

# Mountain Plains Library Association

*Big Horizons Close Community*

# Newsletter

December 2022—January 2023

[www.mpla.us](http://www.mpla.us)

Volume 67 Number 6

Have you seen it? The new, attractive MPLA website! Roy Degler has spent countless hours working on moving our website to a new platform and making improvements. Thank you, Roy, for your dedication to this project and to MPLA. Stay tuned for more enhancements, including a revised logo.

The MPLA Leadership Institute cohort for 2023 is now complete. Leslie Langley and her committee have chosen the final fellows to fill the available open slots, and planning for the final program schedule with Maureen Sullivan is underway.

Planning for the MPLA joint conference with the Oklahoma Library Association, Building for the Future, Block by Block, is progressing. It will be MPLA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so we hope to see many MPLA colleagues March 8-10, 2023 in Norman, OK. Visit the conference website at [https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual\\_conference](https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference) and reserve your room now— opening on December 5th.

With the approved changes to institutional membership benefits, the board is taking the opportunity to review institutional membership tiers and possibly add a couple more. The current structure is located at <https://mpla.us/join-mpla/mpla-dues/> There will be discussion at the January board meeting.

Librarians across the United States have experienced a tumultuous year with book challenges, verbal abuse, conflicts over continuing COVID procedures, and physical aggression. Many librarians in the MPLA region and beyond are preparing for upcoming legislative sessions which may include bills targeting libraries and library services. "We're seeing more indirect efforts to control what's available to the community or to put in laws that would direct how the library staff collects books," says Deborah Caldwell Stone, director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom. Know that your MPLA Executive Board and colleagues are here to offer support.

As we approach Christmas and the New Year, I want to wish you all a blessed holiday season and best wishes for 2023!

## **Brenda Hemmelman**

MPLA President 2022-23  
South Dakota State Library  
Pierre, South Dakota  
605.773.5075  
[president@mpla.us](mailto:president@mpla.us)



## **IN THIS ISSUE**

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**MPLA Quick Links**

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

# CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

**Help us rebrand by creating a new logo.**

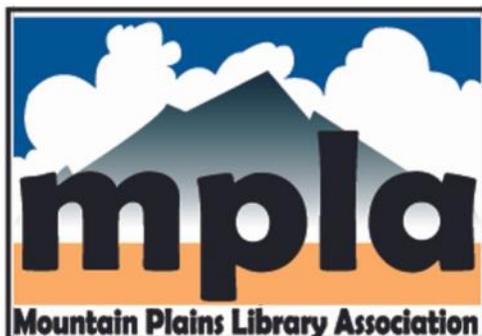
What are we looking for?

- Brand consistency with our current design.
- No gradients.
- Available in multiple formats and sizes.
  - badge layout, horizontal, vertical, and different file resolutions.
- List of colors used for consistent branding
  - HEX and RGB color codes
- List of fonts used
  - Fonts should be freely available

**Submissions Due:**

**Monday,  
January 9th,  
2023**

**Prize:** March 2023 MPLA Conference Registration



Submit your entry online:  
<https://bit.ly/MPLAlogo>

<https://bit.ly/MPLAlogo>





**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPENS**

**DECEMBER 5TH**

**MEMBER RATE: \$195**

**NON-MEMBER**

**RATE: \$325**

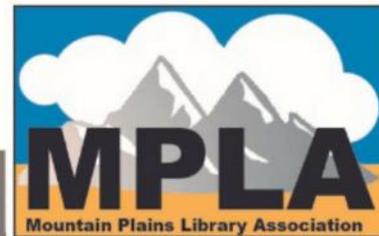


[https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual\\_conference](https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference)

OLA/MPLA Joint Conference 2023

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*Building for the Future*  
**BLOCK BY BLOCK**



[https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual\\_conference](https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference)

**Next MPLA Conference will be held with  
Oklahoma Library Association  
March 8-10, 2023  
Embassy Suites by Hilton  
Norman Hotel & Conference Center  
in Norman, Oklahoma**

# Keynote Speaker



Scarlett St. Clair

USA Today Best-Selling author Scarlett St. Clair, also known as Ashley Nixon-Amador, is a citizen of the Muscogee Nation and the author of the HADES X PERSEPHONE SAGA, the HADES SAGA, KING OF BATTLE & BLOOD, and WHEN STARS COME OUT.

She has a Master's degree in Library Science and Information Studies and a Bachelors in English Writing. She is obsessed with Greek Mythology, murder mysteries, and the afterlife.

# Luncheon Speaker

Marilyn Hudson



Oklahoma author Marilyn Hudson is a storyteller extraordinaire. She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, with degrees in History and Library Information Studies.

Marilyn A. Hudson has been a public library, school library, and academic library professional. Along the way, she also learned to tell stories as a professional storyteller and began publishing tales of history and her imagination. She specializes in haunting tales in the persona of The Ghost Teller.

She has been a featured performer at such venues as the Overholser Mansion, Lawton Community Theater, Paracon, Tejas Storytelling Festival, Oklahoma City Storytelling Festival, Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival and many libraries and schools.

# President's Program

Deborah Caldwell-Stone  
& Megan Cusick



Deborah Caldwell-Stone is the Director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Throughout her tenure, Caldwell-Stone has worked closely with librarians, teachers, and library trustees on a wide range of intellectual freedom issues, including censorship of library resources, book challenges, internet filtering, meeting room policies and the impact of new technologies, regulations, and government surveillance on library users' privacy and confidentiality.

Megan Cusick is Assistant Director of State Advocacy in ALA's Public Policy and Advocacy Office.

She supports the advocacy efforts of librarians, library staff and advocates across the country in cooperation with other ALA offices, state chapters, and affiliates. She also provides training for advocates to strengthen all types of libraries. In addition to her work with ALA's Public Policy and Advocacy Office, Megan assisted the Center for the Future of Libraries in identifying library initiatives that intersect with broader social trends. She has presented and published on topics such as partnerships, library trends, civic engagement, curriculum development, intellectual freedom and advocacy.



# Sequoyah Authors



## Kristin Tubb

Kristin O'Donnell Tubb is the author of *The Story Collector* and *The Story Seeker*, the award-winning *A Dog Like Daisy*, *John Lincoln Clem: Civil War Drummer Boy* (written as E. F. Abbott), *The 13th Sign*, *Selling Hope*, and *Autumn Winifred Oliver Does Things Different*. Kristin lives near Nashville, Tennessee, with her bouncy-loud family. Just like her two dogs, she can be bribed with cheese.

## Victoria Jamieson

Victoria Jamieson is a New York Times bestselling author and illustrator of books for young readers. She received a Newbery Honor for her graphic novel *ROLLER GIRL*. She loves traveling around the world meeting young readers and talking with them about writing and drawing comics. While she has retired from playing roller derby, she remains a passionate fan of the sport and especially of her old team, the Rose City Rollers. She lives in eastern Pennsylvania with her family and grumpy cat.



## Rachel Bright



Rachel Bright is a bestselling author and illustrator, as well as being the brains behind the multi-million selling global card and gift phenomenon, the brightside. Her picture book hits include *Love Monster*, which has now been adapted into an irresistible TV series for CBeebies. She is also the author of a hugely popular picture book series, illustrated by Jim Field, whose titles include *The Lion Inside*, *The Squirrels Who Squabbled*, and *The Koala Who Could* (winner of the Sainsburys Book Award and the Oscar's Book Prize). Rachel lives in Dorset, England.

# MPLA Awards

## Taking Nominations NOW!

Deadline January 31st

<https://mpla.us/community/mpla-awards/>



### **MPLA Dan Chaney Unsung Hero Award**

To be given to an MPLA member who has consistently worked behind the scenes to create, administer, or support a library-related organization or project and who has not previously been recognized to the degree their work merits.

### **MPLA Beginning Professional Award**

To recognize an MPLA member who, as a librarian/media specialist within the first five years after being awarded a library/media degree, has made a positive impact on the quality and role of library service. Factors such as innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and special projects will be considered.

### **MPLA Innovator Award**

To recognize an up-and-coming individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region for a creative, inventive, trail-blazing project that has significance to the library community.

**MPLA Distinguished Service Award**

To be given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession, furthered significant development of libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. If the individual is retired, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA.

**Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award**

To be given to the individual, organization or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated by repeated conscientious endeavors towards libraries, library staff, trustees and professional activities.

Carl Gaumer, Gaumer Reference Services, was a popular library book vendor and a major supporter of MPLA in the 1970's. Based in Denver, Gaumer Reference Services served a number of western states. Carl traveled throughout the MPLA region and often exhibited at Library Association conferences. Among MPLA members, he was most famous for sponsoring a train from Denver to Reno for a joint conference with the Nevada Library Association in 1978, providing a band and refreshments for the 106 librarians who took the train. The award, originally named the Carl Gaumer Exhibitors Award, was later expanded and renamed to include any person or group who significantly supports and champions libraries.

**MPLA Literary Contribution Award**

To be given to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region. The author need not reside in the region. The nomination may be based on either a single work or a body of works. Published works will be evaluated on the basis of literary worth, readability, and evidence of responsible research.

**Taking Nominations NOW!**

**Deadline January 31st**

**<https://mpla.us/community/mpla-awards/>**

# MPLA Access to Information Statement

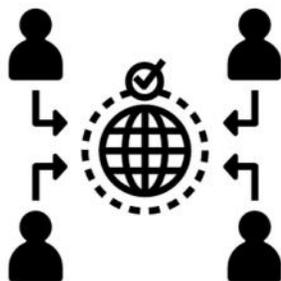
The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) represents librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries in our 12-state region. As a professional organization:

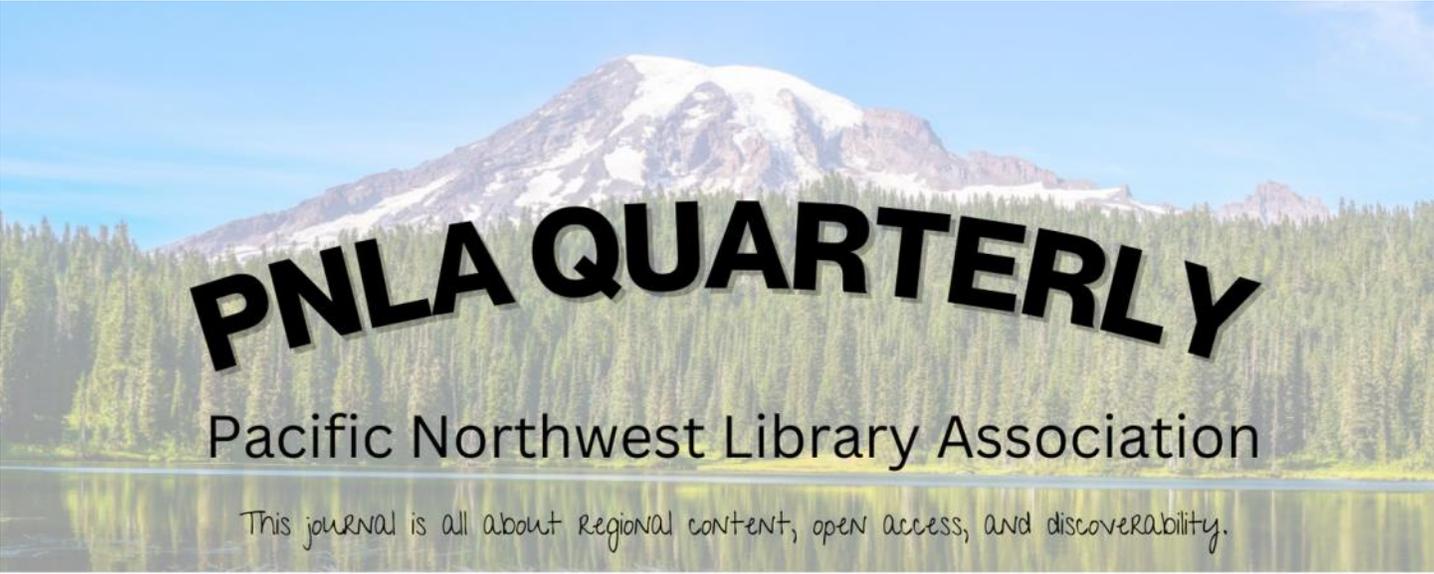
MPLA stands in support of the freedom to read, free speech, and unfettered access to information as inalienable rights protected by the First Amendment; and

MPLA supports librarians' expertise in their selection of reading materials and provision of information resources to their patrons and communities. Professionally trained librarians use their expertise to purchase resources and books to develop collections appropriate for the communities they serve, while also allowing for the opportunity to learn about other populations or ideas that may be different from their own; and

Librarians around the world have studied S.R. Ranganathan's five laws of library science, and MPLA would call out two of them:

- Law 3 states "Every book its reader" – MPLA interprets this to mean that all books have a place in the library, even if only a small demographic might choose to read them; and
- Law 5 states "A library is a growing organism" – MPLA supports everyone's right to books and information; libraries should be a safe place where people can learn and grow; and a library should be a dynamic institution that is never static in its outlook





# PNLA QUARTERLY

Pacific Northwest Library Association

*This journal is all about regional content, open access, and discoverability.*

PNLA Quarterly includes a combination of peer-reviewed and editor-reviewed articles focusing on issues of interest to libraries in the Pacific Northwest. Who better to provide this content than the practitioners, students, and educators who live in or are affiliated with the region? This regional focus and mix of content offer diverse but balanced information relevant to public, academic, and special libraries.

The journal is available as one large PDF or individual article PDFs, which, along with keywords for each article, improves the discovery rate of PQ content and give our authors more exposure on the Web, while improving indexing by vendors such as EBSCO. The journal conforms to the Open Access model, where content is made available free of charge to readers upon publication. Thanks to the sponsorship of PNLA, no costs are charged to content creators.

PQ publishes on a quarterly schedule. While submissions on topics of interest to librarianship in the Pacific Northwest region of the US and Canada are welcome anytime, issues are often organized around themes like leadership or the annual PNLA conference. Please see the latest issue for the active call for proposals or contact the editor with inquiries or submissions.

Robert Perret and Jennifer Ward are the current co-editors of PQ. They can best be reached at [PQEditors@gmail.com](mailto:PQEditors@gmail.com).

<https://pnla.org/pnla-quarterly/>



## MPLA CHEW & CHAT



Led by lively hosts Jake Rundle and Mary Soucie, the informal discussions will occur every 4th Wednesday of the month.

Mountain Plains Library Association  
"Chew & Chats"  
When: 4th Wednesdays of each month.  
1 PM Central time  
Noon Mountain  
11 am Pacific

Register in advance for this meeting at  
[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuc-6sqT0iGtbqUkVclDcjtIzmJuvf87D1](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJAuc-6sqT0iGtbqUkVclDcjtIzmJuvf87D1)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meetings. Feel free to forward this information to others interested in MPLA.

Ever wondered about  
the conference  
Rubber Duckies?



This was the scoop from Hot Tub Roundtable cofounder Eileen Wright:

"The MPLA Hot Tub Roundtable began in 2009, with the hopes of creating another avenue for MPLA folks to gather for an evening of laughter and fun. We had to have rubber duckies join us, of course. So each year we make sure to have a night set aside for our Hot Tub Roundtable and the naming of the ducks, which change each year..."

Even though there was no Hot Tub Roundtable in Missoula (alas!), Roy gets credit for bringing some truly excellent ducks. I'm already looking for the perfect web-footed characters to bring to Oklahoma next March!



Amadee Ricketts  
MPLA Vice President

# Membership Advantages



Continuing education opportunities including conferences, workshops and special seminars.

First year Personal membership dues are half price!

Joint annual conferences with member states providing a marketplace of ideas where individuals can share their experience and talent with other librarians.

MPLA Awards recognize outstanding contributions to local, state and regional library services.

Opportunity for members to contribute to the profession.

Professional Development Grants for course work, institutes and workshops.

Information exchange and educational programs about technological developments and innovative library programming undertaken by MPLA libraries.

AND MORE!

**MPLA bases its success on an active, enthusiastic, sharing membership. Where our people are so few and distances are so great, each librarian, staff member and library is a vital resource.**

# NOW IS THE TIME



## EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

School of LIBRARY & 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.

Learn more at [emporia.edu/slim](http://emporia.edu/slim).



## 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

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

- 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

# Around the Region

## AZ ARIZONA CO COLORADO



The Arizona Library Association held our Annual Conference in Prescott, Arizona October 26-28<sup>th</sup>. This was our first conference

since 2019 and we were delighted with the attendance and comments from our attendees. Over 250 individuals registered and enjoyed keynote speakers Jamie LaRue and Adiba Nelson, and a panel of Navajo Women featured in the book *Voices of Navajo Mothers and Daughters: Portraits of Beauty*. Preconference workshops topics included STEM Learning, Intellectual Freedom, Upcoming Solar Eclipses.



### Arizona Summer Reading Program 2022

The Arizona Reading Program sponsored by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, promotes literacy development by providing resources that help librarians plan, promote, and implement reading programs for all ages.



### Anythink Announces New Executive Director Mark Fink

Anythink announces the selection of its next executive director, Mark Fink. Fink comes to Anythink from Yolo County Library in northern California. "Successful libraries evolve and thrive by embracing innovation and risk-taking while adopting a mission-driven strategy that reflects the identity, needs, and personality of their local constituencies," says Fink. "Anythink has done just that over the past 13 years, and I'm honored to be part of the next phase of its evolution as the next executive director."



### Spooky 'Night Out' at Fort Morgan Library

During the Halloween-themed event, the teens and near-teens were treated to a scary story read by Hoke. The story was "Click Clack the Rattle Bag" written by Neil Gaiman.

After the story the participants made "vampire teeth cookies" to eat while they designed their pumpkins to be carved. Pumpkins donated by Pope Farms in Wiggins.



The Mulvane Public Library hosted a Family Astronomy Night where the Kansas Astronomical Observers will be at the library with their telescopes to talk about space, stars, moons, and planets. We will also have fun nighttime activities, including glow-in-the-dark bowling, crafts, s'mores, and storytime with Miss Victoria.



## 2022 KU Libraries grant Shulenburger Award for Innovation & advocacy in scholarly communication

KU Libraries have granted the 2022 David Shulenburger Award for Innovation & Advocacy in Scholarly Communication to two recipients at the University of Kansas: Shannon O’Lear, director of the Environmental Studies Program, and Corey Rayburn Yung, School of Law research professor.

O’Lear was chosen as a recipient for her dedication to the open dissemination of scholarly work to open access (OA) journals and sites and her work in educating students on open publication. Yung is recognized for his publication of two OER law textbooks that have helped reduce costs for students in a particularly expensive field of study.



Terri Farley is an MPLA member and this ad is a perk of an Author membership.

## Express Lockers in Billings

Billings Heights residents will soon have much greater access to the Billings Public Library. A new express locker will be put outside the SCL Health Heights Clinic, allowing library users to reserve materials online and pick them up 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Users will also be able to return items to the locker. It's the second in the state, after the first was put right outside the downtown library in January.



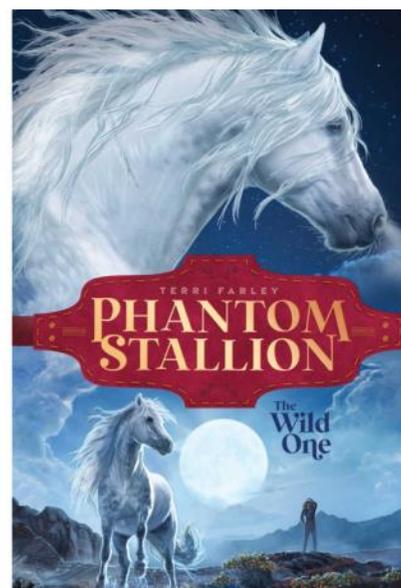
Orange construction cones denote where a new library express locker will go outside the SCL Health Heights Clinic in Billings. "It's helped close to 4,000 people," Billings Library Foundation Director Leslie Modrow said. "The most important thing a library does is provide access to information," she said, "and being able to provide access further beyond these walls makes our community even stronger."

-Montana continued on page 17

### Galloping Your Way!

*The Phantom Stallion* beloved middle grade series about a girl, her horse and their adventures in the American West returns in March 2023 with stunning art and new content created by author Terri Farley  
pre-order  
<https://www.simonandschuster.com/series/Phantom-Stallion>

Let's chat  
Terri Farley presents at MPLA/OLA Joint Conference March 8-10th, in Norman, OK.



**IMLS Grant on Artificial Intelligence**

Sara Mannheimer, associate professor with the Montana State University Library received a \$250,000, three-year grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Montana State University, along with James Madison University and Iowa State University (ISU), will develop resources that support the ethical use of artificial intelligence (AI) in libraries and archives. The project will produce deliverables that support responsible operationalization of AI in libraries and archives, including an environmental scan of AI projects in libraries; library and archives community-specific case studies; an ethically-relevant harms analysis tool; and a handbook to guide users through project deliverables. Strategic partnerships with influential library and archives organizations will support broad dissemination of deliverables and encourage community participation throughout the project timeline. Responsible AI deliverables will help practitioners consider ethical implications as they embark on AI projects that support increased impact and new uses of library resources.



[MSU News Release](#)

**Exhibitions For LGBTQ+ History Month and New LGBTQ+ Archival Collections**

UNO Libraries is home to Nebraska's largest LGBTQIA2S+ archive and it continues to grow with support from community members and organizations. Recent donations include records from [River City Gender Alliance](#), [Heartland Gay Rodeo Association](#), [Scott Winkler](#), an addition to the [Lavender Couch](#) collection as well as smaller gifts of photos, posters, books, and ephemera from other supporters. Thank you to all of the donors who put their trust in UNO Libraries to preserve this unique regional history.

The exhibit **"We're Not Going Back!"** about the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights and some of the Omahans who attended continues through December 22, 2022. The display is available on the first floor/lower level whenever the library is open. Archivists continue to offer tours and pop-up displays for community groups, employee resource groups, and interested individuals.

[Full Release](#)



**Western Library System, Nebraska**

The charismatic, gracious and entertaining Tosca Lee graced the stages of three Western Nebraska locations.

Ms. Lee specifically chose Sidney and Ogallala for speaking locations as her latest book, *A Single Light*, takes place in Western Nebraska. She references landscapes and locations from Sidney to North Platte. *A Single Light* is the second book in this duology. *The Line Between* is the first book.

Each venue featured a Meet and Greet and a Author Talk with book signing.

Western Nebraska Library System Presents

**TOSCA IN WESTERN NEBRASKA**

	<b>OCT. 11, 2022</b> 6:00 MEET & GREET 6:30 AUTHOR TALK SIDNEY HIGH AUDITORIUM
	<b>OCT. 12, 2022</b> 6:00 MEET & GREET 6:30 AUTHOR TALK KATHLEEN LUTE PUBLIC LIBRARY 800 W.A. STREET OGALLALA
	<b>OCT. 13, 2022</b> 6:00 MEET & GREET 6:30 AUTHOR TALK ALLIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY 1700 SWEETWATER AVE.



*For love and for life,  
We're not going back!*

Non-violent Civil Disobedience  
at the U.S. Supreme Court  
Tuesday, October 13

JOIN US FOR THE MARCH, RALLY & ALL RELATED EVENTS

March on Washington, Inc.  
P.O. Box 7781  
Washington, DC 20044  
202-783-1828

Local Contact:  
**TERRY**  
CONCERN 455-3701  
**DICK**  
451-4737

**Centennial celebration bring new name and energy to Elko County Library**

In preparing for its 100 year anniversary Kassie Antonucci, director of the Elko County Library took a hard look at her community; while they were preparing to celebrate their rich history, it was just as important to look to the next 100 years. It was time to take the research from the 2018 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation study on library support to heart. It indicated that voters across America supported less funding for libraries every year—because libraries were thought of as just a place to get free books or for kids to do homework.

Antonucci, the library board, and staff recognized that being a good literacy-focused library wasn't good enough. Through surveys they confirmed that patrons overwhelmingly wanted the library to be a welcoming place that could help people connect socially and professionally. They wanted help developing workforce skills. And because many of the library's rural communities had limited internet service, reliable WiFi was critical. The library team also began focusing on new programming and services that could bring lapsed patrons back.

In August, the library team invited the community to celebrate with a roll out of a bold new name. Mybrary. And the response was immediate. At the first launch event in Elko, nearly 20% of the entire community showed up and more than 50 new library cards were issued every hour. It was the most attended event in the library's 100 year history.

“This new name is only the beginning”, explained Mybrary Director, Kassie Antonucci, “our goals are to continue changing from a traditional literary-focused library to a community destination that encourages discovery and opportunity and creates access and belonging.”



The new name was only the beginning. With it came new energy, programming, and technology.

Changes under the new name are exciting and system-wide. To encourage the community to revisit, Mybrary has forgiven all past due fines and has moved to a

fine free system. Remodeling is under way in several library spaces to remove walls and create places for connection. All branches have new, automated self-check, new computers, faster Wifi, and 27 inch monitors. Updated tech in the MybraryMobile provides the only WiFi service to many remote communities. And for career support, the Mybrary team hosts a VR training program that allows patrons to earn credits toward a nursing degree, at no charge.



A new virtual reality program allows patrons to attend virtual classes and earn credit towards a nursing degree at no cost.

Community members weren't the only ones excited by the new prospects of Mybrary. Community leaders and staff were clearly enthused. State Assemblyman John Ellison, who was honored with the first Mybrary Card, was excited by the new name, and the new opportunities that come with it. “It's a new concept and a fresh breath of air,” he explained, “I really think it's going to take us into the next hundred years.”

Library staff, who were excited but nervous about the changes breathed easier with the outpouring of positive energy from the community. “We've got all new kinds of stuff to put out,” says clerk Char Gustafson. “We've gotten to revamp things, add programming, it's just exciting to participate in something big.”

Big is what the shift from The Elko-Lander-Eureka Library System to Mybrary is all about. As it says in the first paragraph of Mybrary's new promise to the public, which is to be prominently displayed in all branches,

“Ask most people about a library and they'll describe a quiet building full of books. And while that may have been true in the past. After 100 years of service, that's not what we're all about today.”

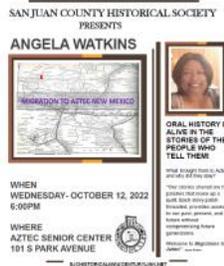
## NMLA's 2022 Community Achievement Award Recipient- Aztec Public Library- Angela Watkins, Director.

It is an honor to receive such an award. I am grateful for this recognition of my works and am honored to be among accomplished peers.

Winning this award also honors a broader group, my staff, community members, organizations, and businesses, who heard the call for support. I want to recognize them. I encourage you all to get out from behind that desk, embrace your community, build those relationships. The passion inside of me is on fire! The drive in me to continue to provide resources, that will help to build quality of life for my community is incredible! I challenge you to get that kind of support!



Angela Watkins will represent the Aztec Public Library by presenting at Leadership San Juan's (LSJ) Multicultural Day in January. The program was designed to increase the awareness and knowledge base of the participants on issues that impact the County.



## Celebrating Open Access Week across UNM

The University of New Mexico participated in International Open Access Week in October. It celebrates the benefits of free, immediate, online access to scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use materials as needed.

A collaborative team consisting of the Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center, Law Library, and University Libraries has planned a week of speakers and workshops bringing awareness to open access and this year's theme of climate justice.

[Full Release](#)



## ND Library Conference

The annual North Dakota Library Association conference was held on October 5-7, 2022 in Minot, North Dakota. Author, Dan Gemeinhart, author/musician, Jessie Veeder, and author, Taylor Brorby, were all featured keynote speakers. "(Re)discovering Your Passion for Library Programming" was the featured pre-conference given by Wil Stuck. The conference brought together 111 librarians from across North Dakota.

Awards were given to Stephanie Walker (Librarian of the Year) for her work overseeing the development of UND's Scholarly Commons, which has become one of the fastest growing institutional repositories on the Digital Commons platform at the University of North Dakota. The Major Benefactor Award was given to Odelia Funke, also from the University of North Dakota. The President's Award was received by BreAnne Meier from the North Dakota State Library for her work to the North Dakota Library Association. First Place for the Notable Document Award went to "We Are Called... to Do the Right Thing: A Practical Guide for Leaders Based on Personal Reflections & Experience from a Longtime Higher Education Leader" by Prakash Mathew, NDSU Press.

## New Head of Technical Services

The University of North Dakota School of Law Thormodsgard Law Library welcomes Katie Lynn, as its new Head of Technical Services. Katie happily set off with libraries as an undergraduate at the circulation desk at the University of Wyoming. Since then, she has worked in community college, public, state, law, and university libraries in Wyoming and Kansas over a span of more than 15 years. Her experience is primarily with technical services, though reference, interlibrary loan, and circulation have often been part of her tasks as well. She enjoys the problem-solving aspects of serials and electronic resource management and is eager to learn more about UND and North Dakota.

-North Dakota continued on page 20

## Music & Mocktails Event at Grand Forks Public

On October 15, 2022, the Grand Forks Public Friends hosted an exciting new 18+ event, Music & Mocktails, at the library. The Friends invited local restaurants to whip up samples of their best drink concoction for guests—but with one rule: no alcohol. At the end of the night, guests chose the Master of the Mocktail.

The event was a huge success! Over 75 people attended, in addition to many volunteers. A local band, Tumbleweed Radio Band, provided an ambient backdrop for sipping, and Jonathan Holth, managing director of Recovery Reinvented, shared information on addiction and recovery. Attendees sampled concoctions from local restaurants and organizations: Harry's Steakhouse, The Toasted Frog, Ely's Ivy, The Other Half, Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals, Greater Grand Forks Women's Leadership Cooperative, Grand Forks Public Library, and Grand Forks Public Friends.

Guests walked away with delicious and inclusive recipes, as well as awareness of recovery in our community.



## Minicon in Muskogee

Muskogee Public Library (MPL) hosted a successful Minicon in September that featured themes from comic books to superheroes and starships to fairytales.

The first in-person Minicon for the library since COVID-19 shut things down in 2020, more than 200 patrons of all ages attended.

Jane Holt, the library's new branch manager, ran the Harry Potter Escape Room all day—getting to know a great many of the library's regular patrons in the process.

"Everyone had a wonderful time," she said. "It also brought many new visitors to our library and forwarded our mission to enrich lives with experiences and services."

Other activities included a greenscreen photo booth set up in the library's Maker Space, an interactive fantasy movie, a medieval village, sword fighting practice (with foam swords), and storytelling with "legendary lawman Bass Reeves."

Programs included presentations by Elise Kova, author of the "Married to Magic" series; Jacob Brown of Shepherd Creations on building cosplay costumes with a 3D printer, AMTGARD on interactive role playing, and David Landis on papercrafting.

Visit [eols.org/mpl-minicon](https://eols.org/mpl-minicon) to learn more.



**Webster Public Library: A Sign of Things to Come**

Submitted by Teri Ewalt

After 79 years of being in the same building with city hall, the Webster Public Library has finally been recognized with a sign on the outside of the building. The newly erected sign is on the boulevard of Main Street, Webster, South Dakota.



**CI-CI Halloween Crafts**

Submitted by Marilyn Mendenhall

Elementary students at Crow Creek Tribal School, Stephan, South Dakota made pop up monsters during library class after reading a monster story prior to Halloween. They learned that the Dakota word for monster is ci-ci (pronounced chi-chi.)



Marilyn Mendenhall is the district librarian and also a Wookiye (Lakota term which means to help, aid, assist) teacher. She attempts to incorporate cultural information into instruction whenever possible in order to retain the childrens ' heritage.

**SDLA Conference Award Winners**

Friend of the Library Award Winner – Sean Dempsey, Watertown Public Library. Dempsey's Brewery & Restaurant partnered with the public library resulting in more than 340,000 minutes read and 266 pizzas donated for area K-12 students.

Trustee of the Year Award Winner – Faye Bice, Rapid City Public Library. Bice was crucial in guiding the library during the COVID-19 crisis and a guiding force in RCPL's pop-up library and bookmobile projects.

Support Staff of the Year Award Winner – Linda Keller, Redfield Carnegie Library. Keller dedicated over 30 years to the Redfield Carnegie Library. Highlights of her tenure include guiding the community through a physical library expansion, book delivery and outreach, and organizing community gatherings.

New Librarian of the Year Award Winner – Micole Davis, Phoebe Apperson Hearst Library. In one year at the public library in Lead, Davis transformed the summer reading program, expanded preschool story time, and home-school hour.

Librarian of the Year Award Winner – Doris Ann Mertz, Custer County Library. Mertz is known as a mentor in the library community. She was the Director at Custer County Library for a decade, active in the South Dakota State Library Institute, and expanded programs for Custer High School students. She recently transitioned to District Librarian of the Custer County School District.

**Marriott Library oral histories provide unique perspectives on Navajo Code Talker experience**

Nearly eight decades after the end of World War II, just three of the few hundred Navajo Marines who served as code talkers are still alive. As the living history these individuals embody slips away, a collection of code talker oral histories housed at the University of Utah's J. Willard Marriott Library is an invaluable tool in preserving their legacies.

The code talker collection in [the library's special collections](#) includes eight code talker oral histories recorded at a 1971 reunion in Arizona and 18 pictures of the code talkers taken during the war. In collaboration with the [American West Center](#) and with financial support from the Doris Duke Foundation, these histories were acquired by the U as part of larger efforts to preserve Native American language and stories.

[Full Story](#)





## Library use on Wyoming Libraries Snapshot Day

Wyoming libraries are busy, serving their communities day in and day out. Snapshot Day (<https://wyomingsnapshot.weebly.com/>) tally tells the story of how our libraries are used, both physically and electronically.

### WYLD Libraries

On Snapshot Day, Tuesday, October 25, 2022, Wyoming's more than 100 WYLD libraries:

- Circulated 12,200 items, including 6,521 children's items
  - Issued 81 new library cards
  - Added 634 items to their catalogs
  - Made 3,241,881 items available to Wyoming's residents in their collections
  - Saw the library catalog (WYLDcat) used for 6,955 sessions and 16,936 searches by 6,535 users
- WYLD includes all Wyoming public and community college libraries as well as many school and special libraries.

### Public Libraries

In public libraries, from [data collected annually](#) by the Wyoming State Library, we estimate that on an average day, there are:

- 6,982 visits to public libraries
- 1,218 people using a public library computer
- 996 reference questions answered in public libraries
- 695 children and teens who attended programs at their public libraries
- 39 meeting room uses
- 729 wireless internet sessions
- 7,860 retrievals of information from WYLD databases



### GoWYLD.net

The [GoWYLD.net](#) electronic resources offer articles, e-books, e-audiobooks, scholarly sources, courses and tutorials, and much more. These are available to every Wyoming resident, 24 hours a day. On October 25, there were:

- 1,212 views of the GoWYLD.net home page views from 451 users
- 405 visits to the A to Z databases list and 707 views of the GoWYLD LibGuides — 67 different guides were accessed
- 2,891 total digital checkouts by 2,034 unique users in OverDrive Wyoming Virtual Library — 1,450 e-audiobooks, 1,310 e-books, and 131 e-magazines
- 854 sessions, 5,910 queries in Britannica
- 4 sessions and 8 unique report views in CQ Researcher
- 224 sessions and 2,039 pages viewed in CultureGrams
- 6,247 sessions, 10,437 searches, and 2,106 retrievals in the Gale Databases
- 22,639 searches across all Proquest Databases
- 127 visits from 85 unique visitors to Driving-tests.org
- 2 logins and 9 quizzes taken in Pronunciator
- 8.3 hours of LinkedIn Learning content viewed by 10 people who accessed 32 different courses using 134 videos



# Welcome, New Members!



Name	Title	Institution/Library	City & State
<b>Marissa Alcorta</b>	Branch Manager	Pima County Public Library	Tucson, AZ
<b>Tamara Anderson</b>	Lead Youth Services Librarian	Fremont County Library	Lander, WY
<b>Lori Applegate</b>	Librarian	Casa Grande Public Library	Casa Grande, AZ
<b>Jacey Atilano</b>	Information Services Associate	Grand Forks Public Library	Grand Forks, ND
<b>Amy Austin</b>	Director	Beck Bookman Library	Holton, KS
<b>Danielle Ave</b>	Youth Services Supervisor	Cottonwood Public Library	Cottonwood, AZ
<b>Samantha Balemba-Brownlee</b>	Assistant Professor	Montana State University- Northern & Havre-Hill County	Havre, MT
<b>Jen Brown</b>		Sublette County Library - Big Piney	Big Piney, WY
<b>Amy Brucker</b>	Director	Hamilton County Library	Syracuse, KS
<b>Melissa Burnett</b>	Librarian	Montana State Prison	Deer Lodge, MT
<b>Misti Burns</b>	Library Director	Tripp County Library Grossenburg Memorial	Winner, SD
<b>Hannah Caffee</b>	Library Director	Hand County Library	St Lawrence, SD
<b>Christine Call</b>	Technical Services	Butte Public Library	Butte, MT



# Welcome, New Members!



<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Institution/Library</b>	<b>City &amp; State</b>
<b>Anne Cambridge</b>	Librarian	Page Unified School District	Page, AZ
<b>Lori, Cannady</b>	Director	Dillon Public Library	Dillon, MT
<b>Nathan Carr</b>		Moundridge Public Library	Moundridge, KS
<b>Laura Carroll</b>		Basehor Community Library	Basehor, KS
<b>Vanessa Crabtree</b>	Systems Librarian	Cochise County Library District	Sierra Vista, AZ
<b>Timothy DeGhelder</b>	Library Director	Douglas County Public Library	Minden, NV
<b>Kirbie Despain</b>	Youth Service Lead Librarian	Fremont County Library System	Riverton, WY
<b>Trudy Dundas</b>	Director	Manhattan Community School	Manhattan, MT
<b>Teri Ewalt</b>	Head Librarian	Webster Public Library	Webster, SD
<b>Brittany Fischer</b>	Librarian	University of North Dakota	Grand Forks, ND
<b>Stefani Flauding</b>	Acquisitions and Resources Manager	Carbon County Library System	Rawlins, WY
<b>Diana Flores</b>	Library Assistant	City of Scottsdale	Scottsdale, AZ
<b>Jamie Formanek</b>	Young Adult Librarian	Watertown Regional Library	Watertown, AZ
<b>Joanne Freitag</b>	Library Director	Presentation College Library	Aberdeen, SD
<b>Ruth Hewitt</b>	Associate Director of Access Services	Embry Riddle Hazy Library	Prescott, AZ



# Welcome, New Members!



<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Institution/Library</b>	<b>City &amp; State</b>
<b>Sarah Hicks</b>	Librarian	Minot High School-Magic City Campus	Minot, ND
<b>Holly Hoffman</b>	District Librarian	Big Horn District #4 Library Media Center	Basin, WY
<b>Michelle Humber</b>	Executive Director	Sublette County Library	Pinedale, WY
<b>Valerie Huseth</b>	Library Associate	Minot Public Library	Minot, ND
<b>Jackie Johnson</b>	Director	Heart of America Library	Rugby, ND
<b>Paula Kelting</b>	Reference	Campbell County Public Library	Gillette, WY
<b>Todd Knispel</b>	Neosho County Community College Library		Chanute, KS
<b>Lyndsey Kopsa</b>		Frank Carlson Library	Concordia, KS
<b>Kelly Kudma</b>	Library Director	Stanley Public Library	Stanley, ND
<b>Valerie Leyva</b>	Youth Librarian	Mohave County Library	Kingman, AZ
<b>Lisa Lunde</b>	Teacher Librarian	Fort Yates Public Middle School	Fort Yates, ND
<b>Chynna Mangus</b>		Goodland Public Library	Goodland, KS
<b>Danielle Masurky</b>	Librarian	University of North Dakota Chester Fritz Library	Grand Forks, ND
<b>Jennifer McLaughlin</b>	Reader Advisor/ Reading Disabilities	AZ Talking Book Library	Phoenix, AZ
<b>Karen Neurohr</b>	Professor/Research and Outreach Librarian, Oklahoma Oral History Research Program	Oklahoma State University Library - Edmon Low	Stillwater OK



# Welcome, New Members!



<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Institution/Library</b>	<b>City &amp; State</b>
<b>Jayne Niland</b>	Library Director	Sisseton Memorial Library	Sisseton, SD
<b>Sarah Otter</b>	Circulation Clerk	Converse County Library	Douglas, WY
<b>Susan Parkins</b>	Bookmobile & Homebound Coordinator	Laramie County Library System	Cheyenne, WY
<b>Jessica Pierpoint</b>	Government Documents Special-	Wichita State Univer-	Wichita, KS
<b>Kimberly Redmond</b>	LMT	Natrona County School District #1 - Southridge	Casper, WY
<b>Beth Reitan</b>	Director	Bottineau County Public Library	Bottineau, ND
<b>Sierra Ross</b>	Technology Librarian	North Lake County Public Library	Polsen, MT
<b>Stacey Salazar</b>	Librarian	Montana Correctional Enterprises	Deer Lodge, MT
<b>Victoria Silva</b>	Library Director	Safford City-Graham County Library	Safford, AZ
<b>Pauline Stacchini</b>	Executive Director	Emporia Public Library	Emporia, KS
<b>Savannah Tower</b>	Library Advisor	ImagineIF Library	Kalispell, MT
<b>Lindsey Travis</b>	Director	Sweetwater County Library System	Green River, WY
<b>Ashley Verity</b>	Children's Librarian	Havre-Hill County Library	Havre, MT
<b>Hannah Voudry</b>	Library Associate	Siouxland Libraries	Sioux Falls, SD



# Welcome, New Members!

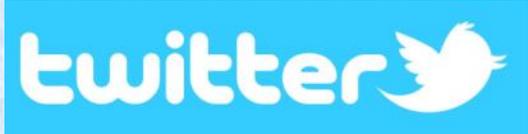


Name	Title	Institution/Library	City & State
<b>Alfred Wallace</b>	Aerospace & Sciences Librarian	University of North Dakota- Chester	Grand Forks, ND
<b>Beth Wells</b>		Harrisburg School District Adventure Library	Sioux Falls, SD
<b>Lori Williams</b>	MS/HS Librarian	Flandreau Public Schools	Flandreau, SD
<b>Kandi Wilson</b>		Chanute Public Library	Chanute, KS
<b>Terri Wojtalewicz</b>		Lansing Library	Lansing, KS
<b>Tammy Wollschlager</b>	Library Director	Grant County Public Library	Milbank, SD

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## Big Horizons, Close Community





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Madison Public Library

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- January 1
- March 1
- May 1
- July 1
- September 1
- November 1

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