Legislative Day 2020

Submitted by Kelly Henkel Thompson

Thank you to everyone who put together this year’s Legislative Day and to all who attended. Our lobbyist, Eric Erikson, estimated that turn out was about 80 people — he counted approximately 47 legislators. Throughout this legislative session, Erickson has sent out emails on library-related bills moving through the 2020 session.

SDLA executive board members, SD library employees, and SDLA members spent the morning manning information tables, talking with legislators, and hosting a catered lunch in the Capitol Rotunda.

The afternoon schedule included meetings for the State Library Board, the SDLA board, librarians visiting the House and Senate, and the State Library accreditation ceremony.
FROM SDLA PRESIDENT...
ASHIA GUSTAFSON

As advocates for libraries and our profession, we concentrate our attention on the South Dakota State Legislature in January and February each year. SDLA’s annual Legislative Day is just one opportunity to be an advocate for the profession and for South Dakota’s libraries. This year has been especially active with bills impacting and discussion surrounding libraries and what they do, particularly in regards to the importance of the State Library. Thank you to all who reached out to your representatives and let them know just how important the State Library is to all Libraries across the state.

On February 13th, we met in the Capitol Rotunda for a catered luncheon and to discuss library issues with our legislators. We had a fantastic turnout and some really great conversations. If you were unable to attend this year, please consider coming to Legislative Day next year. Our representatives and senators are more likely to attend if there is someone from their district waiting to speak with them.

An SDLA Executive Board Meeting was also held on February 13, and we discussed the raising of membership dues. Membership dues have not increased since 2012. To combat the inflation of conference costs, including bringing in well-known and engaging speakers, the Board has agreed that the best way to generate more revenue is to raise membership dues. This way we will not have to raise the admission price for Conference. The board voted to raise dues by 15 percent, rounded to the next whole dollar, except for student memberships, whose dues would be $21 and all would automatically get a dual membership to SDLA and ALA. This will need to be voted on and approved by the general membership at the general meeting on Friday, October 2. Comments regarding this proposed change can be brought to the next executive board meeting which is scheduled for Monday, April 27, at 3:00 pm. This is a teleconference meeting and the call-in information will be posted prior to the meeting.

Looking forward, 2020 Conference preparations have begun and are in full swing! This year we will once again have the opportunity to gather in Aberdeen. Our theme this year is Libraries Lead. Program proposals will be accepted beginning in March, so start brainstorming ideas now!

—Ashia Gustafson
FROM THE LIBRARY ISSUES CHAIR...

ELIZABETH FOX

The Library Issues Committee of the South Dakota Library Association hosted Library Legislative Day on Thursday, February 13. Despite the brutally cold weather in the east and snow in the west, we had a good turnout of librarians (Brookings was -22° when I left at 5:30 am). We served 250 sandwiches to legislators, librarians, and those who work with the legislature. The primary topic of discussion with legislators was the State Library and the necessity of keeping it intact. We talked about what the library does for the state of South Dakota and all of its citizens by working with local school, public, academic, and special libraries. This discussion came about because there were questions about the State Library and the number of staff at the Department of Education Appropriations Committee hearing and again at the confirmation hearing for Secretary of Education, Ben Jones. If you see your local legislators, please make sure you tell them how important the State Library is to you and your customers. For talking points, see the Library Legislative Day page (https://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/page/Advocacy).

On the federal front, the President’s proposed budget again eliminates the Institute of Museum and Library Services which provides grants to states for library services. South Dakota gets $1.1 million which covers the databases the State Library provides for all SD citizens, the SD Share It program, the courier system and other services we all rely on. Check out the IMLS 5-Year plan on the State Library webpage (https://library.sd.gov/SDSL/PUBL/DOC/PLN-LSTA-5YR-20182022.pdf).

Please watch for e-mails about issues that affect libraries in this state and contact your legislators to express your opinion on those issues. You can find out who your legislators are and how to contact them: State - https://sdlegislature.gov/Legislators/Who_Are_My_Legislators/default.aspx?Session=2018; Federal Senators - https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm; Federal Representatives - https://www.house.gov/representatives/.

Elizabeth Fox, Library Issues Committee Chair

Library Institute 2020 is May 31-June 5 at Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Spend a week in the dorms and get to know your fellow library professionals from all over the state. This year we are learning about Open Data resources, Fake News, Google Scholar, marketing, media and resources available from the South Dakota State Library.

Registration is open February 1 to March 5, 2020.

https://library.sd.gov/LIB/DEV/INST/2020/

This year’s instructors are: Kathleen Sullivan, Lynn Klundt, Ashia Gustafson, Jarad McEntaffer, Sarah Jones-Lutter, Brenda Hemmelman, Nina Mentzel, and Alissa Adams.

If you have questions please contact Kathleen Slocum at the South Dakota State Library. Kathleen.slocum@ststate.sd.us
1) Librarians gather on the Rotunda steps
2) Elizabeth Fox (SDSU) and Kathleen Slocum (SD State Library)
3) SDLA statistics table toppers
4) State Library info table
5) Ashia Gustafson (Brookings Public, SDLA Pres) and Audrea Buller (Lennox Community, SDLA EST)
6) Librarians getting ready for the luncheon
7) Librarians talking to legislators
FROM THE MPLA REP...
NITA GILL

MPLA takes a break from conference in 2020 as they transition to a spring conference schedule. The next joint conference will be with the Utah Library Association in 2021 – with the dates and Utah location to be announced soon.

Did you know you can post your library’s job postings to the MPLA Jobline Listings? You can post to this job listing for free because you are in one of the 12 states in the MPLA region. All you have to do is send the listing (Word, PDF, email) to webmaster@mpla.us.

You can find the job listings and more info here - https://mpla.us/services/jobline/

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY NEWS

The State Library reports that in “2019, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that South Dakota would receive nearly $10 million of the money authorized by Congress to expand broadband infrastructure in rural America.” These funds went to assist a major provider within our state. However, additional federal and state funds may be available again in the very near future.

Our public libraries need to be informed and need to be ready. Does your community (public library) need high speed internet? Is your internet currently unstable or unreliable? Please have a discussion with your library board and with your city/county officials. Make your case for what your library needs now and in the future.

Your entire community may need high speed internet or perhaps the local public library has just been overlooked and in need of an upgrade. DSL access is no longer acceptable for our school, academic, and public libraries. Give the State Library a call if you have questions or concerns. The SDSL is trying to assist local public libraries with information to be prepared for opportunists to come.

Daria Bossman, State Librarian

On December 19, 2019, Dennis Johnson, Deputy Director Denver/Dallas Region, presented a certificate to Daria Bossman, South Dakota State Librarian, following a meeting at the State Library in Pierre, S.D. The US Census recognizes organizations and state agencies which have made a significant contribution to the efforts of the 2020 US Census.

Resources and available positions are located at http://census.gov or at https://2020census.gov/en/partners/outreach-materials.html
SOUTH DAKOTA POETRY SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Submitted by Kelly Thompson and Norma C. Wilson, Secretary, South Dakota State Poetry Society

The South Dakota Poetry Society has reported that libraries are letting their subscriptions to *Pasque Petals* lapse. The Society stopped using EBSCO services; now that libraries must subscribe directly to the association they have found that libraries are not renewing. Please take the extra step to support South Dakota’s poetry society.

The SDSPS was incorporated as a non-profit organization on August 8, 1970, and its mission is:

“To encourage and foster the writing and publication of poetry by South Dakota writers and to promote excellence therein; to arouse in students of high school and college age, interest in the creative writing of poetry; to foster or publish *Pasque Petals*, a magazine, on a regular basis, thereby continuing the publication which was begun before the Society was organized, which publication is devoted chiefly to poetry, to stimulate by such proper means as the sponsoring of contests, awarding of prizes, and by other means of encouragement, the writing of poetry; and by these means to aid in the cultural growth of South Dakota.”

*Pasque Petals* is the oldest official poetry journal in continuous publication sponsored by a state poetry society within the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. This literary journal, which began as a mimeographed monthly publication, has grown to two annual professionally printed editions that exhibit poetry in a wide variety of forms that illustrate the emotional and intellectual insights of our regional, national, and international contributors. In addition to *Pasque Petals*, in 2010, board members decided to realize the society’s mission in a new way by sponsoring a chapbook contest and publishing the winner in order to foster and highlight a larger body of work by South Dakota poets.

In 2015 the SDSPS placed its considerable archives in the Hilton M. Briggs Library at South Dakota State University for care and to make them accessible to the public in perpetuity.

The SDSPS Board of Directors meets three times a year, in January, June, and in September during the South Dakota Humanities Council’s annual South Dakota Festival of the Book. SDSPS volunteers facilitate the poetry track at the Festival each year.

The SDSPS organizes and supports poetry readings and events across the state, in schools, communities and prisons, and hosts a website: www.sdpoetry.org. Our work reflects our mission statement: “For the purpose of connecting to all South Dakota writers, rural and urban, and contributing to the state’s cultural growth, SDSPS seeks to foster the creation and appreciation of poetry that appeals to the senses, challenges the imagination, and stimulates creative and intellectual thought.”

When your library becomes a member of the poetry society they receive *Pasque Petals* and a copy of the annual chapbook.

To subscribe: http://sdpoetry.org/south-dakota-state-poetry-society-membership/
Press Release

WASHINGTON, DC—Crosby Kemper III takes the helm of the Institute of Museum and Library Services as its sixth director today, following his commission by the White House on January 24 and confirmation by the United States Senate on January 10. IMLS, an independent government agency, is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s museums and libraries.

“On a daily basis, our libraries and museums bridge, unify, and inspire communities throughout the nation,” said Kemper. “I’m honored to have the opportunity to lead the Institute of Museum and Library Services and help ensure that everyone in the United States, wherever located, has access to essential museum, library, and information services.”

The IMLS director position is a four-year term alternatively held by individuals with special competence in the library field and those with expertise in museum services. Kemper succeeds Dr. Kathryn K. Matthew, who served as director from 2015 to 2020.

Kemper is a dedicated advocate for education and learning for people of all ages and backgrounds. He comes to IMLS from the Kansas City Public Library, where as director, he established the library as one of the city’s leading cultural destinations and a hub of community engagement.

Under his direction, the library made special event programming a high-profile focus, with more than half a million people attending its evening programs or visiting exhibits in the art galleries. During his tenure, the Kansas City Public Library received multiple awards, including IMLS’s National Medal for Museum and Library Service in 2008.

Kemper also recently served as chair of the board of directors of the Schools, Health, & Libraries Broadband Coalition, which supports open, affordable broadband connections for local community organizations.

Kemper’s career began in banking; he most recently served as CEO of UMB Financial Corporation. Kemper has received the Difference Maker Award from the Urban League of Kansas City, the William F. Yates Medallion for Distinguished Service from William Jewell College, and the 2010 Harmony Humanitarian Hoffman Legacy Award. His board service has included the Kansas City Symphony, the Black Archives of Mid-America, Union Station Kansas City, and the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival.

Kemper is the editor of and a contributor to Winston Churchill: Resolution, Defiance, Magnanimity, Good Will, published by the University of Missouri Press. He holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Yale University.

TO DO: Remember to write an email or call Dusty Johnson to urge him to sign the Dear Appropriator Letter and oppose cuts to library funding.

For a fourth consecutive year, the White House budget proposal eliminates direct federal funding for libraries via IMLS.

Visit ALA http://cqrcengage.com/ala/app/take-action?engagementId=506273 for an easy form.
WEGNER HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

Submitted by Kara L. Vehar

October was Medical Library/Librarian appreciation month, and Wegner Health Sciences Library in Sioux Falls celebrated with an Open House. Patrons played Plinko for prizes, enjoyed fresh-popped popcorn, participated in chair yoga, and caught a glimpse of Skellie, the library mascot, in its Halloween costume. Patrons were able to vote via social media to help decide what Skellie would wear for Halloween. We recently updated the first-floor and changed our name from Information Center to Health Sciences Library. The Open House provided an opportunity for visitors to see the new, adaptable furniture admire our new logo and to take a tour and hear about further renovations.

Wegner Health Sciences Library is part of the University of South Dakota Libraries. It is the only medical library in the state of South Dakota and serves the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, USD School of Health Sciences, and several partner groups including SDSU Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy & Allied Health, University of Sioux Falls College of Nursing, Mount Marty College’s Nurse Anesthesia program, and several hospitals. We are open to the public to help provide health related information. Wegner Library’s mission is to provide relevant information that supports healthcare practice, education, and research.
RAWLINS MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
PARKINGLOT GETS A FACELIFT

Submitted by Robin M. Schrupp

Rawlins Municipal Library in Pierre has given the customer parking lot a much needed facelift! With the larger vehicles the public drives today, the Library’s circle drive was a bit too tight, especially during busier times. The middle island was reduced by 6 ft., the “bump out” curve was eased, and 9 additional parking spaces were added to the west side of the driveway. Our patrons have enjoyed the easier access and additional maneuverability. Some young trees were relocated as well, and a new, wider entry sidewalk was added.

Phase II of the parking lot remodel is scheduled to be completed in 2021. Phase II will add parking on the north side of the building.

RAPID CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
STAIRCASE GETS EDUCATIONAL UPDATE

Submitted by Terri Davis

The staircase at Rapid City Public Library’s downtown location got a new educational look – numbers in English and Lakota! Library staff had noticed children counting the stairs as they climbed, so the numbers were added to promote literacy and advance Lakota language learning for both children and adults alike. Staff created the letters on the vinyl cutter in the library’s CHAOS Makerspace and installed them on the stair risers. The community has already embraced the stairs with positive feedback and social media posts, and even the local news media reported on the library’s latest cross-generational educational endeavor.
The library at John Harris Elementary in Sioux Falls, SD is now home to a book vending machine named Inchy.

The Argus Leader published an article that highlighted the machine's tie to literacy at John Harris Elementary. I reached out to teacher-librarian Stefanie Hage with the hopes of gathering more details about this fun addition. Perhaps, you'll be inspired to acquire your own machine or perhaps you'll take away one of the neat embedded ideas that make this a dynamic addition to the library and to school-wide literacy efforts.

Read on to learn more from Hage:

Inchy came to be when a teacher found the idea and our principal, Mrs. Dobberpuhl, shared it with me. From there, several staff members started collaborating to bring this idea to our school. We spent a lot of time developing a plan to share and engage with students and staff. Together, we designed posters, made video clips, and created codes for cracking that gave clues to students. We also worked together to put an initial book order together to fill up Inchy. This development process was a great way to build relationships and work together for a common goal.

The machine itself was purchased with fundraising dollars. I also wrote and received a Sioux Falls Community Foundation Grant to fund books that go into the machine. These books become students' personal books as they earn them for displaying positive behaviors. In the future, we will rely on donations and PTO support. As a librarian, I use my expertise in resource selection to continually purchase books for the machine that are high interest, vary in genre and text level, and connect to all students in a K–5 setting.

In order to continually engage and build relationships with students, I started the Inchy Support Team that consists of students in 1st-5th grades. The team members take turns maintaining Inchy. They help stock and organize books, clean and prep the machine, cut and hang award certificates, and label books. The team also recommends books and distribute gold coins to staff for students to earn. For me, this time with students is very valuable as it allows me to further build relationships and provides me with insight for curating book orders and building lessons that students will relate to.
To connect the Inchy behavior incentive to our literacy goals, we have Honorary Hurricane Hero Guest Readers. These special guests are Community Heroes that join us in the library as guest readers. I have been having our guests share out Prairie Bud books such as Margaret and the Moon and Charlotte the Scientist is Squished. Guest readers receive a gold coin, make a book selection as a souvenir, and share about their jobs as well as an inspirational message for our students. So far the SFSD superintendent and a local scientist have joined us. Future guests include a police officer and mayor of Sioux Falls.

I have been in awe of how many people have come to the building to see Inchy. Students have lured in family and friends and even community members have stopped in to check out the buzz. Parents have shared in the excitement too. They’ve sent pictures of their students proudly reading their new book at home using literacy skills that they are developing in the library and the classroom.

The library really is the perfect home for Inchy. It’s an open, inclusive hub in our school. I continuously hear students talking to each other about books, authors, series, genres, peer recommendations, etc... One of the biggest joys of having Inchy in our school is that our students are connecting with one another through books and literacy!

**STATE POET LAUREATE SEEKS POEMS ABOUT CULTURAL LIFE IN SOUTH DAKOTA**

By Christie Delfanian

South Dakota State Poet Laureate Christine Stewart is putting together a book of poetry about South Dakota written by people who have lived in South Dakota for at least five years.

Stewart encourages “anyone with strong ties to South Dakota” to submit one to three by March 1, 2020, along with a brief biography describing the author’s ties to the state. “I have seen great poems from people who have never published a book before,” said Stewart, who will be “looking at what it (the poem) says about our cultural life” as well as “evidence of strong poetic craft.”

The poems in the anthology will speak to cultural life in South Dakota: histories, people, places, landscapes, traditions, languages, habits and attitudes.

Works in the anthology will be selected based on the cultural significance of the subject or theme, the author’s residential ties as well as excellence in craft. Additional information on anthology and selection criteria is available at

“The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy, and community.”
— Paula Poundstone