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The Mountain Plains Library Association

South Dakota State Board Report

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Mountain Plains Library Association Report, July 2005

Submitted by Colleen Smith, SDLA Representative to MPLA

South Dakota Librarians selected to attend MPLA Ghost Ranch Leadership Institute include Kay Christensen, Librarian at Mikkelsen Library, Augustana College; Heidi Nickisch Duggan, Librarian at Lommen Health Sciences Library, University of SD; and Stephen Van Buren, Librarian at H.M. Briggs Library, SD State University.

The SDLA Annual Conference will be held October 5 – 7 in Pierre, SD. The theme for the Conference will be South Dakota Libraries: A story worth telling. Two pre-conferences will be presented – “Extending Children’s Literature” by Kathy Ross and “Take Control of Your Time” by Elizabeth Hagen. Keynote conference speaker will be Hollywood Librarian, Ann Seidl.

Summer Reading Programs are being offered at many South Dakota public libraries during Summer 2005. The theme, “Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds,” has been popular throughout the state. Programs, films, story-times, crafts, etc. have been planned for pre-school thru adult level readers. South Dakota participates in the Collaborative Summer Library Program, a group of nearly 40 states who plan and prepare Summer Reading Program materials for member states. A children’s illustrator is commissioned to create the artwork used for each theme. Steven Kellogg was the illustrator for the 2005 materials. Upcoming Summer Reading Program themes will be “Paws, Claws, Scales, & Tales” for 2006 and “Get a Clue” for 2007. These summer reading program materials may be purchased from Upstart, a division of Highsmith.

SDLA and the SD State Library will co-sponsor library booths at the South Dakota State Fair, held Sept. 3-10 at Huron, SD and at the South Dakota Festival of Books, held Sept. 23-25 in Deadwood, SD.

The three South Dakota recipients of the ALA/ALTA National Advocacy Awards were presented during the Chicago ALA Conference to Augustana Library Associates, Sioux Falls; the Friends of the Huron Public Library; and Colleen Smith, Director of the Huron Public Library. This National Advocacy Honor Roll was created in 2000 to identify and recognize those individuals and groups who have actively supported and strengthened library services at the local, state, or national levels. These awards are presented at 5-year intervals.

Several South Dakota libraries have new facilities or are in the planning stages for a new facility.

- Piedmont, in western SD, has secured a location for their library. It will be located in the former fire station. They are collecting funds and books to be used in their library.

- Hermosa, in southwestern SD, has a new library which is a branch of the Custer County Library.
- Sturgis Public Library, in western SD, is nearly finished with Phase 1 of their new library building project. They will soon be moving into the first portion of their new building. Then the old building can be demolished and Phase 2 construction can begin on the 2nd portion of their new building. When the project is complete, the combined Phase 1 and Phase 2 projects will provide the residents of Sturgis with new and updated library services.
- Freeman Public Library, located in south eastern SD, will soon begin a building project. Fundraising is continuing, and their goal is 'in sight.'
- Oak View Branch Library, a branch of the Sioux Falls Public Library in south eastern SD, opened recently and is serving the library needs for residents of north eastern Sioux Falls. Oak View is the 3rd branch serving residents of Sioux Falls, in addition to the Main Library in downtown Sioux Falls.