of ALA. I recently served on the ALCTS-LITA-LLAMA Activities Working Group, participated in the ALCTS Mentorship Program and the LLAMA Mentoring Committee.

I am an avid reader, and enjoy sharing my love of reading, art and puzzles with my five-year-old son. I also love crafts, especially crochet and quilting, as well as dabbling in genealogy. I recently have become my family's official historian and archivist.

### **GeIP in South Dakota: Easier Access to the State Library-Provided Electronic Resources**

Beginning in December 2018, South Dakota residents now have easier access to the State Library-provided electronic resources off-campus or at home. GeIP provides "click and go" access on one's computer, phone, or other device. As long as users are physically located within the borders of South Dakota, they should no longer need a library ecard to access the databases when outside of the school or library. Now kids can sit on the bus and more easily do homework, or one can research ancestors while waiting in the doctor's office.

### **Legislative Day - Love your Library!**

Legislative Day at the state capital in Pierre was February 12th. This year's theme was Love Your Library. The South Dakota State library staff spent the morning manning informational tables, talking with legislators and hosting a catered lunch in the Capitol Rotunda. The afternoon was packed with meetings for the State Library Board and the State Library Association Board as well as visits to the House and Senate.

The day concluded with the State Library's Accreditation Ceremony. Daria Bossman, South Dakota State Librarian, awarded accreditation certificates:

Exemplary: Brookings Public Library, Ashia Gustafson, Director; Watertown Regional Library, Dee Dee Whitman, Director.

Enhanced: Hill City Community Library, Tammy Alexander, Director; Potter County Library, Barbara Vander Vorst, Director.

Essential: Scotland Public Library, Michelle Kass, Director; Lennox Community Library, Audrea Buller, Director; Grant County Library, Jody Carlson, Director

### **Exhibit at USU library highlights stories of Turkish refugees**

The Merrill-Cazier Library at Utah State University was the host to a photo exhibit called "What I Brought in My Luggage." The images of a water-soaked journal with pages covered in words in a foreign language, a child's first Barbie doll, and an unworn wedding dress are a showcase to the stories and objects featured in the exhibit, which features items belonging to people displaced from Turkey after the failed coup attempt in 2016.

Melissa Brimhall, the volunteer coordinator at Cache Refugee and Immigrant Connection said Exhibits like these "are really cool because they tell a story in very visual ways, When someone's story is real to us, it induces empathy, and it allows us to look at them in a different light."

To learn more about the experiences of refugees, Brimhall recommended looking up the Cache Valley Refugee Oral History project available through the USU digital collections.



## What's New at Converse County Library

The Converse County Library in Douglas and Glenrock, WY rolled out a new logo, website, and services during the month of library love!

New Website: <http://www.yourccl.org>

We think this will get our information out to patrons in a clear and updated manner.



New logo:  
We feel that it will bring everything together and will be recognized throughout Wyoming to identify our library.

New Services:  
*Overdrive* provides another option to borrow eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eVideos for the patrons of our county. This adds an additional digital option for residents in the plethora of reading options available to them through the library. Our library is proud to continue to offer high quality options for all.

## Creation Station at Natrona County Public Library

The staff at the Natrona County Public Library in Casper, Wyoming, wanted to create a community makerspace, called the Creation Station, where people with similar ideas and interests could gather to work on projects. They envisioned a flexible workspace where individuals and small groups could share supplies, equipment, and knowledge to bring their inventions and creations to life. The new library makerspace would also be used to enhance and expand the library's existing programs with hands-on STEAM workshops, demonstrations, and projects for all ages.

To help staff become familiar with the new library makerspace, leaders held many training sessions before the Creation Station opened. They will continue to hold trainings as they add new tools to the space. Using their creativity and their newfound tools, the staff created STEAM programming for both children and adults, and are often asked to give tours to acquaint patrons with the new resources. Patrons of all ages have been enthusiastic about having access to the tools the new library makerspace provides, as the Creation Station is the first makerspace in Natrona County that is free and open to everyone. And they've already seen the impact they hoped to achieve, said library leaders, by creating a space that connects community members and stimulates entrepreneurship.

[Demco: Natrona County Public Library Creation Station](#)

## Librarian Receives Kansas Leadership Center Scholarship

Robin Newell, Executive Director of the Emporia Public Library, has received a \$2695.00 continuing education scholarship from the Kansas Leadership Center to attend their Teach Leadership Intensive held March 11-15, 2019 in Wichita, KS.

The Teach Leadership Intensive is a 50-hour program designed to develop teaching proficiency for those at the front of the room, be it in a classroom or a boardroom. Through the Intensive, participants will develop greater confidence as a teachers, trainers, facilitators and will become leadership development practitioners as they gain a deeper understanding of the KLC framework, including utilizing adult learning theories to design effective programming. The Intensive will feature a 35 hour week-long course, including six hours of virtual group mentoring, three hours of shadowing a Proficient or Master Teacher, and real time practice teaching.

Newell, who is a member of the Emporia Chamber Leadership Emporia facilitation team and Step UP!, will continue to refine her professional leadership skills while connecting with community members through the Chamber programs. “My activities with these two groups are adult library outreach into the community,” Newell said, noting that the library takes an active part in improving the quality of life in Emporia. “Developing strong leaders increases civic engagement which ultimately makes for healthier communities.”

Robin Newell has been the Executive Director at the Emporia Public Library in Emporia, Kansas since March of 2015. Newell has a Bachelors in Management and a Masters in Library Information Science. Her library career spans over twenty years in diverse roles in Georgia, Nebraska and Kansas. Newell is currently Vice President of the Kansas Library Association and Past President of the Nebraska Library Association. She is an alumna of the first American Library Leadership Institute in 2013 and has attended and mentored at both the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute and the Mountain Plains Library Leadership Institute.

**King Soopers/Krogers**

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# Colorado's MOST ENDANGERED PLACES

By Amy Zimmer: Published on February 14, 2019 Colorado State Publications Blog

Every February, Colorado Preservation Inc. (CPI) releases their annual list of [Colorado's Most Endangered Places](#). The program brings awareness to historic buildings, landscapes, or archaeological sites around Colorado that are in danger of demolition, neglect, modification, or development. This year's endangered places, highlighting the history of southern Colorado, are:

- Adobe Potato Cellars of the San Luis Valley (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties)
- Hose Company No. 3 Fire Museum (Pueblo County)
- Iglesia De San Antonio-Tiffany Catholic Church (La Plata County)
- McIntire Ranch and Mansion (Conejos County)
- R&R Market (Costilla County)

[The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado](#), a Colorado Historical Society publication available from our library, mentions the history of the adobe potato cellars:

*An important consideration involved storage. When Anglo growers first marketed potatoes they stored surpluses above ground in circular wire-frames encased with hay or in straw-covered trenches. However, the Rio Culebra farmers preferred to store potatoes in a large, underground cellars, or soterranos. Because Hispano[s] used earth, not sod, for walls, their structures maintain an even temperature that kept potatoes from freezing. Hispano subterranean structures were so efficient and cheap to fabricate that Anglo farmers throughout the San Luis Valley adopted double-wall adobe construction for their above-ground storage facilities.*

A second Historical Society publication offers information about Conejos County's McIntire Ranch. [An Archaeological Inventory in the Pike's Stockade Area, Conejos County, Colorado](#) discusses the [ranch site's](#) historical and archaeological resources, including what remains of the large adobe ranch house. The ranch belonged to [Albert McIntire](#), governor of Colorado from 1895 to 1897. You can read about adobe construction in [Adobe as a Building Material for the Plains](#) and [Adobe Brick for Farm Buildings](#), two early-twentieth-century publications from the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station.

Adobe potato cellars in Rio Grande County, Colorado, circa 1939. Courtesy Library of Congress.

To learn more about historic preservation and its impact on Colorado communities, see [Preservation for a Changing Colorado](#), a 2017 publication of CPI and History Colorado. Search our library's [online catalog](#) for more Colorado history resources.



## 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.



# Welcome, New Members!



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**Abigail Smith**

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## Big Horizons, Close Community



# 2019 Conference Calendar

## **Montana Library Association**

April 10-13; Helena, MT

## **Association of College and Research Libraries**

April 10-13; Cleveland, OH

## **Utah Library Association**

May 15-17; Sandy, UT

## **ALA Annual Conference**

June 20-25; Washington, DC

## **The Association for Rural and Small Libraries**

September 4-7; Burlington, Vermont

## **Colorado Association of Libraries**

September 19 - 21; Loveland, CO

## **South Dakota Library Association**

September 25-27; Spearfish, SD

## **Wyoming Library Association**

August 8-9; Cheyenne, WY

## **Nebraska Library Association**

October 2-4; La Vista, Nebraska  
(Joint conference with Iowa Library Association)

## **Kansas Library Association**

October 22-25; Overland, KS

## **MPLA /New Mexico Association**

October 30– Nov 1; Albuquerque, NM  
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town  
<http://www.hotelabq.com/>

## **Nevada Library Association**

November 2-4; Reno, NV

## **Arizona Library Association**

November 6-8; Tucson, AZ

**Conference not listed?**

**Share it with us at**

**[editor@mpla.us](mailto:editor@mpla.us)**



## **North Dakota Library Association**

September 25-27; West Fargo, ND



# MPLA Board & Staff



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Southeastern Public Library System,  
Wister Public Library  
Wister, OK  
[president@mpla.us](mailto:president@mpla.us)

## Vice-President/President Elect

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St. John Vianney Seminary  
Cardinal Stafford Library  
Denver, CO  
[vicepresident@mpla.us](mailto:vicepresident@mpla.us)

## Past President / Administration

Mickey Coalwell  
Mid-America Library Alliance  
Independence, MO  
[pastpresident@mpla.us](mailto:pastpresident@mpla.us)

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South Dakota State Library  
Pierre, SD  
[secretary@mpla.us](mailto:secretary@mpla.us)

## Executive Secretary

Judy Zelenski  
Lakewood, Colorado  
[execsecretary@mpla.us](mailto:execsecretary@mpla.us)

## Newsletter Editor

Melanie Argo  
Madison Public Library  
Madison, SD  
[editor@mpla.us](mailto:editor@mpla.us)

## Leadership Institute Coordinator

Aubrey Madler  
Byrnes-Quanbeck Library  
Mayville, North Dakota  
[coordinator@mpla.us](mailto:coordinator@mpla.us)

## Webmaster

Roy Degler  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK  
[webmaster@mpla.us](mailto:webmaster@mpla.us)

## MPLA Archives

Abby Hoverstock  
Denver Public Library,  
Western History and Genealogy  
Denver, SD  
[archives@mpla.us](mailto:archives@mpla.us)

## Awards

Diane Weaver  
Basehor Community Library  
Basehor, KS  
[awards@mpla.us](mailto:awards@mpla.us)

## Nominating

Eileen Wright  
Montana State University  
Billings Library  
[nominating@mpla.us](mailto:nominating@mpla.us)

## Bylaws and Procedures

Frances Brummett  
Salt Lake City Public Library  
Salt Lake City, UT  
[bylaws@mpla.us](mailto:bylaws@mpla.us)

## Communications

Cyndi Landis  
Fort Hays State University  
Hays, KS  
[communications@mpla.us](mailto:communications@mpla.us)

## Leadership Institute

Tom Taylor  
Andover Library  
Andover, KS  
[leadership@mpla.us](mailto:leadership@mpla.us)

## Membership

Mary Ann Thompson  
Kansas  
[membership@mpla.us](mailto:membership@mpla.us)

## Professional Development

Robin Newell  
Emporia Public Library  
Emporia, KS  
[prof\\_development@mpla.us](mailto:prof_development@mpla.us)



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**Arizona**

Amadee Ricketts  
Cochise County Library  
Bixbee, AZ  
[arizona@mpla.us](mailto:arizona@mpla.us)

**Nebraska**

Evonne Edgington  
Omaha Public Library -Millard Branch  
Omaha, NE  
[nebraska@mpla.us](mailto:nebraska@mpla.us)

**Oklahoma**

April Miller  
Southwestern Oklahoma State  
University  
[oklahoma@mpla.us](mailto:oklahoma@mpla.us)

**Colorado**

Elena Rosenfeld  
High Plains Library District  
Greeley, CO  
[colorado@mpla.us](mailto:colorado@mpla.us)

**Nevada**

Luisse Davis  
Douglas County Public Library  
Minden, NV  
[nevada@mpla.us](mailto:nevada@mpla.us)

**South Dakota**

Nita Gill  
Brookings Public Library  
Brookings, SD  
[south\\_dakota@mpla.us](mailto:south_dakota@mpla.us)

**Kansas**

Shanna Smith  
Mulvane Public Library  
Mulvane, KS  
[kansas@mpla.us](mailto:kansas@mpla.us)

**New Mexico**

Bradley Carrington  
New Mexico State Library  
Santa Fe, NM  
[new\\_mexico@mpla.us](mailto:new_mexico@mpla.us)

**Utah**

Joe Fraizer  
Summit County Library  
Park City, UT  
[utah@mpla.us](mailto:utah@mpla.us)

**Montana**

Rachel M. Rawn  
Havre-Hill County Library  
Havre, MT  
[montana@mpla.us](mailto:montana@mpla.us)

**North Dakota**

Paulette Nelson  
Minot Public Library  
Minot, ND  
[north\\_dakota@mpla.us](mailto:north_dakota@mpla.us)

**Wyoming**

Cindy Moore  
Converse County Library System  
Douglas, WY  
[wyoing@mpla.us](mailto:wyoing@mpla.us)

## Professional Development Calendar

### Individual Grant Application Deadline

29 May 2019  
25 September 2019  
27 November 2019

**Robin Newell**  
*Professional Development, Chair*  
*Emporia Public Library*  
E: [prof\\_development@mpla.us](mailto:prof_development@mpla.us)

### State Associations: 1 June 2019

**Judy Zelenski**  
*Executive Secretary*  
*Lakewood, Colorado 80228*  
E: [execsecretary@mpla.us](mailto:execsecretary@mpla.us)





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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MPLA on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/MountainPlainsLibraryAssociation/>

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Madison Public Library

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- March 1
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- September 1
- November 1

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