

ST-12

MPLA Report for Wyoming

The big news for Wyoming is that Laramie County Library System has been named "2008 LIBRARY OF THE YEAR" by Library Journal. Their new building is magnificent, but it is their dedicated service to the community that really makes them special. A news release is available at <http://www.lclsonline.org/news/index.php> and the complete article is available at <http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6568073.html> in Library Journal's June 15th issue.

The WLA Annual meeting is being held October 1-3, 2008 at the Parkway Plaza in Casper, WY. The program is still being finalized, but it looks to be another good conference for WLA.

Fundraising for the *Wyoming Public Library Endowment Challenge Program* is under way in many counties, with all of the public libraries hoping to earn the matching funds set aside by the Wyoming Legislature. A possible total of \$9 million is available to the 23 public libraries in the state through this program in a tiered matching system that allows smaller libraries to benefit as well as the larger, better funded library systems.

Construction continues on the addition to and concurrent renovation of Coe Library at the University of Wyoming. Maintaining services when surrounded by construction is a challenge, but a strong effort is being made by both the library and the patrons. Recent visitors to UW have noticed that the largest parking lot on campus has been closed for construction staging, so visitors are advised to call ahead and ascertain where parking is available on any particular day.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah McCarthy