



MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION Big Horizons, Close Community

October 2024—November 2024

mpla.us

Volume 69 Number 5

MPLA now seeking a Newsletter Editor

Job Description:

MPLA is seeking a newsletter editor to produce the MPLA Newsletter, which is published six times each year. This person will solicit content, write, edit, and work closely with the Executive Secretary, as well as lay out and publish the newsletter (electronically). The newsletter editor is a valued member of the MPLA Executive Board as well as a non-voting member of the communications committee.

Key Responsibilities:

- Edits the MPLA Newsletter on a bimonthly basis, sending an electronic version to the Website
- Administrator for posting on the Association website, and sending an announcement out to the membership. Maintains and meets all deadlines for submitting to the newsletter.
- Works with MPLA Website Administrator on coordination of accessible photo collections as it relates to association activities such as annual conferences.
- Communicates with committees and State representatives in sharing information relevant to the association.
- Works with the Planning Committee of the joint conference to produce feature stories about the coming conference for the MPLA Newsletter.
- Works with advertisers and forwards billing information to the Executive Secretary.
- Works with the Administration Committee (on advice of the Communications Committee) to recommend advertising rates for the newsletter based on rates for similar publications.
- Click here for the Full Job Description

Candidates should submit a resume and cover letter outlining their qualifications and interest in the position, as well as a representative sample of a newsletter or similar document not to exceed two pages to president@mpla.us by Oct. 31.

In this Issue

Newsletter Position Around the Region Welcome New Members MPLA Board and Staff MPLA Quick Links



The Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program manages a nationwide network of academic, public, and state libraries that have been designated a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC). These resource centers provide the public with various trademark and patent assistance.

If you want to patent an invention or register a trademark, you don't have to navigate the process by yourself. PTRC representatives are trained to help inventors and small businesses find the information they need to protect their intellectual property (IP).

- While PTRC representatives cannot provide legal advice, they can:
- Show you how to use patent and trademark search tools
- Explain to you the application process
- Assist you in using the USPTO's directory of local patent attorneys
- Offer classes on IP (varies by location)
- Help you find patent and trademark owner and assignee information
- Connect you to other USPTO resources

https://www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/patent-trademark-resource-centers



ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICE TO CHILDREN SERVIC

collection of 130,000 volumes of children's literature published mostly before 1950. Applications are due October 15, 2024. For more information, check out our blog! <u>https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2024/08/are-you-the-next-louise-seaman-bechtel-fellow/</u> Apply on the ALSC website: <u>https://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/profawards/bechtel</u>

The Penguin Random House Young Readers Group Award provides a \$1200 stipend to up to two children's librarians to attend their first ALA Annual Conference. The 2025 ALA Annual Conference will take place June 26-30, in historic Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Applications are due November 15, 2024. For more information, check out our blog <u>https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2024/09/apply-for-the-penguin-random-house-young-readers-group-award-2/</u> or go directly to the ALSC website to apply: <u>https://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/profawards/penguinyoungreadersgroupaward</u>

Feel free to reach out with questions to Gwen Vanderhage (<u>gvanderhage.ala@gmail.com</u>), Co-Chair of the ALSC Professional Recognition and Scholarships Committee



MPLA Newsletter

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Professional Development

MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION Big Horizons, Close Community

Grants

The Professional Development Committee supports avenues of continuing education and research experiences for individuals employed in the library or related professions in the Mountain Plains region.

Individual Grants

Grants are awarded to support the following: Formal course work in library science or a related discipline and/or directly related to an individual's library position. Attendance as a participant or a presenter at a library or scholarly workshop, seminar, or conference. Visits to another library to receive or provide significant advanced training in library services or procedures. Library related research projects.

State Association Conference Grants

Grants are awarded to encourage opportunities for continuing education for the MPLA membership through pre or post conferences at the annual meetings of state associations in the region. If a state does not offer pre/post conference programs, that state can be awarded a grant for a presentation of comparable significance during the conference.

https://mpla.us/community/professional-development-grants/



Tips & Tricks for Writing Conference Proposals

This guide has been prepared by the Mountain Plains Library Association's <u>Professional Development Committee</u> to assist library workers with writing proposals for conferences they would like to be considered for presenting.



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MPLA Newsletter



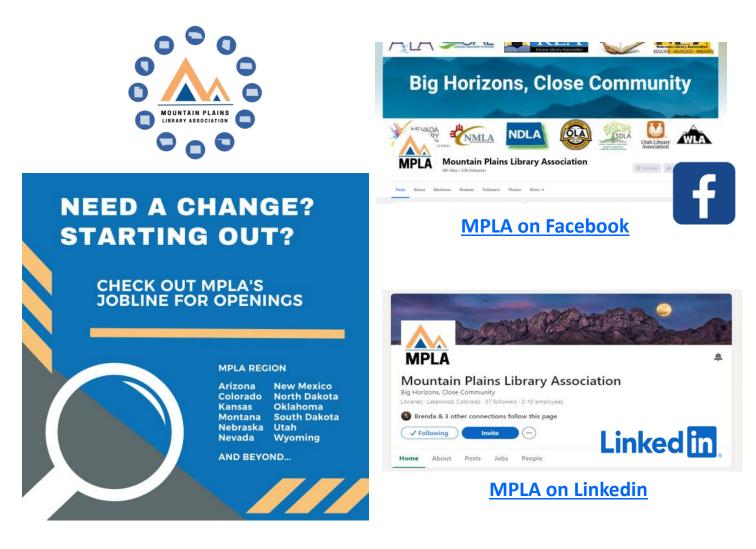
Led by lively hosts Jake Rundle and Mary Soucie, the informal discussions will occur every 4th Wednesday of the month.

4th Wednesdays of each month

1 PM Central time Noon Mountain 11 am Pacific

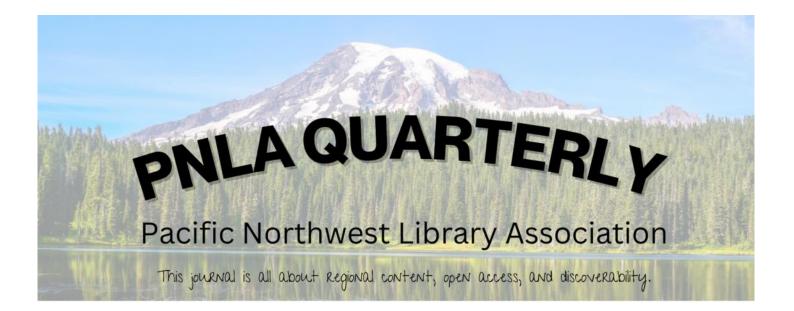
Register in advance via Zoom

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.



Jobline <u>https://mpla.us/jobs/</u>

MPLA Newsletter



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/

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



Arizona Conference

The Arizona Library Association (AzLA) Annual Conference will take place from October 16-18, 2024, at the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort in Fort McDowell, AZ.

With the theme "Rising to the Challenge: Building a Sense of Belonging," the conference will

Belonging," the conference will feature an opening keynote from including Mychal Threets, sponsored by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The closing keynote will feature Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes. Attendees will engage with diverse library professionals, discuss important legislation, and participate in pre-conference sessions and award ceremonies.



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month:

Cultural Collaboration at Casa Grande Public Library

From September 15 to October 15, 2024, Casa Grande Public Library is excited to join forces with the Casa Grande Arts and Culture Commission to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. This year's events are centered around fostering cultural understanding, celebrating diversity, and engaging the local community in meaningful discussions and creative activities.

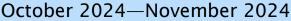
A highlight of the celebration is the reading of Pepe and the Parade by Tracey Kyle at library programs and the Boys & Girls Club. This vibrant story introduces children to the excitement of a Hispanic Day Parade, encouraging dialogue about culture, tradition, and the rich heritage of the Hispanic community. Each reading will be followed by a discussion where participants can share their own experiences, allowing children to explore the themes of identity and diversity in their lives.

As part of the collaboration, children will also participate in a unique, hands-on art project. Each child will be given a small wooden house to decorate with symbols and designs representing their family's cultural heritage. These decorated houses will then be displayed together in the library, creating a beautiful and visual representation of cultural diversity within the Casa Grande community.

To further support literacy and cultural appreciation, every family who participates will receive a free copy of Pepe and the Parade along with a custom book bag, allowing them to continue exploring the themes of culture and identity at home.

The Casa Grande Public Library and its partners are looking forward to this vibrant celebration of heritage, art, and literature, as they come together to honor the rich cultural mosaic that makes up the community.









Volunteer of the Year Award

The nonprofit group Friends of the Longmont Library has been named the winner of the 2024 Colorado Association of Libraries Volunteer of the Year award.

The group of community members tries to build civic involvement and promotes literacy by supporting the Longmont Public Library's programs through financial gifts and volunteer efforts. The group was

nominated by Longmont resident, Cynthia Keller. Library were selected for this award to recognize their contributions and commitment to the Longmont Library and its community.



FRIENDS OF THE LONGMONT LIBRARY

Vail Public Library New Director

Source: https://www.vaildaily.com/



In August, the town of Vail announced that Kimberly McNally has joined the Vail Public Library as its newest director.

McNally has spent over 13 years of her career in public libraries in the Pacific Northwest and the

Northeast. Most recently, she served as the president and CEO of New Canaan Library outside of New York City. Before that, McNally was the director at Berlin Peck Library in Berlin, Conn.

In McNally's previous roles, she developed strategic plans with community input, supported the creation of a platform for people to have candid conversations about important topics in the community, and served on the board of trustees for the Connecticut Library Consortium.

"We are so pleased to have Kimberly join the Town of Vail," said Deputy Town Manager Kathleen Halloran. "Her ability to recognize and capitalize on the important role libraries play in supporting communities makes her the perfect fit for us."

New Director

(Osawatomie, Kansas) Osawatomie Public Library



has a new director. Samantha Moon has joined OPL as Director as of August 28th, 2024. She has a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Kansas and is currently working on her master's of public administration through the KU School of Public Affairs and

Administration. As OPL is also a formal department within the City of Osawatomie, Sam also oversees the city's museum department and manages the city's communications. Before joining the City of Osawatomie as an employee, Sam served for eight years as a Library Board trustee.

Renovations of the Kids Library

(Topeka, KS) The Library Foundation received a \$50,000 gift from Security Benefit to support the renovations of the Kids Library at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library.

"Supporting the Kids Library with a gift of \$50,000 underscores our company's commitment to literacy and education initiatives," said Security Benefit CEO Doug Wolff. "A few years ago we provided funding for a new bookmobile for the library and we're excited to announce today our collaboration on another project that will help children learn and grow and someday contribute to our community's workforce." - <u>Press Release</u>





New Staff

Savanna Sill is the new Montana Library Network Coordinator (MLN). The MLN Coordinator is responsible for developing, evaluating, and overseeing new and existing collaborative efforts designed to create scalable infrastructure and services for libraries in Montana that equitably serve all Montanans. This position seeks to understand

how and why people engage or do not engage with statewide library services to develop strategies to make those services more visible, accessible, usable, and valuable to Montana citizens.

Savanna was previously the Child and Youth Program Director for the Montana Army National Guard for over 5.5 years with another 7+ years of experience in youth

programming for nonprofits. Savanna has a degree in Sociology and a minor in Nonprofit Administration from the University of Montana and a mother (her hero) who was a Librarian in Central Montana. Savanna was born and raised in North Central Montana and is truly looking forward to serving our libraries and communities across the state.



Montana Ulbrary Natwork Goordinator



Pioneer Adventure 1887

by Katie Hollmann

published in: Three Rivers Library System Newsletter Verdigre Public Library hosted Pioneer Adventure 1887 (the year our town was founded) which was a multigenerational event where local folks shared old-time activities: tomahawk-throwing, plant lore, blacksmith tools, butter-making, rope-making, goat soap, a Model A Ford, and a one-room school with slates and chalk. Penny candy was a bit hit and there were centennial dresses for cosplay.

The Stringbeans performed first. Three grants paid for this very fun children's band from Lincoln -- NE Arts Council Touring Program, NE Library Commission Youth for Excellence, and our local library foundation.













Soundproof Study Pods

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) supports libraries in Nevada through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), administered by the Nevada State Library, Archives & Public Records (NSLAPR). As part of the LSTA funded Library Capacity Statewide Initiative to help libraries build their capacity to meet the evolving work and

study needs of their service population. NSLAPR purchased single person study pods for eligible Nevada libraries. The Soundproof Study Pods provide dedicated individual work spaces that are free from distractions; they are lighted and ventilated, with sidewalls made from sound-insulating glass, ensuring privacy without confinement. The pods are plug and play, no construction is required.



and more.

The pods have a compact footprint and come with a movability kit for repositioning and a SIM card to collect (anonymous) usage data. Pods come with the IMLS logo and credit line affixed to the door. A total of 34 pods have been granted throughout the state. Recipients include 18 public libraries, 6 academic libraries, and 6 school libraries.

MOUNTAIN PLAINS

Open Position:

Newsletter

Editor

Click to learn more!



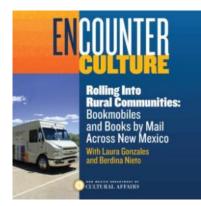
Rolling into Rural Communities: Bookmobiles and Books by Mail Across New Mexico Originally published on Hitchhiker News

For many people who live in New Mexico the nearest library might be three hundred miles away. Luckily, the New Mexico State Library runs two excellent rural library services: Books by Mail and three bookmobiles that serve different regions of the state. If you live 20 minutes outside of the city limits of any city in New Mexico, or if you live within city limits but are homebound, or if you can only read large-print books, you can sign up for Books by Mail. The Books by Mail collection contains more than 30,000 titles, including books in Spanish, audiobooks, eBooks,

For schools and small communities who want to browse the shelves or access the internet from the bookmobile's portable satellite terminal, check out the New Mexico State Library website to find out when and where a bookmobile will be stopping near you. And don't forget to chat with the bookmobile librarian to find out what reading events and projects are offered during stops in your community!

"I care about people first. I care about what's going on in their lives," says Berdina Nieto, the New Mexico State Library Books by Mail librarian and rural services outreach specialist. "Patrons will call just to get their book order and then tell me what's going on in their world, and then I'll do the same.

Listen to the full podcast here: <u>Encounter Culture</u> <u>Podcast May 27, 2024 episode</u>







West Fargo High School Library

In the fall of 2023, our band teacher had a goal

around literacy to create free libraries the little in band. orchestra, and choir classrooms. She and her architect husband structures in their built the garage on the weekends. The band teacher and library media specialist collaborated to curate mini collections that would engage students to read and learn more about musical history, genres,



artists, and techniques from various fiction and nonfiction resources. The paint was dry in the spring of 2024, books were purchased, and we were ready to roll out to our learners. There is a self-checkout (honor) system to remove the barrier of walking across campus to check out in the library media center. Student feedback has been positive and music staff have noted an increase in reading during our 90-minute block schedule. Increased access to books has elevated our learners' potential for academic success, vocabulary development, and job opportunities.

Williston Community Library

The Williams County Bookmobile and the Williston Community Library participated in Williston's Kids Day Out event. What a GREAT TIME we had! Each

kiddo got a free book and participated in our Obstacle Course Fitness Kit to earn a spin on the infamous prize wheel! Over 1,000 kiddos and their grown -ups visited us and interacted with the library. What a way to get out into our community and say HELLO!



OKSL Webinar: "Law for Librarians"

In this webinar on October 11, participants get an overview/introduction to law and librarians as well as learn about case law relating to First Amendment principles and libraries. Resources relating to Intellectual Freedom and the right to read will also be shared. Registrants unable to make the webinar will be provided a recording.

Sign up at https://www.oklibs.org/event/l4l

Legal Disclaimer: While this session will be discussing basic legal concepts, the content of this session is not legal advice and should not be used in place of legal representation or a legal opinion.

McAlester Public Library celebrates local authors Lauren and Ben Denny, owners of Simply Country Ranch, have brought their children's book "Winston and the Missing Apples" to life by collaborating with the McAlester Public Library's StoryWalk installation. The book follows their dog and his quest to find where all of the apples have gone on their farm, showcasing a lively tale with a lesson on how to share with others.

Based on a true story, the book includes QR codes that visitors can scan to peek at what life at Simply Country Ranch is like and how Winston's story came to be.

Winston himself even made a guest appearance for visitors and signed books with his signature paw print. Mrs. Denny hopes local author events such as this will help inspire other local writers to share their stories.

Lauren Denny, co-author, stated, "It is important for people within our community to see that they can also be authors."

The reaction to "Winston and the Missing Apples" has inspired Lacey Sudderth,

assistant manager of the McAlester Public Library, to empower more local authors by including them in future StoryWalk features.



Conference Awards

Congratulations to all of our awards winners! The next issue of the SDLA Book Marks will include the text with all the things our nominees said about the winners -- because we KNOW you couldn't keep up with everything they do! -Association Facebook post

Presenters: Amber Wilde and Kathleen Slocum







Jan Schock





Jalynn Feininger

Karen Schlekeway

Friend of the Library-Jan Schock, nominated by the Bowdle Public Library

Trustee of the Year-Mike Donlin of the Hand County Library

Support Staff of the Year-Josh Easter from the South Dakota State Library

New Librarian of the Year-Watertown Middle School librarian Jalynn Feininger

Librarian of the Year- Karen Schlekeway from the Belle Fourche Public Library

Distinguished Librarian Award-Rapid City Public Library Director, Terri Davis



Telehealth Kits

The Utah State Library is making telehealth access easier all around Utah. Thanks to a Library Services and Technology Act grant and funds from the American Heart Association, telehealth and blood pressure monitoring kits are available for checkout at various Utah libraries. The kits include а thermometer, a fingertip pulse oximeter, and a blood pressure monitor - all the resources and tools needed to track and share numbers with health care providers in-person or virtually. The kits will empower library patrons to be health advocates for themselves and their families. As a telehealth resource, the kits offer an efficient and practical solution for many people. Online medical appointments can be a great time saver - especially for those who live in rural areas. Providing access to the tools necessary to share blood pressure and temperature numbers with physicians will support access to health resources that many people may not have considered before. The project was inspired by the 2022 Libraries with Heart pilot program in San Bernardino, California.







off

of

New Wheels for Teton County Library

A new and brightly colored vehicle has been spotted on valley roads, and a quick look reveals twin themes to its graphics--books and people. Teton County Library (TCL) has unveiled its outreach van and a home delivery service offering free pick up and drop

library materials for patrons who find it difficult to visit in person.

"We're always looking to remove barriers to access of the collection," said Anna Barker, the TCL's Outreach Coordinator. "Free home delivery service is about as accessible as it gets. We'll even issue you a library card." Teton County patrons who are interested in home delivery can direct any questions to Anna at (307) 733-2164, extension 3244, or email <u>outreach@tclib.org</u>.

"We learned during our strategic planning surveys in 2022 that some folks found it difficult to visit the library for a variety of reasons," said Library Director Kip Roberson. Staff recommended that a vehicle to help reach these folks be added to the wish list of items to be funded by Teton County Library Foundation & Friends during the next few years.

"Last year, library staff approached us about an ideal vehicle that was available from a local auto dealer," added Diana Peck, Executive Director of the Teton County Library Foundations & Friends. "Our board gave approval to move ahead with purchasing and personalizing the new van."

Next came outfitting the van with a custom design that would grab attention and become immediately identifiable with the library. Peck approached graphic designer Drayton Holcomb, who had designed the iconic Sprout Mobile van. Holcomb's final graphics are colorful and playful, conveying the importance both of books and of community, and representing activities from all of Teton County's beautiful seasons.

"The outreach van is like a moving mural," said Peck. "The design details truly capture a sense of place, and our hope is that when the van is parked, community members will take a closer look and find themselves represented in the images." Those images include people of all abilities on a bike/pedestrian path, climbing a gigantic book, reading, creating art, navigating a river, and skiing. There is even a jackalope and a rendering of the library's book bike.

The outreach van is also establishing a presence at community events, such as the recent Touch[1]a-Truck event, at which it served as a quiet space with books, headphones, and coloring pages amid the noisiness and busyness of truck horns and engines. Additionally, the van has popped up at Snow King Resort for gear repairs, at GTNP employee orientations, and several of the Grazing Rights food truck series, distributing free books and library information.

Teton County Library has locations in both Jackson and Alta, Wyoming. Find out more on their website at tclib.org





Welcome, New Members.

Name	Title	Institution	City & State
Angel Mann	Circulation Services Supervisor	Sheridan County Public Library	Sheridan, WY
April Hernandez	Director	Goddard Public Library	Goddard, KS
Marco Veyna-Reyes		Las Vegas - Clark County Library System	Las Vegas, NV
Utah State Library		Utah State Library	Salt Lake City, UT
Elizabeth Gutierrez		Gillette Community College District	Gillette, WY
Emily Bullough	Education Program Manager	Salt Lake County Library	West Jordan, UT
Gillette Community College District		Gillette Community College District	Gillette, WY
Jennifer Brummett	Research Services Librarian	Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation	Broken Arrow, OK
Kristine Shaw	Library Assistant / MLIS Student	Maricopa County Library District	Mesa, AZ
Matthew Pettyjohn		Gillette Community College	Gillette, WY
Melissa Morrow	Librarian, Open Educational Resources and Community Outreach	New Mexico Highlands University	Las Vegas, NV



Rachael Hissong is a public library director who holds a Master of Library Science degree with a concentration in leadership and administration from Emporia State University. Rachael has extensive experience as the director of public libraries in the Northeast Kansas Library System as well as experience as a library media specialist with Lawrence Public Schools in Lawrence, Kansas. She is passionate about the positive impact libraries have on communities, and she seeks out opportunities to give back and promote the library profession. Rachael is Director of the Basehor Community Library in Basehor, Kansas.

The Board Choice Award is a personal initiative by board members to identify and recruit individuals with demonstrated ability in a library setting to membership in the Mountain Plains Library Association. The person is selected by consideration of their potential to benefit MPLA and the profession in a broader sense. MPLA Board members consider this award a personal quest to identify and recruit future library leaders, those who will serve their own library, their state and regional associations well.

MPLA Newsletter



State Representatives

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MPLA Newsletter



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The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of libraries in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities.

Quick Links:

Website: <u>www.mpla.us</u>

Join MPLA or Renew Membership: https://mpla.us/community/membership/

Professional Development Grants: https://mpla.us/community/professional-development-grants/

Calendar: https://mpla.us/news-and-events/calendar/

Awards: https://mpla.us/community/mpla-awards/

Job line: https://mpla.us/jobs/

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

MPLA on Twitter: https://twitter.com/MPLAtweets

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https://mpla.us/archives/mplaarchives/publications/ newsletter/

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Editor: Melanie Argo, Madison Public Library

Copy deadlines for articles, news, and advertisements:

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

Advertising:

There is no charge to MPLA personal or institutional members for classified advertising.

Non-members are charged \$1.25/line. Display advertisement copy rates are available from editor@mpla.us.

MPLA Membership:

For matters pertaining to individual or institutional memberships and address changes, contact:

Sherrie Mortensen Executive Secretary PO Box 1014 Orem, UT 84059 execsecretary@mpla.us