KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
Submitted by Julie Erikson

This year’s virtual conference features two keynote speakers. Our Thursday opening keynote is Daniel Russell. His keynote is entitled “The Joy of Search: Adventures in teaching people how to do both online and offline research”

Daniel Russell is Google’s Senior Research Scientist for Search Quality and User Happiness in Mountain View. He earned his PhD in computer science, specializing in Artificial Intelligence. These days he realizes that amplifying human intelligence is his real passion. His day job is understanding how people search for information, and the ways they come to learn about the world through Google.

Dan’s current research is to understand how human intelligence and artificial intelligence can work together to better than either as a solo intelligence. Twenty percent of his job is teaching the world to search more effectively. His MOOC, PowerSearchingWithGoogle, is currently hosting over 3,000 learners a week in the course in its new home on the edX platform.

In the past 5 years, 4.5 million students have attended his online search classes. His instructional YouTube videos have a cumulative runtime of over 400 years (24 hours/day; 7 days/week; 365 weeks/year). His new book, The Joy of Search, tells intriguing stories of how to be an effective searcher by going from a curious question to a reliable answer, showing how to do online research with skill and accuracy. [MIT Press bio]

Of his keynote, Russel says, “I’ve been teaching people how to be more effective online researchers for the past decade. In that time, I’ve taught thousands of people (think students, librarians, professional researchers, and just plain folks) how to find out what they seek through Google (and many other online resources and tools). Much of that experience went into the making of my blog (SearchResearch) and then my book. Along the way, I’ll talk about my MOOC (PowerSearchingWithGoogle.com), which has had over 4.5M students, my live classes, and various publications in paper, book, and video formats. I can tell you which methods work best, and why.

Buy Dan’s book: The Joy of Search

Continued on Page 3
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Julie Erikson

Do you follow other libraries on Facebook? It’s a great way to get inspired and celebrate all the amazing things that libraries do—summer reading, programs, activities, and more! Even better, it can help us develop those relationships that librarianship thrives around. Another way to develop those relationships is to participate in library associations. The South Dakota Library Association is a great way to meet other librarians, build your professional community and gain new ideas and resources to use in your library. As we fill the committee and officer roles for the coming year, consider contacting a board member and asking how you can be involved. Another way to build those relationships is the annual conference. The annual conference is virtual this year—if you need financial support to take off the day and attend the event, apply for a scholarship. In addition, the sessions will be recorded so you can watch the archives to earn continuing education contact hours or college credit. Submit a poster session to share an idea or project that you’ve done in your library. Our keynotes this year are amazing—Daniel M. Russell, Google Research Scientist, is a fascinating speaker on Google and finding information who wrote The Joy of Search. Lori Walsh, SDPB will be sharing stories from South Dakota Bookshelf and finally, the Hotdog Man, I mean, former Conductor of the Hogwarts Express in ‘The Wizarding World of Harry Potter’, I mean, Chris Heady, will be sharing resources for providing engaging content interspersed with great applicable ideas for all library types.

Julie

LETTER FROM THE MPLA REP

Nita Gill

Congratulations to Brenda Hemmelman on being elected as Vice-President/President-Elect for the 2021-22 term! It will be wonderful to have another South Dakota librarian as President of MPLA.

We had two South Dakotans win MPLA Awards this year. Congratulations to Julie Erickson on receiving the MPLA Innovator Award. She is a Learning Specialist with TIE. This award is given “to recognize an up-and-coming individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region for a creative, inventive, trail-blazing project that has significance to the library community”. And Linda M. Hasselstrom received the MPLA Literary Contribution Award. This award is given “to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region.” Hasselstrom is a poet, writes non-fiction, and conducts a writing retreat. Both awards are well deserved! The awards were presented at the MPLA Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation during the MPLA Virtual Conference on April 29th. You can learn more about the MPLA Awards here - https://mpla.us/services/awards/.
Our Wednesday evening speaker is SDPB’s Lori Walsh. Her talk is "South Dakota Bookshelf".

South Dakota librarians will recognize Walsh as the host of SDPB Radio’s *In the Moment*, the live news and issues program on weekdays from noon to 1 pm. *In the Moment* features authentic conversations with newsmakers, scholars, artists, and everyday South Dakotans. We bring you world-class radio storytelling featuring the highest journalistic integrity.

Walsh worked as a freelance journalist for the Sioux Falls *Argus Leader* and as a Humanities Scholar for the South Dakota Humanities Council.

Walsh is a graduate of Sioux Falls Lincoln High School and Augustana University’s journalism program. She is a writer, blogger, photographer, poet, and member of the National Book Critics Circle and Society for Children’s Book Writers & Illustrators. Walsh also served in the United States Marine Corps for six years, working as a cryptologic Korean linguist. [SDPB bio]

In her keynote, Walsh will talk about her radio series "South Dakota Book Shelf". The series dives into our literary heritage with a look at the state’s iconic, lesser-known, and even quirky literary offerings. For each episode, Walsh talks with readers about books that have changed the way they see their state, their world, or themselves.

Episode One featured SDPB’s Seth Tupper talking about what he found inside the pages of a dusty library book that informed his knowledge about the places he hikes today. (Ambrose Bierce and the Black Hills by Paul Fatout, available at the Rapid City Library.)

Keep up with Lori Walsh at the blog, *In the Margins*.

For the closing keynote, we welcome Chris Heady. Heady is an Artist, Actor, Puppeteer, Filmmaker, and Dreamer currently working for the Outreach Department for Carrol County Public Library in Maryland. He was recently elected to serve on the Board for the Puppeteers of America.

He’s a former Associate Digital Puppeteer (voice of the Reese’s Peanut Butter Cup) for The Hershey Company. He received his Digital Puppetry training from The Jim Henson Company. He’s also portrayed The Conductor of the Hogwarts Express in ‘The Wizarding World of Harry Potter’ and Puppeteered for Walt Disney World.

Heady is the recipient of both a 2019 Workshop Grant from The Jim Henson Foundation and a 2019 Rose Endowment Fund through The Puppeteers of America for his upcoming Stage Play adaptation of ‘The Custer Wolf’.

For the closing Keynote, Heady is presenting "Producing Engaging Content". With more libraries producing online programming, it’s essential for librarians to stand out on social media by generating content that is engaging, dynamic, and relevant to their community. Chris Heady is an award-winning storyteller with a background in the Entertainment Arts. Having previously worked for Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, and The Hershey Company Chris, has a fresh perspective on how librarians can engage online audiences, retain public interest, and grow a loyal fanbase.

Get ready to be inspired, discover indie filming techniques/best practices, and embrace your inner funny bone!
STATE LIBRARY
RECOGNIZES 21ST
CENTURY SCHOOL
LIBRARIES

Press Release

The South Dakota State Library has announced the 2021 recipients of the 21st Century School Library Award. The 21st Century School Library Award recognizes school libraries as Effective, Enhanced or Exemplary, based on performance in three areas: place (which refers to the learning environment, both physical and online), programming and the professional. Applicants conduct a self-assessment and provide evidence of their ability to meet South Dakota’s guidelines for school libraries. Award status is valid for a three-year period.

EUROPEAN VACATION

Submitted by Kevin Kenkel

In May and June 2022 I will lead a group tour to Europe with a focus on visiting beautiful libraries. Due to COVID-19, we had to postpone in 2020 and 2021 (hopefully the third time’s a charm). The tour will include visiting a number of other sites as well. This will be a 12-day trip departing from Sioux Falls, SD, but you can arrange with the travel company to fly from a different city.

The itinerary for the trip includes:
- Paris (two days) – National Library of France, Notre Dame, Latin Quarter, Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Champs-Elysees, Versailles, plus other sites
- Zurich, Switzerland – city tour plus a couple of other sites
- Ulm, Germany – visiting the Abbey Library of St. Galen en route and the Wiblingen Abbey Library in Ulm, Albert Einstein’s birthplace
- Salzburg, Austria – (en-route visit Neuschwanstein Castle) Mozart’s birthplace, Sound of Music sites
- Vienna, Austria – (en-route visit Melk Monastery library [see above photo]) Austrian National Library, Parliament, Opera House, St. Stephen’s Cathedral, other sites, possible Mozart concert
- Prague, Czech Republic – Strahov Monastery library, Clementinum National Library, Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral

The tour will take place May 28 - June 8, 2022. The current price for the trip is $5,523 if you sign up by September 29, 2021. This pricing is for travelers flying from Sioux Falls. After that, the price increases $300. Signing up sooner allows participants to spread the payments out over more months. When you decide to sign up for the tour make sure to use to voucher code “Europe22” to receive the $300 discount prior to September 30.

Included in the price are air and ground transportation, double-occupancy hotel rooms, two meals per day (breakfast and dinner), and professional tour guides.

For more information please visit the tour website: www.explorica.com/Kenkel-7721. On this site there are links with more information about some of the places we’ll see in each city. If you decide to join us you can click on the “sign up now” button in the right-hand column to register for the trip.

This trip is not just for librarians. Anyone who loves libraries is invited to join the tour. Spouses and children (16 and older) are welcome. If you know of someone who may consider this trip feel free to share this information.

If you have any questions please contact Kevin Kenkel at kekenkel@gmail.com.

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<tr>
<th>School library</th>
<th>Award status</th>
<th>Librarian(s)</th>
<th>Administrator(s)</th>
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<td>Kris O’Brien</td>
<td>Brad Brandsrud</td>
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WEBSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY PROMOTES EARLY CHILDHOOD READING

Submitted by Teri Ewalt

The Webster Public Library has started a new program called "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten". This program was possible through the Stephanie Miller-Davis grant.

Knox, the grandson of the Webster Public Library Head Librarian, Terri Ewalt, was the first one to sign up for the program. There are certainly perks to having a Librarian Grandma.

The library will display pictures of the young readers as they advance through the program. An attractive display shows off an array of reading choices.

Knox begins his 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Journey

BRIGGS RELAXES COVID MEASURES

Submitted by Mary Kraljic

Following the SD Board of Regents ending the mask mandate for all campus buildings, the Briggs Library at SDSU took steps this week to adjust the procedures that we put in place when the library reopened last July.

One significant step was to end a 72-hour quarantine of all returned loans and incoming interlibrary loan materials. We’re still working behind plexiglass, still using touchless check-outs, still washing our hands, and still sanitizing high-touch surfaces, but we’re all breathing a little easier!

Debi McCuin uses a touchless check-out process to lend books to SDSU grad student Spencer Kappenman.

2021 SDLA ACADEMIC, HEALTH SCIENCES, AND SPECIAL LIBRARIES CALL FOR POSTERS

Deadline for submission: Monday, August 2nd
Submit your idea to Kara Velkare
kvelkare@gmail.com
Notification of acceptance: Monday, August 9th

Share your ideas and innovations at the 2021 SDLA conference. All types of libraries are welcome to submit poster proposals. The presenter of the best poster will receive a $50 gift card from Amazon.
SDLA ELECTIONS:  
VP/PRESIDENT ELECT

Hello, I'm Jamie Formanek. I started working in libraries in 2009 at Watertown Regional Library. I worked there all through my high school years and loved every second of it. I went off to college and got my Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics at SDSU.

After job hunting, there was an amazing opportunity for the Young Adult Librarian position back where I started at Watertown Regional Library. I have been working as the Young Adult Librarian for almost four years and trying my best to keep teens engaged at the library.

I want to run for office to challenge myself and to bring the excitement of teens to SDLA.

As VP/President Elect of SDLA I would love to implement large scale get togethers where we can chat about ideas librarians are excited about, programs they have implemented, and what is happening in each library. I think it would be a fun and exciting way to share not just programming ideas, but knowledge through multiple fields to help our libraries grow and serve our communities better.

This could be YOU! If you are interested in running for office and shaping the future of your professional organization, reach out to Kim Bonen, chair of the nominating committee at kim.bonen@state.sd.us. Kim can discuss the position and where you might fit in for this or other SDLA roles.

The term of office for VP/President-Elect is one year, beginning at the conclusion of the annual conference and ending at the time he/she takes over as President. The President’s term is one year.

Duties include: appointing committee chairs who will work closely with the VP/Pres Elect during their time as President and presiding over SDLA meetings in the absence of the President.

As the Chair of the Membership Committee, the person in this role deals with the fiscal and membership concerns of the Association.

The VP/President-Elect gets to approve the annual conference contract two years in advance, draft the Association budget for the forthcoming year, and assume the office of President should a vacancy occur.

Your Association President for next year is Shari Theroux--she has been busy all year learning from Julie Erikson and will guide the next (maybe you?) VP/President-Elect to be ready to take over the mantle.

Register now at sdlibraryassociation.org
Hello! I’m Elizabeth Hoffman, a director for Emporia State University’s School of Library and Information Management. I work remotely as an academic advisor with students seeking a Master of Library Science degree online.

I’ve been working in the library science field for a little over 20 years, first as an undergraduate work-study student at Northern State University’s Beulah Williams Library and later for Siouxland Libraries in Sioux Falls. The mentorship I received from the librarians at NSU inspired me to pursue an MLIS from the University of North Texas after I finished my education degree in history and social sciences. I’m so glad they helped me find my way into this profession!

I love helping connect people with their information needs and introducing them to the wide range of resources and services that libraries have to offer. Meeting people where they are to provide equitable access to information in a welcoming way has been the focus of my library philosophy. As a member of SDLA, MPLA, and ALA I have been able to develop my view of librarianship through continuing education and participation in committee work. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in more remote opportunities to participate in events for those of us living in smaller states, and I have become more involved in ALA during this time.

In recent years, membership and participation has decreased in our professional library associations, and maintaining these connections is important for us as librarians. The ability to meet through remote methods has increased and we can use this shift to encourage more people to become actively involved. I am experienced at working with people remotely and know how important regular communication is to keep people informed. I am running for this office so that I can support greater participation in both SDLA and ALA for people wanting to participate. I would like to keep people informed about what is happening on a national level and support library workers throughout South Dakota.

SDLAs Elections: ALA Councilor

I am Danielle De Jager-Loftus, Associate Professor, University Libraries, University of South Dakota. I am running for ALA Councilor because I feel it is important to give back to the library profession.

It is both a privilege and an honor to serve SDLA and ALA because both organizations have been an integral part of my professional development. I am Associate Professor and Fine Arts Liaison and Technology Librarian at the University of South Dakota. The most rewarding part of my job is working with students, staff, faculty, and all of you! I always enjoy getting to know library folks in South Dakota and hearing about what they are working on. I have taught with the State Library at the School Library Boot Camp, Library Training Institute, and as an adjunct for BHSU Library Media Minor and Endorsement courses.

As a member of SDLA since 2004, I was fortunate to serve as Vice President/President-Elect (2015-2017), as chair of the Academic/Health/Special Section (2012-14), and as a member of the Professional Development Committee (2011-2016). I was a 2012 SDLA representative to the MPLA Leadership Institute. In addition to SDLA, I have chaired committees for MPLA (Membership Committee, 2013-2015), and ALA (Digital Technologies and the Arts Committee, 2012-2013) and I have been a member of the IFLA/International Federation of Libraries Association since 2013. I believe strongly in advocating for libraries throughout the world and I welcome the opportunity to work with ALA as a chapter councilor. I will work to share the needs and concerns of SD libraries and I will make it a priority to share communication and feedback about ALA’s activities and initiatives to SD libraries. I believe it is vital for SDLA members to have the information and resources they need to actively participate and effectively advocate for their library.
David Alexander

After completing my MLIS, I briefly held a temporary reference library position at the C. T. Ryan Library (University of Nebraska at Kearney) before coming to South Dakota.

Then, in 1999, I moved to Brookings for a position as the Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian at the H. M. Briggs Library (SDSU). I attended my first SDLA Conference that year, where Mike Mullin introduced me to MPLA. I have been a member in both associations ever since, along with others such as ALA and the AILA (American Indian Library Association). My time in Brookings was followed by a move to Vermillion in 2006 for a similar position at USD’s I.D. Weeks Library. The subsequent 15 years saw a lot of changes in the USD libraries and my position evolved along with them. Reference, instruction, and subject specialist duties have always been part of my job, but I also have worked with and supervised serials and interlibrary loan operations and worked with a group of colleagues on resource management.

I decided on a career working in libraries because I enjoy helping people and have always loved libraries. I would like to serve as the connection between the SDLA community and the MPLA community. As the MPLA representative, I would provide SDLA members information on opportunities available through MPLA and provide MPLA members information on happenings in SDLA. I would work to build community and strengthen both organizations.

I believe the MPLA community is large enough to represent a diversity of interests, while small enough to easily connect and benefit from. As we come out of the Covid-19 pandemic connecting and reconnecting with people has never been more important. MPLA is a larger community of librarians who make it easier to find librarians that share similar interests and experiences. As we continue to explore what the new normal will be, MPLA provides a great venue for exchanging ideas. I would love to serve as the connection between our two organizations.

Melanie Argo

When I headed off to Dakota State (DSU) in 2004, I was unsure of my future path. I received Work Study and immediately reached out to the library as an option because I knew I wanted to be in place that was encouraging as a student and growing as a person.

My supervisor and mentor Shannon saw potential and fostered my love of librarianship through different tasks at the library. The Karl Mundt Library became my second home on campus and by the second year, I was the right-hand person for interlibrary loan. It was this time and interaction with librarians that helped me choose my career.

In my final year at DSU, a part-time position opened at the Madison Public Library, and with the encouragement of Shannon, I applied and have not looked back. In 2013, I received my master’s degree from the University of North Texas with the assistance of the Institute of Museum and Library Services Laura Bush grant program and am currently the Systems Librarian at the where my focus is on the ILS, marketing programs as well as resources on various platforms, and cataloging. Those closest to me though would say what does she not have a hand in with the library. I am a SDLA and MPLA member, serve as the MPLA’s newsletter editor, and the Friends of Madison Public Library liaison.

Personally, I enjoy connecting with patrons, building the relationship and being that go-to person for their information needs. I get a sense of accomplishment and triumph when the light bulb goes on while I’m patiently helping someone. Many times, patrons are apologetic for having to need assistance and I always reassure them that learning is a process and if I need to help twenty times for them to get it on their own that 21st time, that is what I am here to do. I have even made house calls to aid in the learning process.

I chose to run to be the SD MPLA representative because of the importance of the connection between the associations. We support each other in the sharing of ideas, opportunities for growth, and relationships within the profession. Though library settings may be different, what we face day to day is similar and that connection spurs on learning among each other and for the betterment of our communities at home.
In January of 2021, our library launched a subscription book box service for teens and adults. The best part? It’s 100% free. The concept came from the YALSA Online Conference where Worthington Libraries and Hinsdale Public Library hosted a session called “Thinking Inside the Teen Book Box.”

Just like any paid subscription box, we started with boxes! We found boxes that fit all different sizes of books. Each box has one book selected by staff, one trinket and varying candy inside. Unlike paid subscriptions, the book and the box are expected to be returned on their due dates.

Each subscription cycle lasts four months. When registering, patrons indicate their three favorite books and any additional things they like or hate about books. Our library staff collaborate to help match the patron to a book they might enjoy. We are on our third month and have given out 28 boxes. The program is still growing, as we already have four additional signups for April.

Prairie Bud:
1st Place: *Tiger Vs. Nightmare* by Emily Tetri
2nd Place: *Don’t Blink!* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
3rd Place: *We Don’t Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins

Prairie Bloom:
1st Place: *The Epic Adventures of Huggie & Stick* by Drew Daywalt
2nd Place: *Once Upon a Slime* by Andy Maxwell
3rd Place: *Sparks!* by Ian Boothby & Nina Matsumoto

Prairie Pasque:
1st Place: *Bob* by Wendy Mass
2nd Place: *Countdown: 2979 Days to the Moon* by Suzanne Slade
3rd Place: *Dragon Pearl* by Yoon Ha Lee

YARP Middle School Winner:
*The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise* by Dan Gemeinhart
Honor: *Blended* by Sharon M. Draper

YARP High School Winner:
*The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black
Honor: *After the Fire* by Will Hill

Fun with library memes...
by Mikkelsen Library's Ginger Konz
Executive Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary/Treasurer Report as of March 2021

Wells Fargo Savings...........$10,021.80
Wells Fargo Checking........$6,932.21
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$14,687.73*
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$18,702.81*
Raney Endowment.............$104,342.19**

*These balances as of 12/31/2020
**Raney balance is as of last statement, 12/31/2020, ($11,827 avail to spend)

Quick News

- South Dakota State Librarian Daria Bossman has resigned after 13 years heading the State Library. Brenda Hemmelman has moved into the interim role.
- The State Library has a new Braille and Talking Books Department Manager-- Kate Kosior and a new Library Technology Coordinator-- Cheyenne Chontos.
- The State Library is now providing a free program planner. WhoFi helps schedule, manage, and count attendance at programs and events. More info: WhoFi LibGuide

2021 SDLA CONFERENCE
HOW TO MAKE YOURSELF FUTURE-READY IN AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE
Register now: September 29th - October 1st


MPLA Rep.: Nita Gill
Brookings Public Library
NGill@cityofbrookings.org

Academic/Health/Special Section: Lynn Klundt
Beulah Williams Library, Aberdeen
Shari.Theroux@sdstate.edu

School Library Section: Korey Erikson
Sioux Falls Public Schools
korey.erickson@k12.sd.us

Public Library Section: Daniel Burniston,
Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library
daniel.burniston@vermillionpubliclibrary.org

Support Staff Chair: Joshua Easter
SD State Library
Josh.Easter@state.sd.us

Federal Relations Coordinator:
SD State Library

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