

Mountain Plains Library Association

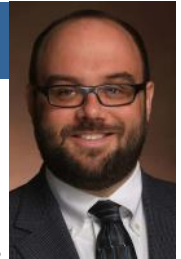
Big Horizons Close Community

Newsletter

February 2020—March 2020

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President's Message



Happy New Year!

When was the last time you thought about the importance of mission to an organization? For us, "The mission of the Association is to further the professional and/or individual development of its members and to promote quality library and information service in the MPLA region." We accomplish that through a variety of means, at our annual conference, through our Leadership Institute, by professional development grants, and (in this coming year) by online education opportunities.

How does MPLA's mission meet your needs? As a membership association, we are at our very best when we are thinking about each other, growing professionally together, and advancing the profession. In a previous version of the Association's bylaws, the importance of attracting and retaining members immediately followed the mission statement. I'm not yearning for past times, but I think that framing allowed us to think about each other professionally. Do you know someone who would benefit by membership in MPLA? Just ask them! We grow professionally when we offer our knowledge to each other and through professional channels. Conferences are a great way to offer knowledge; online discussions will be another way to make that happen. I am looking forward to working with Board and Committee members to bring professional development (through grants and education) to the Association's membership.

Spend some time thinking about the mission of MPLA and how/where you fit. I would love to hear from you with ideas and suggestions.

Stephen Sweeney

Mountain Plains Library Association President

St. John Vianney Seminary, Cardinal Stafford Library
Denver, Colorado

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Library Gateway: Promoting Digital Content

By: Valarie Lamoreaux, Assistant Director

The Leavenworth Public Library in Leavenworth, KS considers Hoopla the “gateway” digital content for patrons. Hoopla has straightforward set up and log in procedures. Hoopla has a wide array of content with no waiting. The ease of use and content diversity make it the best platform to introduce patrons to digital content.

In January 2019 the Library focused on promoting digital content to improve digital literacy and increase digital content use. I planned and executed multiple classroom style patron sessions. The Library tried two different marketing campaigns, Entertainment 101 and Hoopla: Less Cost, More Chill. Unfortunately, very few patrons attended. Those that did were excited to discover the Library offered such great services and, once the session was complete, they now had easy access to more content.

With low attendance it was clear planned patron sessions were not going to work. It was frustrating to spend time and money to market and prepare for patron sessions yet get little return on the investment. I realized a one-hour session was not required to get patrons into Hoopla. All I really needed was an eye-catching display and a little space to engage with patrons. I could get patrons excited about Hoopla within a few minutes. Calling it a “pop up” indicates that instead of a training session, it is an opportunity for patrons to get information from staff in a fun and engaging way.

The majority of supplies required based on what I had envisioned were readily available. The digital content brochure I created for patrons when they receive their library card could be given to patrons during a pop up engagement. Hoopla’s resource page had plenty of marketing flyers and patron guides to share. A cart and laptop the Library already owned were repurposed to Hoopla pop up. All I needed was the eye-catching display. Hoopla representatives sent a banner and tablecloth.

The first Hoopla pop up was in late August. The test runs were successful: patrons engaged with me, were excited to hear about Hoopla and quick to understand how to use it on their devices or televisions. Within a few weeks it was clear the pop ups were working; new users increased. Now that I know the pop ups work I have trained reference staff to perform them. A total of 6 staff members can perform pop ups, allowing more evening and weekend pop ups. I also want to try promoting Hoopla pop ups via social media. Market a pop up a few days in advance and see what the response will be.



Big Horizons, Close Community



International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG) Grant

The Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Foundation (Loveland, CO), which operates the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, was one of three recipients of the International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG) Grant. ILCE-IG is an interest group of the Colorado Association of Libraries.



ILCE-IG has two primary goals:

§ Support individual and library partnerships and activities that enhance cultural understanding, and

§ Support cultural programming and activities that celebrated diverse ethnic and immigrant cultures in Colorado.

On November 13, 2019, HJH held a conference in Granada, Nicaragua on reading utilizing the 2019 Read for the Record book, Gracias Omu. Speakers from ILCE-IG, the University of Maryland, the American Corners Library in Managua, and the President of Asociación de Bibliotecarios y Profesionales Afines (ANIBIPA) spoke to an audience of 60 librarians and library workers about various projects and activities related to reading and literacy.

Gustavo Cruz, President of ANIBIPA, opened the conference as the keynote speaker and discussed the challenges and successes faced by libraries in Nicaragua. Janet Lee, an ILCE-IG steering committee member from Colorado, delivered a presentation titled "Be Internet Awesome" based on a pamphlet published by Google. Topics covered included sharing, privacy, making strong passwords, talking to family about safety, being kind and responding to bullying.



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Edwin Vasquez, manager of the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca, read the Read for the Record Book, *Gracias Omu*, a book about a woman whose food attracted much attention and was devoured by friends, neighbors, and passers by. When it was finally time for dinner, these same people brought Omu a wealth of food to share with the group as a showing of their gratitude. Barbara Thorne, also an ILCE-IG member, presented on the various activities (by days of week) that librarians and teachers can conduct in conjunction with a book. She utilized *Gracias Omu* and other texts as examples.

Nubia Manzaneres, from the US Embassy American Corners Library spoke about 3D printers, robots and much, much more. The final presenters included a panel of librarians, Lily Griner, Pat Herron, and Preston Tobery. from the University of Maryland who had donated and installed two 3D printers at the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca the preceding day.



Victor Zuniga, Poudre River Library District in Fort Collins, Colorado, did yeoman's work translating from English to Spanish and Spanish to English throughout the conference.

A range of activities occurred throughout the day including activities related to internet safety, lunch and opportunities for networking, singing the song, If You are Thankful and You Know it...(clap your hands, stamp your feet) reflecting the *Gracias Omu* theme of gratitude.



The grant partially covered supplies, transportation, books, a copy of *Gracias Omu* in Spanish, and the conference luncheon. It was a fun and spirited day.



The LLAMA Mentorship Program

The Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) Mentoring Committee is recruiting both mentors and mentees for our July 2020-June 2021 year. The LLAMA Mentoring Program pairs librarians who are currently in leadership positions with librarians who are interested in becoming leaders. This year, in the spirit of increased collaboration between LLAMA, ALCTS, and LITA, members of all three divisions are eligible to participate.

Participants must be ALA members and members of ALCTS, LITA, or LLAMA at the start of the program, and must either attend the Mentor/Mentee orientation at ALA Annual or be able to participate in a virtual orientation at a time to be determined. The deadline to apply to become a mentor or a mentee is February 28, 2020.

For more information about the LLAMA Mentoring program, visit: <http://www.ala.org/llama/llama-mentoring-program> or contact Mentoring Committee Chair Mary Moser at Mary.Moser@umb.edu or Lorelei Rutledge at Lorelei.Rutledge@utah.edu.

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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.

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.

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MSU Library Acquires Collection of Materials from Fly Fishers International

By Anne Cantrell, MSU News Service

A new collection of materials available to the public at Montana State University's Library covers numerous aspects of the popular sport of fly fishing, from the motivations of why individuals fish to casting and how to tie a fly.

The collection, acquired from Fly Fishers International, consists of books, periodicals, promotional materials and other items that relate to the study and practice of fly fishing. It includes an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 volumes dating from the 19th century to today. Fly Fishers International is a nonprofit based in Livingston that focuses on conservation, education and community.

"The material is a wonderful addition to our Trout and Salmonid Library Collection, which is the largest on the species in the world," said James Thull, MSU Special Collections librarian. "The (Fly Fishers International collection) is one of the most comprehensive collections on fly fishing in existence, and its addition to our library makes our collections wider in scope and more useful to researchers and anglers alike.

"While we focus on the fish themselves, so collect everything from scientific reports on fish diseases to children's literature, the (Fly Fishers International) library is focused on a particular fishing style that is, of course, very popular in Montana and the Western states," Thull added.

Thull said the collection is valuable because it adds to the library's materials on fly fishing, fills gaps in its subject areas and will offer "a bounty of information for anyone looking to get a line wet in Montana's trout waters."

The MSU Library acquired the collection after informal discussions throughout several years. Thull noted that many individuals at Fly Fishers International contributed to the efforts and helped make the acquisition possible.

"Our collection represents an extensive repository of publications and materials authored by many of the most important luminaries in the sport of fly fishing, some of whom were founding members of our organization," said Patrick Berry, president and CEO of Fly Fishers International. "The collaboration between Fly Fishers International and Montana State University's Special Collections and Archives represents a truly synergistic partnership as we merge part of our respective strengths."

"This is a win-win for both institutions in that Fly Fishers International can focus on (its) museum collections and free up valuable space, and MSU gets to add an amazing collection to our library where it will be cataloged, stored in archival conditions and available to the public," Thull said.

The collection will be available for the public to view in MSU Library's Special Collection and Archives. The MSU Library's Special Collections and Archives has more than 800 active collections. It specializes in collections related to Montana agriculture and ranching, Montana engineering and architecture, Montana history, MSU history, Native Americans in Montana, the author Ivan Doig, prominent Montanans, trout and salmonids, U.S. Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, and Yellowstone National Park and the Yellowstone ecosystem. More information is available online at <https://www.lib.montana.edu/archives/>.

Contact: James Thull, 406-994-5305 or jjthull@montana.edu Source: <https://www.montana.edu/news/19204/>

Grocery Rewards—King Soopers/Kroger

There are no longer grocery gift cards linked to MPLA. Instead, you can link your loyalty card to our MPLA Community Awards Program account.

To do so: Go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>

Once logged into your King Soopers/Kroger account, search for Mountain Plains Library Association by name or our account: KK820. Then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a loyalty card. If you previously purchased grocery cards they may still be used and reloaded but they will no longer provide rebates for MPLA. Instead, there is a quarterly designated funding amount which is shared by all Community Rewards organizations. Amounts are determined by the percentage of purchases by each organization.

If you are in an area with Kroger stores this is an easy way to support MPLA!

King Soopers/Krogers

COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

There is a change!
There are no longer grocery gift cards linked to MPLA.
Instead, you can link your loyalty card to MPLA to continue raising funds for MPLA's professional development, leadership, and educational programs!

**SUPPORT
MPLA!**



Cards Are Accepted By

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

ALA Census Equity Fund Granted to 11 MPLA Region Libraries

The American Library Association (ALA) announced the names of 59 libraries receiving Library Census Equity Fund mini-grants of \$2,000 to bolster their service to hard-to-count communities and help achieve a complete count in the 2020 Census.

“The 2020 Census will determine how political representation and critical resources are distributed for the next ten years, and libraries are essential partners in making sure the data collected as part of the Census is complete and accurate,” said ALA President Wanda Brown. “The efforts of these 59 libraries will shine a light on all the library workers across the country who are shouldering efforts to reach and inform their communities—especially vulnerable and hard-to-count populations—about the importance of a full and inclusive count.”

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, populations historically undercounted in the decennial effort include young children, people experiencing homelessness, American Indians and Alaska Natives, and people of color. In the 2020 Census, which will have a new online response option, people who lack internet access or online skills may also be at risk of being undercounted. (To learn more, see ALA’s Libraries’ Guide to the 2020 Census.)

The 59 grantees will undertake their activities in January through April 2020. The self-response period for the 2020 Census will begin after March 12, 2020.

To learn more and access a wide range of information and tools for supporting a fair, inclusive and complete count in the 2020 Census, visit ala.org/census and follow the conversation on social media with #CountOnLibraries.

MPLA Library grantees: Alamogordo Public Library (Alamogordo, NM), Belen Public Library (Belen, NM), City of Las Cruces Thomas Branigan Memorial Library (Las Cruces, NM), Octavia Fellin Public Library (Gallup, NM), Pueblo of Pojoaque Public Library (Santa Fe, NM), and Roswell Public Library, (Roswell, NM). Stillwater Public Library (Stillwater, Okla.), Finney County Public Library (Garden City, Kan.), Grand County Public Library (Moab, Utah), Morton-James Public Library (Nebraska City, Neb.), Pima County Public Library (Tucson, Ariz.)

Source: "ALA Awards more than \$100,000 to 59 Library Census Equity Fund Grantees ", American Library Association, December 19, 2019. <http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2019/12/ala-awards-more-100000-59-library-census-equity-fund-grantees> (Accessed January 6, 2020) Document ID: 85b99c8b-f7b8-432d-a5d3-5b87cd5b7216

Professional Development Grants

Grants are awarded to support the following:

- Formal course work leading to an advanced degree in library science or a related discipline.
- Formal course work not leading to an advanced degree but directly related to an individual's library position.
- Attendance as a participant or a presenter at a library or scholarly workshop, seminar, or conference, including the MPLA annual conference.
- Visits to another library to receive or provide significant advanced training in library services or procedures.
- Library related research projects.

Value of Grants

Annual budget equals the funding for grants approved but not yet awarded from the previous year plus the funding awarded for grants in the coming year. Funding for grants that have been approved but are not awarded is returned to the MPLA general fund.

MPLA sponsors the two categories of grants:

Mini-grant

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

Regular grant

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

Grant Funding

- Reimbursement of actual expenses incurred during a project.
- Transportation reimbursement for the lowest possible fare or for personal vehicles, mileage for the shortest route at the amount per mile allowed for deduction for federal income tax deductions.
- Grant funding for course work limited to tuition, fees and books.
- Funding approved but not needed to reimburse expenses is returned to the MPLA general fund.
- Expenses in excess of the grant funding approved are not reimbursed.

Find out more: <https://mpla.us/about/professional-development-grants.html>

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Around the Region



Early Literacy Summit

The Arizona Library Association and the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records presented the state's first-ever Early Literacy Summit, January 8-10, in Chandler. More than 100 Arizona and regional library staff attended the Summit, Keynote speakers included Dr. Blake Brandes, Dr. Dipesh Navsaria, and Dr. Megan McClelland.



Blake Brandes, Dr. Dipesh Navsaria, and Dr. Megan McClelland.

Providing Access

The Arizona State Library has awarded more than \$120,000 to fund library construction projects around the state, including a new branch library in Scottsdale, a new youth services area in Show Low, and a meeting room in Yavapai County. The funds are part of the State-Grants-in-Aid program.



The Cochise County Library District's "One County, One Card" project was recognized with a Summit Award from the Arizona Association of Counties in November. One County, One Card allows residents to use an existing library card at all twelve public libraries countywide. The project was completed in May 2019, and represented a substantial customer service improvement for library users. Read more in the [Arizona Range News](#).

A New Look for the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL) Board



For the past few years, CAL has been struggling to find new people to serve on the Association and Division boards and serve on the various committees. The interest groups have been successful.

In 2019, the following actions were taken.

During CALCON, the membership approved the recommendations to:

a.) redesign board membership to focus on representing the various regions of Colorado rather than library types; b.) change the committee structure to focus on topics of interest rather than managing the reporting structure; and c.) changed library types from "divisions" to "interest groups."

The intent is that CAL becomes an organization that is more aligned to the interests and needs of the Colorado library community and reclaims a level of vibrancy and financial stability that will allow it to help Colorado library staff grow and succeed.

One Book Colorado and Libraries Growing Readers

One Book Colorado and Libraries Growing Readers, Adapted from Sharon Morris's *2019 Early Literacy Tour Recap* posted in the December 6, 2019 Colorado Virtual Library Grab Bag.

In mid-November, Director of Library Development for the Colorado State Library Sharon Morris and Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera visited three libraries and three schools to promote early literacy. The Lt. Governor read aloud at library storytimes in Fort Collins, Monument, and Westminster. During these events, she also gave away copies of the 2019 One Book Colorado [selection, *Penguinaut!*](https://www.onebookcolorado.org/) by Marcie Colleen.

While the tour was fun and educational for the attending families, it was also educational for the Lt. Governor who learned about the work and expertise library staff must have to developing service delivery strategies. During the tour, she heard about library early literacy initiatives that included family coaching resources and approaches based on brain development research.

Overall, the tour provided examples of how Colorado library staff are thoroughly embedding early literacy into library work. And, thanks to this tour, our Lt. Governor now recognizes our efforts as well.

The International Library & Cultural Exchange Interest Group Award Grants

The International Library & Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG) of the Colorado Association of Libraries is pleased to announce that three grants have been awarded to international and cultural projects this year. This is the third year that ILCE-IG has awarded grants to projects that foster relationships between Colorado libraries or Colorado librarians and those of other countries; help develop and maintain libraries for the use of disadvantaged communities in other countries; celebrate international cultures through cooperation with libraries in other countries; or celebrate non-dominant cultures living in Colorado.

ILCE-IG's grant committee has awarded \$1,500 to Mesa County (CO) Libraries' Culture Fest; \$1,500 to Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Foundation; and \$100 to the Nederland (CO) Community Library District.



The funds granted to the Mesa County Libraries' Culture Fest will be used for event supplies, marketing and publicity. The Culture Fest is an annual event created to enrich the community and reflect the diversity and cultural heritage of its residents. The event

uses visual, performance, culinary and musical art forms as a stimulus for creating cultural awareness and celebrating diversity. The event, co-sponsored by the City of Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture and the Friends of Mesa County Libraries, was held on the first weekend in November.

The funds granted to the Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Foundation was used for a workshop for staff from government libraries on the Pacific side of Nicaragua as well as staff from all non-government organization libraries. Program events included a give-and-take table with supplies donated by speakers and attendees; early childhood programming; a craft session; a book cleaning and repair session; and an internet safety session.



The \$100 to the Nederland Community Library District will be used for hospitality gifts for Cuban Library peers as part of the 2020 Cuba for Book Lovers Tour, co-sponsored by the Nederland Community Library Foundation and Viva Cuba Tours.

Although two grants for up to \$1,500 each were available, the grant committee felt that all three projects merited funding.



Humanities Kansas Grant

MNU Library received a Humanities Kansas grant, to support a year-long project through MNU Library, called "Resilience Through Story."

Resilience Through Story is a year-long project exploring how stories--literary, historical, cultural, and personal--can help people cope with adverse life events and/or overcome real-life challenges. This project is made possible through a Humanities Kansas "Humanities For All" major grant, and is sponsored by MidAmerica Nazarene University's Mabee Library, in collaboration with the Olathe Public Library and local humanities scholars. Addison Lucchi, MNU's Instructional & Research Librarian, serves as project director.



This project includes 1) a series of public humanities events exploring various aspects of this topic; 2) a series of "common reader" community discussion groups on the topic; and 3) a series of podcasts on the topic, recorded through the MNU Student Wellness Office's "Resilience Podcast." The project will culminate with a Community Poetry Reading with the Poet Laureate of Kansas, located at the Bell Cultural Events Center.

More information about this project, as well as information about the project team, can be found through the following LibGuide: <http://libguides.mnu.edu/ResilienceThroughStory>.

Beyond All Limits!

Association of Christian Librarians
Annual Conference June 8-11, 2020
Newman University Wichita, KS

For more information:

<http://www.acl.org/index.cfm/conference/>

Book Pals at Hawthorne Elementary School

In conjunction with the Lewis and Clark Literacy Council, Hawthorne Elementary School Library in Helena, MT is participating in "Book Pals," a literacy program for elementary school students. The council partnered with several Helena elementary schools to connect community volunteers with young elementary students. Book Pals meet once a week in the school library before the start of the day to read together for half an hour. The Book Pals volunteers have made an incredibly important commitment to helping local children become more proficient readers.

For more information on the Literacy Council <http://box5646.temp.domains/~helenal1/>

Andree Anderberg, NBCT Librarian,
aanderberg@helenaschools.org





The Institute of Museum and Library Services awards More Funding

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded the Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) an additional year of funding for the Library Innovation Studios project. All Nebraska accredited public libraries are invited to apply to be a host library by the February 3, 2020 final application deadline.

The project uses Library Innovation Studios (makerspaces) hosted by libraries to support community engagement and participatory learning experiences by providing access to technological and innovative learning tools not readily accessible locally. This strengthening of the maker culture is expected to stimulate creativity, innovation and the exchange of ideas to facilitate entrepreneurship, skills development, and local economic development.

One Book One Nebraska

All the Gallant Men: An American Sailor's Firsthand Account of Pearl Harbor (William Morrow, 2016) by Donald Stratton, with Ken Gire is the 2020 One Book One Nebraska selection.

Author Visit

Falls City, Ne. hosted Nebraska author, Kassandra Montag. She is the author of the book *After the Flood*. The evening included a pasta dinner, and author talk and book signing.

New Library

Crete Public Library, Crete, NE will open the new library on Jan. 27, 2020. The last day in the old building will be on Jan. 11.

Nevada Librarian of the Year

Dr. Ronald R. Heezen, Executive Director of Las Vegas-Clark County Library District (LVCCLD), was awarded Librarian of the Year at the Nevada Library Association's annual conference held in November 2019. The library community of Nevada celebrated his many achievements and contributions to the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District.



LVCCLD is a \$79 million independent taxing entity, serving a community covering over 8,000 square miles through its 25 branches in southern Nevada. Dr. Heezen has introduced many enhancements and additions to the district. He completed two new library buildings without incurring debt, introduced new branding and an updated library website, and rolled out new library cards including six customer submitted designs and an authorized design for the NHL Vegas Golden Knights.

New programs and services were added throughout the district including internet hotspots, laptops and tablets for checkout, toys for checkout, expanded Wi-Fi services in all branches, coding classes, secure charging stations for customers, the Food for Thought program, and passport registration. Education programs were further developed by introducing One-Stop Career Centers to five branches, tutoring services, SOCRATES program to help kids improve education levels, and a program that awards accredited high school diplomas.

Dr. Heezen built a realistic and balanced budget that allocates 15% for purchase of materials. Staff creativity and morale is nurtured through various communication and administrative improvements. He encouraged collaboration with three other district libraries in the county and fortified the relationship with various organizations throughout Clark County including Square Food Bank, Workforce Connections, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, and Clark County School District. His hard work has created new opportunities for the community and a great future for libraries.

Battle of the Books

By: Chelsea Lyons, Library Director
Socorro Public Library

The Socorro Public Library in Socorro, NM is successful with outreach to middle school students by hosting “Book Chat” Book Chat is an exclusive time for teens to gather, discuss, and challenge each others knowledge of the current Battle of the Books selections. These gatherings provide middle school students an opportunity to meet with other Battle of the Book contestants in the Socorro Community and enjoy a free after school snack.

In addition to hosting “Book Chat,” the Socorro Public Library is also sponsoring a Socorro team of middle school students to attend the Battle of the Books 2019-2020 competition.



Battle of the Books, is a free reading incentive program in elementary, middle and high schools across the country. All of the questions in the competition begin with the words “In which book” and the correct answer is always the title and author of the book. This program works at the individual school level as well as at the interscholastic and district wide levels. It is a school year long program ending with a final battle with students across the state!

It is the mission of the Socorro Public Library to meet the educational, cultural, and recreational needs of local residents. To meet the goals of our mission we made it our priority to develop a successful community outreach plan. We discovered community connections to the public library are fostered through education and awareness. We recognize that we can achieve more in the community when we connect with our stakeholders and engage underserved areas of the community. By taking a deliberate and thoughtful approach to initiating and expanding our teen programs, Socorro Public Library can reach underserved populations and library non-users. Enriching public awareness of the library’s resources, services and programs is also a crucial goal to fulfilling the Socorro Public Library mission.

Breaking Barriers

In November 2017, the Red River Rainbow Seniors began an oral history project, “Breaking Barriers: Harvesting LGBTQ Stories from the Northern Plains,” focusing on older LGBTQ people and their allies. The original digital files and the transcriptions will be in the North Dakota State University Archives. Prairie Public Radio’s excerpts from some of interviews are available at the podcast.

The Red River Rainbow Seniors Oral History Committee has prepared a program featuring excerpts from three interviews in which members of this pioneer generation share their stories of challenge and resilience. The State Library is partnering with them to bring this moving and historically significant program to public libraries statewide, starting in late spring/early summer 2020.

Video Gaming @ MPL

Minot Public Library, through the support of Independence, Inc., and The Good Talk Network, now offers accessible video gaming in the library using specialized adaptive controllers which allow those with vision or stability problems, and limited hand strength or motion to experience the benefits of playing and gaming.

Fundraising Update

Private fundraising efforts for the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library have surpassed the halfway mark on their way to the \$100 million in donations needed to secure a \$50 million match in State funding.

Destressing in Williston

In December, The librarians at Williston State College were trying to help students cope with the overwhelming stress of upcoming finals. In the photo, some students work on puzzles. Also, we have been hiding “The Elf on the Shelf” for students to find! The library student workers have had a good time tapping into their creativity when hiding Mr. Elf!



OK OKLAHOMA

Library Christmas Gala

The Tecumseh Public Library in Tecumseh, OK continued a longtime tradition with its annual Tecumseh Friends of the Library Christmas Gala. The day included crafts, games, cookies, hot chocolate, a variety of entertainment and a visit from Santa to take pictures with children. Also, the Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce provided hot cocoa and a free Christmas ornament for attendees. The entertainment included the Oklahoma Baptist University Jazz Ensemble, Tecumseh school cheerleaders and the Snow King, Snow Queen and Christmas Elves from Inspyral Circus.

SD SOUTH DAKOTA

Holiday Workshops

The Grant County Library in Milbank, SD hosted a Christmas centerpiece and ugly sweater event to help the community to get into the holiday spirit. As the photos show, fun was had by all.



3rd Annual Performer Showcase

In November, the South Dakota State Library hosted the 3rd Annual Performance showcase. Midwest area performers came to 3 locations across South Dakota to demo their performances for librarians to preview and plan their upcoming summer programs. It was a perfect opportunity for libraries to ensure they select the right performer for their library's needs, and to collaborate with fellow librarians to combine bookings! A variety of acts were showcased including (but not limited to) musicians, storytellers, jugglers, and magicians.



Utah Watercolor Society Art Show @ The Duchesne Library

The Duchesne Library in Duchesne, UT held an art show showcasing works from the Utah Watercolor Society (UWS). The exhibitions are juried by nationally recognized watercolorists. From the UWS Spring Open Exhibition, a selection of works is curated for the Utah Division of Arts and Museums Traveling Exhibition Program. Betsy Dillard Stroud juried this year's 2019 Spring Open Exhibition. This Exhibition represents the best of Utah watercolor art. UWS is proud to partner with the Utah Division of Arts and Museums for the 2019-2020 Utah Watercolor Society Traveling Exhibition.



Winter Fest

Delight in the spirit of the season and share the Library's tradition of uplifting the people who make Weber County a wonderful place to live. The Weber County Library Main Branch in Ogden, Utah held a festive winter celebration featuring music by the Lars Yorgason Singers, snacks and treats, stories, bingo, and a film screening sure to please the entire family. The library collected winter socks, hats, scarves, and gloves given to participants upon request.



100 Years of Women's Suffrage

The Friends of the Worland Library (Washakie County Libraries), in Worland, WY honored 100 Years of Women's Suffrage in our Nation with a fundraising luncheon. Community members donated silent auction items and door prizes to make the event a success.

Guest speaker was Christy Cormier Vickers, an English/social studies teacher at Worland High School. Vickie Overcast, a member of the Friends group said the event drew 45 attendees and raised more than \$1,000 to support the library's summer reading program, Read Across America Day, movie/soup events at the library, the yearly gingerbread contest prizes, and more.

The Governor's Council for the Wyoming Women's Suffrage Celebration wants to encourage organizations and communities to participate in statewide celebrations through September 6, 2020.



Members of the Friends of the Worland Library dressed as suffragists.

King Soopers/Krogers

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Fred Meyer jewelers
Littman & Barclay Jewelers
Loaf and Jug



Big Horizons, Close Community





Welcome, New Members!



Contact Name	Title	Institution	Library Name	City	State
Kathy Anderson	Library Tech	University of		Reno	NV
Frances Clymer	Director		Park County Library	Cody	WY
Brian Graney	Librarian & Archivist		Museum of International Folk	Santa Fe	NM
Lucy Haynes	Youth Services		Moorcroft Branch Library	Moorcroft	WY
Rita Heath	Youth Librarian		Converse County Library	Glenrock	WY
Janene Hill	Director		Jensen Memorial Library	Minden	NE
Bethanie Hinshaw	Circulation Clerk		Muskogee Public Library	Muskogee	OK
Heidi Hobson	Ten Lead Librarian		Riverton Branch Library	Riverton	WY
Nicole Holifield	Library Director		Tonganoxie Public Library	Tonganoxie	KS
Elisa Martinez	Tech Services Librarian		Churchill County Library	Fallon	NV
Sarah Otten	Circulation Clerk		Converse County Library	Douglas	WY
Monica Owens	Youth Services Librarian		Albany County Public Library	Laramie	WY
Tanya Platt	Passports Supervisor		Salt Lake City Public Library	Salt Lake	UT
Jess Renz	Assistant Director		Converse County Library	Douglas	WY
Conrraolo Saldivar	Adult Services Specialist		Natrona County Library	Casper	WY
Dan Syljuberget	District Librarian	North Border		Walhalla	ND
Robin Warnke	Adult Services Librarian		Douglas County Libraries	Parker	CO
Matt Lee		Minitex	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis	MN

Big Horizons, Close Community



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- Loaf and Jug



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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