

Mountain Plains Library Association

Big Horizons Close Community

Newsletter

April 2023—May 2023

www.mpla.us

Volume 68 Number 2

A big year for MPLA!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Oklahoma Library Association / Mountain Plains Library Association conference in Norman. Thanks to everyone at OLA for the warm welcome, and thanks to our MPLA colleagues who submitted conference proposals and traveled long distances to be there.

The conference marked MPLA's 75th Anniversary, and the start of a big year for our Association. This is a big year because of the milestone anniversary, but also because we have a great deal of progress to celebrate.

Look for a crisp new logo coming soon and congratulations to Kelly Thompson from South Dakota's Augustana University for her winning design. We will also be introducing a new set of tiers for institutional memberships, as approved at the Membership Meeting in Norman on March 8. The new tiers include complimentary memberships for library staff, adding an exciting incentive for libraries to join. Finally, the MPLA Archives have been successfully pared down and moved from Colorado to Oklahoma to begin the digitization process.

Many thanks to outgoing president Brenda Hemmelman for moving these projects forward, and for being a kind, patient, and tireless cheerleader for MPLA. I am grateful to have her guidance and support as I begin my year as MPLA president.



IN THIS ISSUE

Speaking of presidential years, my very favorite session at the recent President's Message conference was a lively presentation by seven of MPLA's past presidents, called "Why Did I Say Yes?" Jean Hatfield, Wayne Hanway, Eileen Wright, Mickey Coalwell, Annie Epperson, Leslie Leadership Institute Fellow Langley, and Stephen Sweeney shared their thoughts on why they agreed to run for office in MPLA, as well as some of their greatest challenges and successes.

Conference Snapshots Leadership Institute Mentors Around the Region Welcome New Members -continued on page 2 MPLA Board and Staff **MPLA Quick Links**

Arizona	Colorado	Kansas	Montana	Nebraska	Nev	/ada	New Mexico
	North Dakota	Oklahoma	a South	Dakota	Utah	Wyon	ning

Each person brought a unique perspective, and I look forward to hearing more from the past presidents in the next several issues of the newsletter, but there was one turn of phrase that really stood out for me. Mickey and Stephen both talked about being motivated by a sense of mission, purpose, and drive to contribute to our profession. Being part of MPLA, and having the opportunity to work with all of you, renews my sense of mission and purpose. With that in mind, I feel driven to get the word out about the close community that makes our Association so special.

For MPLA members, I hope to spend this year demonstrating why your membership matters and highlighting ways to get the very most out of it. I will also seek out opportunities to talk with our colleagues across the region who are not part of the Association. Thank you for being part of my very favorite professional network, and please reach out any time with questions or ideas about how to keep MPLA going strong for the next 75 years.



Amadee Ricketts president@mpla.us 520-732-0826



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.

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Conference Snapshots

MARCH 2023 MPLA/OLA



Coalwell, Annie Epperson, Wayne Hanway, Leslie Langley, in front: Jean Hatfield

April 2023—May 2023







MPLA Literary Contribution Award: M. K. Coker MPLA Innovator Award: Adriane Herrick Juarez, Park City Library Executive Director, Park City, UT MPLA Distinguished Service Award: Stephen Sweeney, Cardinal Stafford Library, Denver, CO

> **Presenter:** Mary Ann Thompson, Awards Committee Chair

(Not Pictured) Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award: Ellen Fockler, Reno, NV

MPLA Beginning Professional Award: Keno Catabay, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian, University of Northern Colorado

The Dan Chaney Unsung Hero Award: Jake Rundle, SirsiDynix, Colorado Springs, CO & Mary Soucie, ND State Librarian

MPLA Newsletter

April 2023—May 2023

Leadership Institute 2023 Cohort

May 7-12, 2023 YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO



The MPLA Leadership Institute will again be facilitated by nationally known organizational development consultant Maureen Sullivan. Ms. Sullivan has over 25 years of experience in leadership development and is the Past President of the American Library Association. She helped establish the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute and is a faculty member for its annual program.



Amy Nelson

Associate Director of Public Services Pueblo City County Library System Pueblo, Colorado

Amy Nelson graduated with her MLIS from Emporia State University with a concentration in archival studies. She graduated from The Colorado College with a BA in German and Russian. Amy has been working in libraries for the past 20 years and has had the wonderful fortune to explore libraries from many angles -- ranging from a K-8 rural school, outreach and adult literacy services to human resources, archives, branch management and now public library administration. Amy is passionate about dynamic library spaces and services, as well as engaging community through collaboration, dialogue and strong partnerships. In her current role, she oversees public services and security for 8 library locations and she loves being a part of the incredibly meaningful work that happens every day within these libraries and beyond their walls. A woman with many hats, Amy has also taught adjunct courses at Pueblo Community College, served as an EMT and State Park Ranger and is also a certified yoga instructor. She enjoys spending her free time with her husband and two dogs hiking the trails near her home in Beulah, Colorado, enjoying recreational pursuits such as biking, kayaking and snowboarding, indulging her creativity through knitting and needle-felting and cosplay, as well as singing karaoke.



Andrea Placher Library Director Williston Community Library Williston, North Dakota

I started my journey with the Williston Community Library almost twelve years ago as the Children's Librarian. Five years ago, I was honored to be offered the position of Library Director. Over the years I have been involved in numerous community organizations, library associations and currently serve on the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council. I live here in Williston with my partner in crime of 23 years, my daughter and our two pups Frankie and Izzo. I also have a son and daughter-in law who made me a Gramma to the cutest little blue eyed boy. I love to read, crochet, and craft with my down time. I am very excited to be a part of this wonderful opportunity.

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Angela Jordan Adult Services Manager Teton County Library Jackson, Wyoming

Angela Jordan is the Adult Services Manager at Teton County Library in Jackson, WY. She has been a public library manager in the Rocky Mountain West for eight years. Prior to transitioning to public libraries, she worked at the University of Illinois Archives after earning her MLIS. She also holds an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Wyoming.



Anna Madrigal Branch Manager Johnson County Library Shawnee, Kansas

Anna Madrigal began her library career in 2012 when she became a page for the Springfield-Greene County Library system in Springfield, MO. Working her way up through the ranks, she has worked every public-facing position from circulation clerk, reference librarian and assistant manager to her current role as branch manager over two branches of the Johnson County Library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area. She received her MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2016, and shortly after was named to the ALA class of Emerging Leaders that same year. Anna aspires to one day utilize her growing experience and passion for public service in an administrative role in her organization as public libraries continue to evolve, innovate and diversify in service of their communities.



Ann McGinley Collections Manager Santa Fe Public Library Santa Fe, New Mexico

Ann McGinley has been the Collections Manager for the Santa Fe Public Library since Fall 2021. Before that, she was the Library Branch Manager (2015-2020) and the Adult Services Manager (2013-2015) at the Rio Rancho Public Libraries. She was also the Circulation Manager (2010-2012) at Zollinger Library, University of New Mexico-Gallup. As a career changer, Ann has had an unusual path that includes teaching adults to speak English, delivering mail for the Postal Service, and working at an art museum during a blockbuster exhibit. Originally from California, Ann can't live without avocados. She also loves Halloween, paper crafting, and Corgis.



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April Miller Access and Outreach Service Librarian Al Harris Library Southwestern Oklahoma State University Weatherford, Oklahoma

April Miller is the Access & Outreach Service Librarian for the Al Harris Library at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU), as well as an Assistant Professor. In these roles, she plans and promotes various programs and events, manages the Public Services and Reference departments, and teaches Freshman Orientation and various Library Instruction classes. April has worked for SWOSU since August 2008, although she started her library career at the Clinton Public Library, a part of the Western Plains Library System in September 2001. In 2005, she became the Interlibrary Loan Librarian (2005-2007), and handled the webpage and all graphic and marketing materials for the library system (2005-2008).



Betsy O'Neil

Adult Services and Technical Services Manager Natrona County Library Casper, Wyoming

Betsy O'Neil began her career as a Reference Librarian at Natrona County Public Library in 2004 and was promoted to Adult Services Manager in 2015. She received her MLIS from the University of Washington, and has a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and a Master's Degree in Financial Analysis. She lives in Casper, Wyoming with her husband and two children.



Daniel Mauchley Director Duchesne County Library System Duchesne, Utah

Daniel Mauchley is the Duchesne County Library System Director, overseeing the Duchesne and Roosevelt branches since 2015. He earned his MLS from Emporia State University and his Bachelor's in Spanish Teaching from Weber State University with University and Department Honors. He worked three years in the Ogden School District as a district teacher librarian and as an elementary school librarian. He has served in the Utah Library Association as a Board Member-At-Large, the 2020-2021 President, and is currently the Bylaws Committee Chair and Past Presidents Committee Chair. He has served on many Utah State Library committees including the Recertification, Grant Review, and Online Library committees. Duchesne County Library System has been recognized by the Utah State Library Division with multiple Quality Library awards and a COVID-19 Exemplary Services award under his tenure thanks to the great work and improvements made by his staff. Daniel helped secure funding for and oversaw the construction of the new 16,700 square foot Roosevelt Branch, which opened February 2023.

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Erin Wahl University Archivist New Mexico University Library Las Cruces, New Mexico

Erin Renee Wahl lives and works in Las Cruces, New Mexico with her zebra finch Taquito and her small dog Baozi. Her research interests include the intersection of sustainability and libraries/archives, library and archives work environments, interdisciplinary use of archives, and rhetoric of and about libraries.



Jessica Quarels

Instruction and Research Librarian Hazy Library and Learning Center Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Prescott, Arizona Jarles is an Instruction and Reference Librarian

Jessica Quarles is an Instruction and Reference Librarian at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. She is a cofounder of Community of Learning: Leadership and Development, a professional development book club that focuses on self-motived growth, as well as team camaraderie and the positive exchange of ideas. Jessica enjoys bringing visibility to the library and started Pop Up Libraries on campus to improve awareness of library resources and services. She also enjoys bringing in artistic elements to a primarily STEM university by creating events such as rock painting, book spine poetry, and blackout poetry events for students. Jessica also serves as a member of the Undergraduate Research Institute Advisory Board on campus. In her free time, she enjoys kayaking, hiking, and trying new recipes.



Joshua Ryan Pikka

Circulation and Technology Coordinator Minot Public Library Minot, North Dakota

Josh Pikka earned his MLIS from Wayne State University in Detroit in 2011. He served as a librarian and eventual Director of the John E. Biersdorf Library at Ecumenical Theological Seminary from 2011-2015.

In 2016 he began his tenure at the Minot Public Library in Minot, ND as Technology Coordinator. He currently holds the position as Circulation and Technology Librarian. In his free time he loves to play hobby board games with his wife Laura.



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Judi Boyce Assistant Director Sublette County Library Pinedale, Wyoming

I began working at Sublette County Library in 2014. I served as the Adult Programming Coordinator for 7 years, managing adult programs, and events, and creating an outreach program. I began cataloging our Adult, YA, and AV materials in 2020 when the pandemic led to the sudden retirement of two catalogers. I became the Assistant Director last summer and took over the management of the Adult and YA collections at that time, including continuing to catalog those items. I have a Bachelor's degree in Library Science from the University of Nebraska and have attended the Wyoming Library Leadership Institute. I have served on the Wyoming Library Association Board for several years, first as a member-at-large, and currently as the MPLA Wyoming State Representative. I also serve on the Pinedale Town Council, and am the town representative on the Pinedale Planning and Zoning Board, and the Pinedale Aquatic Center Joint Powers Board.



Kassie Antonucci Director Mybrary

Elko, Nevada

Kassie Antonucci first entered the realm of library work in 2013 and quickly fell in love with everything libraries stand for. Having set upon this amazing career path, she worked hard to grow as a professional and take every chance to learn something new, leading to her current position of Director. She is an avid reader and when not at work, spends time with her adorable dog Piper going on walks in the desert or in her craft room, painting, drawing, and sculpting. She enjoys being creative and thinking outside the box to find a use for unique materials. She began an ambitious plan to rebrand her library system during their 100th anniversary last year and hopes to strengthen libraries nationwide, showcasing how amazing each one is and the untold value they bring to communities.



Katrina Brown

Library Director Casper College Goodstein Foundation Library Casper, Wyoming

Katrina Brown is the Director of the Goodstein Foundation Library at Casper College. She has been part of the Wyoming Library community since 2005 when she started as a part-time reference assistant at Sheridan College. She has served as Vice-President/ President of WLA, on the WLA Legislative Committee, and as the chair of the Wyoming Community College Library Committee. Katrina is an advocate for library communities believing we make each other stronger and better. She works to bring professional development, training, and leadership opportunities to everyone who works in libraries. A Wyoming community college library director since 2010, Katrina is a past WLA President, a WLLI alum, and a Mentorship Program participant.



Krista Ohrtman Access Services Librarian Mikkelsen Library Augustana University Sioux Falls, South Dakota

I have been the Access Services Librarian at Augustana University since the spring of 2017. Previously, I served as Branch Manager for the Libraries of Stevens County in Washington State (a rural public library system). I received my MLIS from the University of Washington and currently live in Sioux Falls, SD with my spouse, two teenagers, and 3 pets. I currently serve as the Executive Secretary/Treasurer for the South Dakota Library Association. Outside of work, I enjoy cooking, baking (and eating), spending time outside and creating pottery.



Kristen Bodine Youth Services Supervisor Louisville Public Library Louisville, Colorado

With 10+ years' experience in libraries, Kristen is committed to creating warm, welcoming library spaces and building a team dedicated to excellent customer service. In her current role as the Youth Services Supervisor at the Louisville Public Library, Kristen loves sharing books in storytime, creating new and innovative programming with her team, and engaging with her community. Her leadership background includes interim roles as Public Services Manager and Acting Director. When not at work, you can find her reading, planning her next travel adventure, working on a puzzle, or taking her puppy on a walk.



Linde Furman Branch Manager Kirk-Bear Canyon Library Tucson, Arizona

Linde Furman is currently the Branch Manager of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library, a branch of Pima County Public Library, in Tucson, Arizona. She has worked in public libraries for over a decade in library systems in both Virginia and Arizona. Linde has worked in a variety of capacities during her time in public library service, which has led to a diverse and eclectic mix of skill sets. Her greatest passion and expertise in her career is her work in the realm of trauma informed care in public libraries, especially as relates to supporting staff. She leads a grant-funded initiative and system-wide team at Pima County Public Library that focuses on creating support structures to assist staff in processing and recovering from secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, and primary trauma resulting from workplace incidents and other workplace stressors.



Marie Erickson Library Resources Program Manager Utah State Library Salt Lake City, Utah

I received my MLS from the Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Shortly before graduation, I was offered a job at the State Library of North Dakota. I was living the dream! Imagine getting paid to work in a library! Eventually, I started looking for a job closer to home and took a job with the Church History Library in Salt Lake City. I was there for 16 years before deciding it was time for a change and was presented with the opportunity to work as the Library Resources Program Manager. Now I spend my days working to provide libraries across the state with resources and services that enable them to successfully serve their communities. It is the best job ever! I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to learn more about how to lead in this capacity.



Meghan Flynn Assistant Director Grand County Public Library Moab, Utah

Meg Flynn has worked for the Grand County Public Library in Moab, Utah for 13 years and has been the Assistant Director since 2019. She earned an MLS from the University of North Texas as part of a Nevada-Utah Cohort. Meg is passionate about supporting digital literacy, challenging library policies that deny service, and bringing the library's cargo book bike to local events. In her free time, she can usually be found river rafting on the Colorado Plateau or researching regional river history.



Miranda Wisor

Technical Services Librarian Southeast Oklahoma Library System McAlester, Oklahoma

Miranda Wisor received her undergraduate degree from Gettysburg College in Sociology and her MLS from Clarion University. She began her career working at Musselman Library at Gettysburg College in 2004 where she remained for fifteen years. In 2019, Miranda decided to transition from an academic library to a public library and moved to Oklahoma in order to accept the Technical Services Librarian position at Southeast Oklahoma Library System. There her duties include supervising the operations of Technical Services staff, interlibrary loan, and courier services for a seventeen library system. She is also responsible for collection management and ILS management for the library system. In addition to her core duties, Miranda is actively involved with the Oklahoma Library Association where she serves on two roundtables and two committees.



Morgan Tiar Librarian I Washoe County Library System Reno, Nevada

I reside on beautiful eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Reno, NV, with my husband and two children. I have been with Washoe County Library System for 9 years. I enjoy public service and

appreciate the multitude of services and opportunities the library provides to our community. I am involved in many areas of library service including early literacy, event planning, and outreach. I am also the Finance Chair for Nevada Library Association.



Rachel Kercher Youth Services Librarian Leach Public Library Wahpeton, North Dakota

Rachel Kercher has served as the Youth Services Librarian at the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, ND for the last ten years. She previously worked at the West Fargo (ND) Public Library. She completed her undergraduate degree in history from Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD, and her MLS from Emporia State University (Sioux Falls cohort 2019).



Robin M. Hastings Library Services Consultant Northeast Kansas Library System Lawrence, Kansas

Robin Hastings is the Library Services Consultant for the Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS). In that capacity, she provides technology and consulting on library services to 40+ libraries in the NEKLS region as well as providing management for several state-wide services in Kansas. She has presented all over the world on Cloud Computing, Project Management, Disaster Planning and many other topics. Robin is the author of 4 books on library-related topics as well as several articles in library-related journals.





Sarah Hulsey Assistant Director Summit County Library Frisco, Colorado

I received my MLIS in 2011 from Dominican University in River Forest, IL and soon after relocated to Breckenridge, CO. I was thrilled to start volunteering at Summit County Library and before long, I became a substitute Library Aide. After the South Branch Library moved into a historic renovated building in 2015, I took on a full-time position in a town I love. I have worn many hats over the years including overseeing circulation, meeting room reservations, adult programming, marketing and branch management. This year I shifted from Operations Manager to Assistant Director and enjoy overseeing all 3 library branches, working to streamline policies and procedures while launching exciting new initiatives, such as going fine free, implementing RFID, starting a Library of Things, planning and executing 2 library renovations and working towards a universal library card for Summit School District students. I have also recently been elected a Member-at-Large on the Colorado Association of Libraries Executive Board.



Sarah Jones Special Collections & Archives Technical Services Librarian University of Nevada Las Vegas, Nevada

Sarah Jones received her MLIS from the University of California, Los Angeles and a BA in the History of Science and Medicine from the University of California, Los Angeles. She has worked in Special Collections and Archives for five years in various capacities. She has been a Special Collections and Archives Technical Services Librarian at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas since 2019 where she oversees archival processing.



Scarlett Fisher-Herreman

Technical Services Manager Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library Topeka, Kansas

Scarlett Fisher-Herreman is the Technical Services Manager at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library. She leads of team of 15 staff responsible for acquisitions, cataloging, and processing of the library's physical and digital collections. A native of Omaha, Neb., Scarlett moved to Kansas to complete library school at Emporia State University and ended up staying for 20 years! Scarlett, her husband, and two teenage children enjoy community activities and keeping up on their Craftsman bungalow located near the library. In March 2022, Scarlett became a docent educator at the Topeka Zoo & Conservation Center.



Shanna Smith-Ritterhouse Director Mulvane Public Library Mulvane, Kansas

Within the field of public librarianship, my experience is broad in scope. I spent 3 years as a Teen Library Assistant in Mulvane, Kansas, 4.5 years as a Librarian for Teens in Grand Junction, Colorado, 2 years as a Library Director in Farmington, New Hampshire, and 7 years to present as a Library Director in Mulvane, Kansas. During my years in the library profession, I have also been extremely active serving on professional boards, which have included the Colorado Association of Library's Public Library Board (COPLA), three different book committee boards within the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), the Wichita Area Library Association (WALA), the Kansas Library Association Board (KLA), and the Mountain Plains Library Association Board (MPLA). My return to the Mulvane Public

Library in 2015 was spurred by the desire to raise a family near my loved ones.



Shari Theroux

Systems and Discovery Librarian H. M. Briggs Library South Dakota State University

My name is Shari Theroux. I have been working in libraries since 2007, beginning as a paraprofessional in the library at Northern State University. When I received my degree in 2012, I took the position of Systems Librarian. I stayed in that position until 2018, when I was hired at South Dakota State University I am currently

the Systems and Discovery librarian for SDSU.



Valarie N. Lamoreaux Assistant Director Leavenworth Public Library Leavenworth, Kansas

Valarie N. Lamoreaux -To be a librarian was always the plan, and working for libraries is still the only job I want. The plan deviated a few times to other non-profit organizations. The experiences working in public relations and marketing professional career serve as enhancements to my library work. began my as library director for a rural public library with just my undergraduate degree in hand. An offer to manage a special collection for a department at Kansas State University was too good to pass up. I then detoured into marketing and public relations for eight years with a theatre and museum, a public school and a specialized institute. During this time, I completed my Master of Library of Science degree and learned a great deal about how to promote an organization and its services. I returned to the original path in 2014 when I joined the Leavenworth Public Library. Over the last 9 years I, along with other administrators, brought major changes internally and externally to the organization; most recently creating and launching a new strategic plan. Within the last two years I explored leadership opportunities within the Kansas library community as the Vice President and President of the Public Library Section, Kansas Library Association. I am proud of my career history and excited about expanding my opportunities, taking on new professional challenges and advancing my leadership.



Luise Davis – Recording Secretary

I am an active member of MPLA and Library Services Consultant - Northeast Nevada Library Association.

Part of my NLA activities include serving Position Statement: I am very interested as the state representative to MPLA from in supporting libraries and the librarians 2017 through 2022 and continuing to and staff that work in them as part of my assist them with the transition to a new work in the MPLA. I have been leading delegate; being Douglas County Public the Professional Development Committee representative on Librarv's Library Legislative Day for the past fellow librarians access quality continuing several legislative sessions; and being education opportunities and I'd like to involved in the NLA mentor program.

I served as the president of the local board. employees' association for four years including being part of the negotiation team for two contracts. I was a fellow of the 2010 Leadership Institute.

Robin Hastings – VP/President Elect

Kansas Library System, Lawrence, KS

Nevada in MPLA for 3 years in order to help my continue (and expand) that sort of support for librarians in my tenure on the MPLA





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

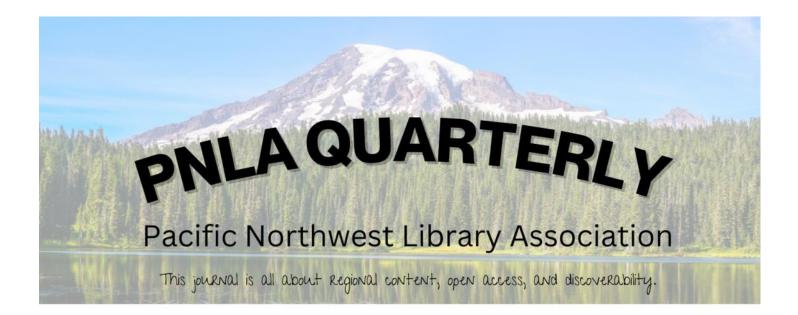
MPLA supports librarians' expertise in their selection of reading materials and provision of information resources to their patrons and communities. Professionally trained librarians use their expertise to purchase resources and books to develop collections appropriate for the communities they serve, 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 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.

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



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 <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIIcOCoqz4qGtG2_j4UOBZ6VUAzZ0r_41k8</u>

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..."



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.



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MPLA Newsletter

April 2023—May 2023

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!



Around the Region



LibCon at Chandler Public Library



Every spring, Chandler Public Library (CPL) enjoys fandom in all its glory during LibCon. Celebrating K-Pop, comics, superheroes, sci-fi, and all things pop culture, this year's event is bigger and better than ever, offering free programs for the entire month of March.

Programs for all ages will be available at all four library locations, with some programs and events taking place on Saturdays. A complete schedule of events is available <u>online</u> <u>at LibCon</u>.

"All ages will find something to interest them," said CPL Program Coordinator Jean Reynolds. "LibCon gives everyone the chance to explore and appreciate one type of fandom or another in a fun and family-friendly environment."

Since its inception as a teen-only event, LibCon has grown from around 100 attendees to nearly 400 participants annually.

Media Contact: Tiffanie Hawkins Marketing & Communications Coordinator 480-782-2910

Kerri Rittschof named director of data science and analytics at ASU Library

The ASU Library is pleased to announce Kerri Rittschof as the new director of its Unit for Data Science. Rittshof was previously the program manager and will now lead, plan and organize operations of the data science and analytics unit.

"Whether you are a social worker or engineer, understanding data science can help us all tell our stories more effectively," said Debra Riley-Huff, associate university librarian for engagement and learning services at the ASU Library. "We're excited to have Kerri step into leading the data science and analytics unit, a central hub where we're able to reach all levels and all disciplines



at ASU."Portrait of Kerri RittschofKerri Rittschof, director of the ASU Library's Unit for Data Science.

Established in 2016, the unit was most recently led by Michael Simeone, associate research professor. The department connects students, faculty and staff to grow their knowledge of data science through workshops, tutorials, research and collaborations.

Rittschof sat down with ASU News to talk about her journey and what's on the horizon for data science at the library and beyond. <u>ASU News Interview link</u>



Libraries close due to meth contamination equals an editorial cartoon

December 20, 2022 marked the day that the Boulder Public Library closed due to a "higher than acceptable methamphetamine levels were found in restroom air ducts." The testing was conducted due to a spike of reports about people smoking in the public restrooms. Following that experience, other libraries conducted tests and also needed to close due to the levels found.

However, what isn't commonly noted is that the State's standards are focused on consistent exposure to meth residue such as a location where a meth lab is located rather than for locations where short-term or

incidental exposures may occur. According to an <u>interview conducted by Colorado Public Radio</u> a different type of regulation would need to be put in place for that type of testing.

Meanwhile, our libraries were recognized as participating in the war on drugs:

https://coloradosun.com/2023/02/17/jim-morrissey-meth-librarieswar-on-drugs/

We are Water: Connecting Communities



The Augmented Reality Sandbox exhibit, currently in the children's room of the Montrose Regional Library. (Rhiannon Bergman/Montrose Daily Press) The Montrose Regional Library will host the traveling exhibition We are Water: Connecting Communities, that will showcase themes about water in the Southwest. We are so excited to offer this exhibition to our library patrons from February 4 to April 27!

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METHO

A NEW FRONT IN COLORADO'S DRUG WAR

OR WELL GO

ALL DEWEY DECIMAL

ON YA!

Patrons can experience the four unique and engaging pieces of the exhibition, such as the augmented reality sandbox that simulates how water moves through landscapes or the story wall with taped interviews of community members, plus an interactive art wall mosaic.

Through the We are Water exhibition, community members are invited to explore their shared watershed and local ecosystems, connect with neighbors through their common and unique experiences with water, share their memories and stories, and come

together to imagine a future for water in their communities.

More information here: https://www.montroselibrary.org/we-are-water/







KU Libraries select Ljudmula Bilkić as 2023 **Textbook Hero**

Ljudmila Bilkić's Intermediate German II class redefines traditional norms. In her classroom, upbeat Spotify tunes provide a prelude to the "Foto des Tages." The photo of the day — a manatee napping on its back — is a nod to subtropical regions instead of arboreal forests. The class banter shifts to the treachery of a newly deposited layer of ice on campus, shared opinions of the Kansas City Chiefs' Super Bowl parade and finally talk of a roommate's unfortunate night out, which prompts a review of a variety of related medical and informal descriptive terms.

Ljudmila BilkićBilkić, assistant teaching professor in the Department of Slavic, German & Eurasian Studies, is KU Libraries' 2023 Textbook Hero selection for making learning fun, fresh, culturally relevant and affordable using Open Educational Resources (OER). More specifically she's being recognized for her efforts to convert the class materials for four 100- and 200-level courses over the past two years - completing an overhaul of the entire German-language sequence after 300- and 400-level courses were converted in recent years.

Read more here: https://today.ku.edu/2023/03/09/kulibraries-select-ljudmila-bilkic-2023-textbook-hero



Community Cabinet at Billings Public Library

The Billings Public Library has opened their

Community Cabinet which is stocked COMMUNITY with items available evervone! This cabinet is donation-supported and contains products like soaps, shampoos, dental products, warm socks, hats, period products and other items to community see help keep the comfortable. Donations for the



Community Cabinet are always accepted. Items can be brought to the first-floor help desk at the library. Please do not donate used or opened items. To donate, visit their Amazon Wish list. Thank you for helping keep our community comfortable! https://billingslibrary.org/513/Community-Cabinet



Montana State University Tribal College Librarians Institute

The 2023 Tribal College Librarians Institute, or TCLI. to be held at MSU June 5-9, will be supported this year by a \$75,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation. Dozens of librarians serving tribal colleges and Indigenous communities throughout the country and beyond will have the opportunity to participate in a professional development event hosted by the Montana State University Library.

Now in its 33rd year, the TCLI has grown in both size and geographic diversity, drawing participants from across the U.S., Canada and New Zealand. It is recognized as the one of the best development programs in North America for librarians serving native people, noted Mary Anne Hansen, professor and research services librarian with the MSU Library.

Read more: https://www.montana.edu/news/22623/ montana-state-university-library-receives-grant-fortribal-college-librarians-institute



\$20,000 in Internship Grants Awarded to Nebraska Public Libraries

Originally published online at Nebraska Library Commission

The Nebraska Library Commission recently awarded Nebraska Library Internship Grants totaling \$20,000 to twenty Nebraska public libraries. These internship grants will support public library interns who will contribute to the scope and value of the diverse programs and activities in Nebraska's public libraries.

"The internships are a great opportunity for students to get involved in library work. Beyond earning money and gaining valuable work experience, the student is exposed to the broad range of library services and programming. Internships provide an opportunity for the student to view the library as a viable and satisfying career choice. In addition, interns bring a fresh perspective and their own unique talents to the library," said Nebraska Library Commission Director Rod Wagner.

Student interns will learn about library work as they shadow staff, assist with day-to-day library operations, and implement special projects.

The following 20 Nebraska public libraries were awarded 2023 internship grant funding:

Axtell Public Library Bennington Public Library Bridgeport Public Library Crete Public Library Gibbon Public Library Fullerton Public Library Hastings Memorial Library, Grant Lincoln City Libraries, Loren Corey Eiseley Branch Library Lincoln City Libraries, Charles H. Gere Branch Library Lincoln City Libraries, Bennett Martin Public Library Lincoln City Libraries, Youth Services Outreach Lincoln City Libraries, Bess Dodson Walt Branch Library Lincoln City Libraries, Northeast Service Unit - Victor E. Anderson & Bethany Branch Libraries Newman Grove Public Library Madison Public Library Cordelia B Preston Memorial Library, Orleans Ponca Carnegie Library Shelby Community Library Shelton Public Library South Sioux City Public Library Raymond A Whitwer Tilden Public Library Valparaiso Public Library Verdigre Public Library Lied Lincoln Township Library, Wausa Maltman Memorial Public Library, Wood River

Funding for the project is supported and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission, in partnership with the Nebraska Library Systems.

As the state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services, "bringing together people and information."

Nebraska's Regional Library Systems consist of four non-profit corporations governed by boards representative of libraries and citizens in the region. The four systems were established to provide access to improved library services through the cooperation of all types of libraries and media centers within the counties included in each System area.



Love Library opens exhibit on Husker women's athletics

Originally published online by University Libraries

Bounding over hurdles in billowing bloomers. Posing proudly with trophies and letter-sweaters. Hustling for the soccer ball on a field where Love Library now stands. These are only a few of the images of women athletes featured in a new exhibit opening at Love Library.



Alice Deweese / Archives & Special Collections Husker women practicing dance in physical education class, circa 1900-1904.

Opportunity & Opposition: A Century of Women's Athletics at the University of Nebraska is now open on the second floor of Love Library South. The free public exhibit was curated by Traci Robison, assistant professor of practice and outreach archivist, and designed by graphic designer Erin Colonna.

Presenting action-packed historical photos and archival documents, Opportunity & Opposition traces the rich and complex history of women's athletics, from an 1883 petition for equitable opportunities through the initial impact of Title IX. The exhibit highlights how prevailing ideas about women and competition, the administration of women's athletics, and funding decisions shaped opportunities. Quotes from the athletes themselves, along with items they created, also provide insights into how they viewed sports as part of college life.

Nevada Librarians graduate from ARSL Leadership Institute

For the past 18 months, Jessica Anderson from Humboldt County Library and Kameron Mitchell from Pershing County Library have engaged in residential, online, and conference experiences as they deepened their understanding of and commitment to professional values while they gained practical managerial skills.





ARSL's Leadership Institute is unique because its students are

selected from only small and/or rural libraries. Often these are "accidental librarians" who have no formal education in librarianship and few local resources for library-specific professional development. These folks came into their leadership positions from a wide variety of backgrounds and may already be in a position of authority, or they may be looking ahead to a transition of power within their organization. However they got to where they are today, they're ready to expand their professional capabilities and grow as institutional and community leaders.

Other MPLA Region Librarians include:

Kathy Wilkinson, Pines and Plains Libraries, CO Jenny White, Schuyler Public Library, NE Angela Watkins, Aztec Public Library, NM Sherry Aragon, Española Public Library, NM

This program is funded by a generous grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

ARSL Outstanding in Their Field Leadership Institute Core Grant Team: Kieran Hixon, Project Lead Sharon Morris, Project Co-Lead Kathy Zappitello, 2021 ARSL President Kate Laughlin, ARSL Executive Director

Full March 2021 Press Release: <u>https://www.arsl.org/</u> arsl-leadership-institute



Special Interest Group Christmas Potluck luncheon

Originally published in the <u>NMLA Newsletter</u>

The Native American Libraries Special Interest Group met on December 16th at the Martha Liebert Public Library in Bernalillo, along with its annual Christmas Potluck luncheon. NMLA Honorary Life Member Martha Liebert attended the meeting and presented copies of her 2021 history, "Bernalillo, Between the River and a Hard Place." to each



attendee. There was a special presentation to celebrate Cynthia Aguilar on the occasion of her retirement after twenty years as public librarian at Santo Domingo/Kewa Pueblo. She received a commemorative pottery plaque made by Sherry Aragon, Acoma potter and Director of the Española Public Library.



The North Dakota State Library Expands Statewide Services

Originally published in <u>North Dakota State Library's</u> <u>Connections Newsletter February 2023</u>

The North Dakota State Library has recently acquired ten new book vending machines that will be placed around the state in communities that currently do not have access to a local library or where countywide library service is not available. "The State Library is committed to meeting the needs of North Dakotans across the state, through partnering with the local library community and through direct service," says State Librarian Mary Soucie. "We look forward to working with our partners to bring items to North Dakota residents that don't have access to a local library or to countywide library service." These auto-lend machines will be available to anyone who has a library card through the State Library, which North Dakota residents can receive at no cost by applying online at www.library.nd.gov/ librarycard.html.

With over 200 bestselling titles, there will be something for everyone.

Find a location close to you: Slope County Courthouse – Amidon, ND North Dakota State Capitol (temporary) – Bismarck, ND Burke County Courthouse – Bowbells, ND

Oliver County Courthouse – Bowbells, ND Oliver County Courthouse – Center, ND Sioux County Clerk of Court – Fort Yates, ND Agassiz Valley Human Service Zone – Hillsboro, ND McClusky City Hall – McClusky, ND

Other locations pending The book vending machine at the State Capitol is currently fully functional and includes leadership books. The other locations will be ready in the next couple of months. The machines are being funded using American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Institute of Museum and Library Services. More information will be coming soon.



Book vending machine located at the Sioux County Courthouse in Fort Yates



State Librarian Mary Soucie (left) and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Kirsten Baesler (right) next to the machine at the State Capitol



Celebrating Library Centennial

The Stillwater Public Library in Stillwater, OK is celebrating its 100-year anniversary in 2023! The library staff and board members invite you to be a part of the celebration to commemorate the last 100 years and to help sustain the library for 100 more.

When the first library opened in 1923, the City of Stillwater hired Mrs. Harriet Woodring to check out books to the community. Today, we still check out books to community members—although it's now 350,000 books each year rather than a couple hundred. Over the last century, our role has grown beyond checking out books to include everything from computer tutoring and troubleshooting to early childhood literacy and serving as the community's hub for information, opportunities and empowerment.



more information about centennial events: http://library.stillwater.org/SPL100.php



Ada Public Library receives \$50,000 charitable contribution Originally published by <u>City of Ada Oklahoma News</u>

The Patrick Lavon Stone Estate made a \$50,000 contribution to the Ada Public Library on behalf of the Children's Reading Charitable Trust whose mission is to benefit public libraries in Oklahoma for literacy and educational purposes which promote reading by children. These include projects designed to assist children to develop reading skills, to enjoy reading and to have access to reading materials.

"Our family is proud that our father, a long-time resident of Ada,

decided to make this charitable contribution to the Ada Public Library to promote children's literacy and reading shortly before his death," Sandra Pratt, the Personal Representative of the Patrick Lavon Stone Estate, stated.

"We cannot thank the Children's Reading Charitable Trust and the Patrick Lavon Stone Estate enough for what they have provided to the library and how the community will benefit," stated Library Director Jolene Poore. "Debbie Whelchel, our Children's Librarian is already working on plans to expand our STEAM (science, technology, education, arts, and math) programs and bring in exciting new performers and programs. This is just the beginning of the amazing things this contribution will make possible," Poore said.

For more information about the Ada Public Library, visit <u>www.ada.okpls.org</u>.



Madison Public Library 2 New librarians

welcomes

Amanda Hall, Programs Coordinator

Hello! My name is Amanda Hall. I am very excited to be the new Programs Coordinator. My husband and I have three kids, Jase (age16), Harlan (age 9), and Addyson (age 7). I was born and raised in Wyoming, but we claim Madison, SD as our home! As a family we love biking and exploring



the State Parks. I love to read, bake, and guilt. I don't have a favorite book because I have read too many that I love!

Katie Gales-Loyd, Library Assistant II



Hello! My name is Katie Gales-Lovd and I am excited to have joined the library as the new Library Assistant II. I visited Madison regularly after my mother, Mary Askren, moved here several years ago and am happy to now call it home. I love to travel, go to hockey games, read, and spend time with my cats. My favorites things to read are anything

with a good love story whether it be historical, mystery, thriller, or a regular straight forward romance. While I'm not reading anything at the moment, I am loving unpacking my personal collection and rereading parts of my favorite books from authors including Julia Quinn, Jayne Ann Krentz, and Nalini Singh.



Welcome New SDSL Staff Member

Originally published in the SDSL's Cornerstone Newsletter

The South Dakota State Library is pleased to introduce our new Youth Services Coordinator, Amanda Raiche. Amanda joined the SDSL team in January.

After receiving her MLIS with a specialization in Youth Services from Kent State University, Amanda worked as the Youth Services Librarian at the Yankton Community Library, then the Vermillion Public Library. Moving into the position as Youth Services Coordinator for the State Library, Amanda is excited to work with library staff across the state in supporting Youth Services. Amanda works remotely in Vermillion, where she lives with her husband Joe and their 2 children. Adeline and Victor.





Faculty Grant from the University of Utah's Digital Matters Lab

Orginally published in the <u>Utah Libraries Magazine</u>



Allie McCormack has been awarded a Faculty Grant from the University of Utah's Matters Lab Digital to examine Marriot Library archival records of materials by and/or about BIPOC and religious minority groups. This grant funds the hiring of a student assistant to controlled remediate vocabulary terms and freetext descriptions in finding collection-level aids and

catalog records, allowing patrons easier access to these materials. The remediated metadata will also generate data visualizations that patrons and library staff can use to analyze and better understand the collections. Allie and the student worker, Emma Fox, will present about their project and its findings at the upcoming ULA conference.



Project to Expand Creative Aging in Wyoming Originally published in the Wyoming State Outrider

A total of 132 public and county library systems in Wyoming and Missouri will develop and/or expand arts education programs that improve the lives of older adults through the <u>Advancing Creative Aging</u> <u>Through State Library Leadership Initiative (2023-2025).</u>

"Wyoming is a beautiful state full of artistic inspiration," said Wyoming State Librarian Jamie Markus. "We're grateful our libraries will now have even more opportunity to bring arts education and enjoyment to our communities' older patrons." In partnership with the participating state libraries, Lifetime Arts will train and coach up to 250 librarians

and library programmers in creative aging program planning, design, marketing, implementation, and documentation. A total of 100 in-person and



100 Creative aging program participant at Lincoln County Library in Kemmerer.

remote creative aging programs will serve up to 2,000 older adults in Wyoming and Missouri and build the case for long-term sustainability. Nationally, thousands more libraries will benefit through networking and a virtual self-paced course.

Learn more about the project. This three-year initiative is made possible through a partnership between Wyoming State Library, Missouri State Library, Califa Group, and Lifetime Arts. The project is generously supported by a \$646,000 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

WLA Legislative Reception shines in New Location

Originally published in the Wyoming State Outrider



20 crockpots were brought to the potluck

The 2023 Wyoming Library Association Legislative Reception drew quite the crowd in its new location at the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne. About 35 state legislators attended as well as the State Auditor, State Treasurer, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction. More than 60 librarians and library workers from across the state were there. Also in attendance were legislators' spouses, aides, and partner organization representatives. WLA's members put on a potluck feast to welcome them there were 20 crockpots! The annual Legislative Reception is an opportunity for those working in libraries to mingle with their elected representatives and discuss issues and legislation of concern to the library community.





Name	Title	Institution/ Library	City & State
Abby Curry	The second second	Pioneer Library System	Oklahoma
Adra Bates		Pioneer Library System	Oklahoma
Alisha Williams	Student		Augusta, KS
Beth Fuchs	Information Literacy Coordinator/Liaison Librarian	Colorado State University Pueblo Library	Pueblo, CO
Bridget Scheffler	Director	El Reno Carnegie Library	El Reno, OK
Cheryl Hamilton	Library Technician	Western Nebraska Community College	Scottsbluff
Cheyenne Chontos	Library Technology Coordinator	South Dakota State Library	Pierre, SD
Dana Belcher	Library Director/ OLA President-Elect	Linscheid Library	Ada, OK
Heather Hutto	Executive Director	Bristow Public Library	Sand Springs, OK
Heather Kornele	1	and the second	Mooreland, OK
Jessica Zehner		Northeastern State University	Tahlequah, OK
KateyIn Lancaster			Oklahoma
Kelly Guest	Graduate Student	Texas Women's University	Denver, CO



Welcome, New Members!



Name	Title	Institution/Library	City & State
Maria Fenerty	Graduate Student	Emporia State University	Crested Butte, CO
Michelle Ferguson	Second second	Piedmont Public Library	Piedmont, OK
Nelia Koontz	Collections Management Librarian	University of Wyoming - Coe Library	Laramie, WY
Robin Bronson		Southeast Oklahoma Library System	Ardmore, OK
Scott Guyant	Library Clerk	Montana State University - Northern Vande Bogart Library	Havre, MT
Stewart Brower	Director	University of Oklahoma-Tulsa Schusterman Library	Tulsa, OK
Tina Ham		Will Rogers College High School	Tulsa, OK
Tricia Andrews	Manager of Access	Metropolitan Library System Downtown	Oklahoma City, OK
Virginia Bjorness		State Historical Society of North Dakota	Bismarck, ND
Vivian Eldridge		Eastern Central University Library	Ada, OK



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MPLA Newsletter

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April 2023-May 2023



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Big Horizons, Close Community



h Library

MPLA Newsletter



April 2023-May 2023



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

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