2021 Annual Reports

President Report – Julie Erickson

It was a busy year, considering we did almost everything virtually! Thanks to the board and committees for doing great work supporting libraries throughout the year.

Conferences:
The contract for Rapid City 2023 was signed
The 2021 conference was moved to virtual with no penalties and a new contract for Pierre was signed for 2026
The invitation to participate in the Mountain Plains Library Association Conference in Grand Forks 2025 was also accepted.
Conference contracts are signed through 2026 due to the pandemic rescheduling.

Virtual Conference 2021:
I have worked closely with the Bookmarks Editor, Vice-President and Executive Secretary/Treasurer to set-up the virtual conference.

We are offering 15-minute lightning round sessions along with virtual poster sessions. This is an opportunity for more SD librarians to share their programs, knowledge and skills with us all! Thank you to the Technology and Innovation in Education (TIE) organization for providing Zoom rooms for the conference.

With the increase in book challenges around the nation and in state, the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom along with AASL president, Jennisen Lucas are speaking at the conference to invite everyone to ask questions and make sure their policies and procedures are in place should a challenge occur.

ESSR Funds:
The State Library provided grant opportunities for ESSR funds to libraries; to support libraries as they looked for furniture that met the requirements, SDLA offered a webinar highlighting different options.

Lobbyist:
Eric Erickson has worked closely with the South Dakota Library Association this year to keep us informed of what is happening legislatively along with what he is hearing from other organizations. He is regularly sent articles and information about various items that are happening in the library world to keep him up to date on South Dakota issues.

Past-President Report – Ashia Gustafson
Reviewed the EST and the Book Marks editor.

Vice-President/President Elect Report – Shari Theroux

• Attended the executive board meetings
• Helped plan details for conference 2021
Set the conference theme for 2022 “Resilience and Reinvention” (if approved)
Created conference logo
Prepared the budget for the 2022 year
Filled committee openings for 2021 spots

**ALA Councilor Report – 2021 – Lisa Brunick**

ALA continued to face the logistical and financial burdens related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Both the Midwinter and Annual meeting were virtual. ALA leadership continued to monitor and tighten the budget, including furloughs for ALA office employees, and to advocate for libraries and library workers. The restructuring of the governance system is still in development with the goals of growing membership, increasing engagement with members and streamlining the current structures. ALA Midwinter was retired after January 2021. The replacement the Library Learning Experience, LibLearnX, will launch in January 2022. Scheduled as an in-person conference in Austin, Texas, the ALA board announced on 9/15 that the conference will now be virtual. More information is available at alaliblearnx.org/

As councilor, I attended the following at each conference

- Chapter Council Forums – 3 forums, each held prior to the Council meetings, provided a time for informal discussions about pending resolutions, agenda items and concerns.
- Chapter Councilor’s Forum – a chance to meet the other chapter councilors and discuss issues at the state level as well as with ALA.
- Council Meetings – 3 meetings. The official business of ALA is conducted at these meetings.
- ALA Members Meeting – Typically held immediately following Council I, this official member meeting is part of every conference

In addition, I attended the March Virtual ALA Council Meeting March 31, 2021 as well as several Forward Together informational sessions.

**Midwinter Highlights**


Council passed the following resolutions:

- Approved, with the exception of Items#1 (ALA Core Values) and #2 (Round Tables), all remaining items in the FTRWG report (ALA CD#46.1) be referred to a taskforce of a size, composition, mandate and reporting schedule to be determined by ALA’s President and subsequently confirmed by the ALA Executive Board.
- Resolution on the ALA Core Values of Librarianship
- Resolution on the ALA Roundtables
- Resolution in Support of Broadband as a Human Right
- Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism as Antithetical to Library Work
- Resolution in Opposition to Facial Recognition Software in Libraries
### Resolution on the Misuse of Behavioral Data Surveillance in Libraries

### Resolution to Prioritize Library Workers to Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine

See text of resolutions at bit.ly/3zpNFdh

### Annual Highlights

Council Attendance & Voting Tallies are not yet available.

Council passed the following resolutions:

- Resolution to Achieve Carbon Neutrality for ALA Conferences
- Resolution on U.S. Enterprises’ Abridgement of Free Speech
- Resolution in Support of Open Educational Resources

Council defeated the following:

- Resolution on Greater Transparency in the Library of Congress Subject Headings Revision Process

Council referred the following:

- Resolution on Replacing the Library of Congress Subject Heading Illegal Aliens Without Further Delay to the ALA Committee on Legislation for further analysis and report back to Council with recommendations at the January 2022 Council meeting

See text of resolutions at bit.ly/3nNPezt

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Brunick

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**Executive Secretary/Treasurer – Krista Ohrtman**

It has been a busy first year learning the ropes of the EST position, particularly with the interesting work of supporting SDLA virtually. I am look forward to working with more of our members face-to-face in 2022. Highlights of EST work this year include:

- Preparation of materials and answering of question for our professional audit with KMWF CPA (completed every three years). Also prepared documentation for 2020 tax filing.
- Preparation of documents for board meetings
- Ongoing monthly tasks including membership renewals, bills, accounts maintenance/reconciliation, etc.
- Administered annual election of new SDLA officers
- Supported the work of the President and Executive Team in preparing for 2021 Virtual Conference.

As of September 2020, SDLA had 359 personal members, 34 institutional members and 6 subscriptions. As of September 2021, SDLA had 326 personal members, 30 institutional members, and 4 subscriptions.

**Accounts:**

*As of 9/8/2021*

Wells Fargo: $9110.41 Checking, $7022.10 Savings.

*As of 6/30/2021*

Ameriprise Financial Flexible CD: $14,790.87
Ameriprise CD: $18,829.41  
As of 9/25/2021  
SDLA Leon Raney Endowment Fund: $111,633.30

**Report of the *Book Marks* Editor, Kelly Thompson**

I compiled, produced, and distributed last year’s newsletter to members 3 times this year and will do one more issue after the conference for the year. All issues were digital-only. The association still has a USPS bulk mailing permit but we have not used it this year. We’ve saved money on stamps and mailing costs but the major savings have been in printing costs.

This year there is no printed conference booklet; I have put more effort into making the conference website the tool for navigating the event. I have been posting on the SDLA Facebook page/Twitter page with a mix of general library posts, updates on SDLA deadlines and news, and advocacy posts.

The last two issues of *Book Marks* were sent out later than usual; I hope to get on track after the conference. We have had fewer submissions this year and all the issues were shorter than usual. People are busy keeping their libraries going and have less bandwidth for new programming. I am so happy to see everyone on Zoom but I hope we can see each other in person soon.

The next deadline for Book Marks is October 22. I want to encourage section leaders and committee members to send me updates for this issue.

**Recording Secretary – Sean Minkel**

The Executive Board met on the following dates:

- November 18, 2020 (Video Call)
- March 1, 2021 (Video Call)
- April 12, 2021 (Video Call)
- August 23, 2021 (Video Call)
- Will meet September 30, 2021 (SDLA Virtual Conference)

No E-votes were held.

Minutes were recorded for each meeting and updated on the SDLA website upon approval of the Executive Board.

**Support Staff Section – Josh Easter**

Planning for Branch Out 2022 will begin soon. We plan to hold it virtually. The ability for to attend without travel will hopefully allow more support staff across the state to attend. Will work to contact library directors to urge them to encourage participation of their libraries support staff. We also plan to hold more regular meetups via Zoom for the purpose of learning and connection. The mission of the
support staff group continues to be: a) To enhance the professional image and status of South Dakota’s library support staff. b) To further their professional growth through encouraging participation of support staff in library associations, conferences, and continuing education. c) To provide a network for communication to our members and the profession on library support staff issues and trends. d) To network and cooperate with library organizations on local, state, national and international levels. I am thankful for all the help provided by the past Support Staff Section Chair as well as the SDLA board. We will continue to use social media including the Support Staff Facebook page as a tool to inform, encourage, and connect with library staff throughout the state. Let me know any programming ideas or if you would like to present at one of the planned monthly support staff meetups.

**South Dakota Library Association Public/Trustee Section 2021**

**Section Information:**
Chair: Daniel Burniston, Vermillion Public Library  
Vice-Chair: Katherine Eberline

**Children’s Book Awards Committee:**
- Juliet Heltibridle (2023), CHAIR, Public/SDLA
- Heidi Sackreiter (2023), College Lit. Prof., South Dakota State University
- Kathy Schiesl (2023), SDEA
- Karla Bieber (2021), Public/SDLA
- Nichole Herzog (2022), School Admin
- Lisa Martin (2022), Public/SDLA
- Sherry Bauman (2021), At-Large
- Korey Erickson (2022), At-Large
- Thea Teasley (2022), At-Large
- Sheleen Bauer (2021), At-Large
- Samantha Miller (2021), School/SDLA
- Amanda Raiche (2023), At-Large
- Laura Kelly, State Library

**YARP Book Awards Committee:**
- Hoffman, Elizabeth- Chair
- Formanek, Jamie- Secretary
- Light, Jeri- Book Nominations
- Nelson, Wendy- Membership
- Kelly, Laura- SDSL Liaison
- Benvenga, Emily
- Bremmon, Amanda
- Carlson, Jody
- Clayberg, Michelle
- Farrell-Poncelet, Susan
- Gauer, Jayde
Children’s Book Award Committee Report – Juliet Heltibridle:
The Prairie Bud, Prairie Bloom, and Prairie Pasque Children’s Book Awards are sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association. The Prairie Bud award is determined by PreK, K, & 1st grade students. The Prairie Bloom award is determined by 2nd and 3rd grade students, and the Prairie Pasque award is determined by 4th and 5th grade students. Students are asked to submit votes on the South Dakota State Library website for the books which they think deserve to win the awards. Teachers and Librarians are also able to submit sets of votes from their students.

Students in 30 communities participated in the voting during the 2020-2021 school year. There were 6,638 votes cast for Prairie Bud; 4,853 votes for Prairie Bloom; and 2,024 for Prairie Pasque.

Following are the results from the 2020-2021 South Dakota Children’s Book Awards voting:

- Prairie Bud winner: Tiger vs. Nightmare, by Emily Tetri
- Prairie Bloom winner: The Epic Adventures of Huggie & Stick by Drew Daywalt & David Spencer
- Prairie Pasque winner: Bob by Wendy Mass & Rebecca Stead

The Children’s Book Awards Committee held their annual meeting on July 22 by teleconference on Zoom. The committee chose the nominations for the 2022-2023 lists. We have found that meeting online is working well and plan to continue to do so in the future. With SDLA being held virtually in 2021, the team has been working on creating video booktalks for the conference presentation. Last year’s video booktalks
were made available on the SD State Library’s website after conference, and we hope to do the same this year.

The committee has several members leaving the team this year, so new members will need to be recruited for 2022. The following positions are vacant: 1 At-Large member, 1 School Admin, 1 SDEA member, and 1 School/SDLA member.

Section Chair:
- Attended SDLA Executive Committee Meetings.
- Local SDPB person contacted the chair for ideas about sharing information about their new signature segment exploring the literary heritage of South Dakota with Lori Walsh. Almost all of their literary coverage is about new books with living authors. They were looking to connect with SD Libraries for other title ideas. A possible conference session proposal was turned into an opening keynote presentation by Lori Walsh.
- Section chair worked with Children’s Book Award Chair to fill upcoming vacant positions throughout the year.
- Assisted Kara Vehr, VP for the Academic/ Health/Special Libraries section, with suggestions for a poster session judge from a public library.
- Assisted with questions throughout the year as people reached out.

Sincerely,
Daniel Burniston
Public Library/Trustee Chair

MPLA Representative – Nita Gill

MPLA was supposed to join the Utah Library Association for its annual meeting, but voted to leave the conference once ULA decided to go virtual. Instead MPLA held a Virtual Conference on April 29th. I was able to attend the Lightning Talks and MPLA Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation. The next MPLA joint conference is planned for August 3-6, 2022 with the Montana Library Association and the Pacific Northwest Library Association.

The MPLA Board met over Zoom December 11, 2020, February 22, April 30, and July 14.

I sent SD library news to the MPLA Newsletter editor throughout the year.

The Leadership Institute got delayed again. The LI committee is planning towards a fall 2022 or Spring 2023 Leadership Institute. MPLA is also in the process of hiring a new Leadership Institute Coordinator.

My term as MPLA Rep ends at the end of the 2021 SDLA Conference. Melanie Argo will be the new MPLA Rep.

SDLA Professional Development Grants Committee – Brenda Hemmelman

As of September 19, the Professional Development Grants Committee has received two applications for grants and scholarships. Due to the continuing coronavirus pandemic and conferences/trainings being
canceled or going virtual, numbers are down again. There were no applications for the SDLA conference grants.

The committee awarded available funds as follows:

$450 Professional Development Grant to Jody Carlson of Grant County Library to attend the ARSL Conference in Reno.

$500 Scholarship to Abby Edwardson of Rawlins Municipal Library, Pierre, for MLS studies.

Submitted by Brenda Hemmelman, chair

Committee members:
Dana Schmidt

Public Relations - Lynn Klundt, Chair

Members included Lynn Klundt, Laura Kelly, Jennifer Williams-Curl, Kelly Henkel, and Krista Ohrtman

The committee accepts nominations for SDLA awards and selects the winners. Krista Ohrtman handles the plaques, flowers, and stipends for the awards night. Kelly Henkel helps prepare and distributes press releases regarding awards presented at the annual conference, as well as general convention activities.

We met via Zoom to discuss and vote for the winners of this year’s awards. We had a total of 9 nominations for 5 of the 6 awards the South Dakota Library Association offers. Please consider nominating an individual who works hard to make a difference in a South Dakota Library for future awards.

Intellectual Freedom – Nancy Swenson

- No formal complaints were reported in the last year.
- Nancy Swenson is working on Intellectual Freedom challenge document for committee, then SDLA executive committee, review. Document would provide information on challenges, suggested policies for libraries, and how to report challenges.
- Nancy Swenson is giving a brief Zoom talk to the USD library staff about the committee and current issues with intellectual freedom on Tuesday, September 28.