AMERICAN DREAM LITERACY GRANT: CREATING OPPORTUNITY IN SIOUX FALLS

Press Release, Contact: Emily Harris, Ronning Branch, Siouxland Libraries

With funds from a 2021 American Dream Literacy Initiative grant, Siouxland Libraries purchased English as a Second Language (ESL) and world language books for deposit collections housed at Lutheran Social Services and Caminando Juntos.

The goal is to increase services for adult English language learners, with a focus on basic education and workforce development. Clients can borrow books without a library card or worrying about fees. That has resulted in a higher than anticipated borrowing rate with extremely low losses.

Some 280 books were purchased with the $5,000 grant, including some to assist English language learners with their GED and resume writing. Adult fiction is also included (reading is fun, after all!), along with a few bilingual picture books that parents and kids can enjoy together. The awards, offered by the American Library Association, are funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Grant monies also paid for translation of library brochures that explain Siouxland Libraries’ services and translation of a page on its website: https://www.siouxlandlib.org/using-the-library.

Niana, an ELL (English Language Learner) student at Lutheran Social Services, is among those who gaining convenient access to library resources right outside her classroom.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shari Theroux

Hello fellow librarians!

The beginning of 2022 is turning out to be disturbingly similar to the last two years. After starting out the year with yet another wave of Covid-19, libraries have again had to make adjustments to the way they do things; some are canceling events or moving them online. As usual, they are handling it gracefully and dealing with last-minute changes well (perhaps from experience?). On that topic, the SDLA board decided to cancel Legislative Day again this year, as the current surge of cases made the event less safe and practical. We are carefully watching legislation that is being presented and working with our lobbyist to make sure our voice is being heard if necessary.

Has your library had any books challenged recently? Libraries are encouraged to have detailed collection development plans in case they should need to defend books in their collection. If you haven’t reviewed your policy lately, now may be a good time as these sorts of challenges seem to be becoming more frequent.

On a more positive note, we are going ahead with having the LIVE conference in Brookings September 26-28, and planning for that is moving forward. I don’t have any speakers to announce yet (coming soon!) but I do think there will be something of interest to everyone. The conference will be held at the Swiftel Center, right off I-29, and very close to many hotels and restaurants in Brookings. More details including hotels and menu options will be available on the SDLA website soon. The theme of 2022’s conference is “Resilience and Reinvention” and seems quite fitting for these current days!

Along with attending the SDLA conference, there are a lot of professional development opportunities available online, many of them free of charge. Signing up for library listservs and watching sites like ALA and ACRL are good ways to find these opportunities. Many are even available on-demand so you can watch a recording if the time and day don’t work for you.

Shari
LETTER FROM THE ALA COUNCILOR

Danille

Since I have been elected the ALA Councilor for SDLA I have been looking into what a Councilor does. In January I attended several virtual training sessions for Chapter Councilor Orientation. Last month I also attended the virtual ALA Information Sessions and Virtual Governance meetings. Councilors voted to change the wording in the bylaws to make the Advisory Council an advisory body to the Board of Directors (also known as the ALA Executive Board which is the ALA’s Governing Body). The goal is to have more representation and discussion from more people.

Upcoming Events
- The next Membership meeting is virtual and it is Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 1pm Central https://www.al.org/membership/vmm. This meeting connects members and provides an avenue for input on strategic direction, budget priorities, and topics of interest.
- If you are an ALA member, one of your member benefits is to vote for the Association’s future member leaders. The 2022 election is an important opportunity for your voice to be heard. The 2022 ALA Election will open March 14, 2022 and will run through April 6, 2022. If you are wondering who is running for office, find that information here: https://www.al.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection

Intellectual Freedom News
One thing I like to check out each week is the Intellectual Freedom News. It is a free weekly compilation of news by the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom including:
- current book challenges in libraries and schools
- articles about privacy, internet filtering, and censorship
- ALA activities, conferences and institutes, products, online learning opportunities, awards and grants, international exchanges, and more
- how to get involved and make the most of what ALA offers

Here are some highlights from the February 4, 2022, Office for Intellectual Freedom (ALA) news:
- Book ban efforts spread across the U.S. | New York Times; “Aggressively policing books for inappropriate content and banning titles could limit students’ exposure to great literature, including towering canonical works. “If you focus on five passages, you’ve got obscenity,” Deborah Caldwell-Stone said. “If you broaden your view and read the work as a whole, you’ve got Toni Morrison’s ‘Beloved.’”

Efforts to ban critical race theory now restrict teaching for a third of America’s kids | Education Week.
LIBRARY ISSUES COMMITTEE  
*Submitted by Jamie Formanek*

SDLA has an open position on the Library Issues committee.

The position is a one-year commitment that would complete the remaining term of someone who is leaving early.

If you are interested in the position please contact Jamie at jformanek@watertowns.d.us

ACADEMIC/HEALTH SCIENCES/SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION VICE-CHAIR  
*Submitted by Jamie Formanek*

The Academic/Health Sciences/Special Libraries Section is looking for someone to fill the Vice-Chair position. Please contact Kara Vehar for details Kara.Vehar@usd.edu

SDLA ELECTIONS: CALL FOR CANDIDATES!  
*Submitted by Sandy Biewer*

Are you interested in running for office or do you know of a colleague who would be excellent in the role? Serving on the SDLA Executive Board is a great way to build connections and support your professional organization!

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for Vice President/President-Elect and Recording Secretary.

VP/President-Elect’s duties include approving the annual conference contract two years in advance, chairing the Membership Committee, and drafting the annual SDLA budget. Term of office is one year as Vice President and one year as President.

Recording Secretary is a two-year term. This office holder attends all Executive Board meetings and participates in its deliberations, prepares official minutes of the annual conference and each Board meeting, and updates Bylaws and Procedural Manuals when action is taken.

Please contact Nominating Committee chair Sandy Biewer at sandra.biewer@sdstate.edu for more information about these positions and how to submit your candidacy.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) All of Us National Program is pleased to offer a funding opportunity to public library workers in South Dakota to attend the Public Library Association (PLA) Conference taking place in Portland, Oregon March 23-25, 2022.

Amount: Up to $3,000

Number of Awards Available: Up to 25

Application Deadline: End of Day, March 4th, 2022

NANCY SABBE RETIRES FROM MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by Melanie Argo

Nancy spent 44 years serving as the Library Director.

Throughout her tenure she led us through a building addition, technological advancements in serving Madison, mentored staff and provided resources to enrich and grow our individual and community lives.

This speaker's podium is a beginning piece to commemorate her dedication to Madison and libraries. Future plans include renovating and renaming the meeting space the Sabbe Room.

We look forward to seeing her on the other side of the desk.

HURON PUBLIC LOCATES FORMER PATRON... AND HE STILL LOVES SD LIBRARIES

Huron Public Library

On December 20, 2021, Huron Public Library posted a black and white photo of a little patron, Mr. Vincent Reilly attending the library's 5th-anniversary party in 1969. The library sent this request out to Social Media World: "Vincent if you are still around please contact the library. We would love to recreate this photo."

Just one day later, Mr. Reilly responded with a recreation of the photo, saying:

Attached is my 2021 photo. I asked the staff at the Prairie West Branch of the Siouxland Libraries to snap the photo.

The library program in 1969 was the beginning of my love for reading. My two favorite books as a kid were "Where the Wild Things Are" and "Clip Clop". I still enjoy reading, especially about the outdoors. I'm now retired and living with my wife Patricia in Sioux Falls. Thank you for resurfacing this picture and all the wonderful memories it brings back."
READING IS FOR EVERYONE: THIRD GRADERS COUNT 1,600 FOR BOOKINGS STUDENTS

Submitted by Marilyn Mendenhall

Four Brookings third-graders promoted Reading is for Everyone. The students counted out 1,600 Braille bookmarks which were distributed to each Brookings elementary student.

Elementary students studied Jen Bryant's Schneider Family Award-winning book *Six Dots: a Story of Young Louis Braille*.

The lesson used primary source documents from the Library of Congress to supplement the lesson and students had a chance to examine the books in the library’s new Braille Collection.

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GREETINGS FROM WATERTOWN

*Watertown Public Library Facebook post*

Watertown held an online program bringing together six Watertowns. The groups talked about what made their towns unique-- despite their common name.

Watertowns represented include MA, NY, SD, CT, MN, WI, and TN. Come out and show some Watertown USA support!
Carlie Peterson, Digital Library Associate, and Mary Schumacher, Digital Library Technician, are the South Dakota State Library Digitization team. While Carlie and Mary are normally located at the South Dakota State Library, one exciting project allows them to visit libraries and museums across the state – Scan Day.

Scan Day is an event hosted in libraries or museums across South Dakota, in which digitization staff from the South Dakota State Library bring scanning and photography equipment to a community and digitize photographs, documents, and objects. The purpose of this event is to get residents to engage in building local and state history by bringing in personal records, photographs, and objects to be digitized.

The items brought by participating community members are scanned or photographed, and then the items are returned to the participants. They are then given a USB drive that includes digital copies of the items they had scanned.

If your library would like to host a Scan Day, you can contact Carlie Peterson at Carlie.Peterson@state.sd.us. If you would like to learn more about Scan Day, you can visit the South Dakota State Library LibGuide: https://libguides.library.sd.gov/services/scandy.

Scan Day Interview with Carlie Peterson and Mary Schumacher

What do you love about doing Scan Days with libraries?

Carlie: It has been so fun to see the history throughout the state with the items that patrons bring in. Each patron has brought in something unique that ties into their communities today. Hearing their stories is one of the best parts of these events.

Mary: I enjoy visiting the libraries and meeting the librarians and patrons. My favorite part of Library Scan Day is spending time with great people and learning of their histories. It’s great to hear people tell stories about their ancestors, their precious memories, special events, and days gone by. I love the big smiles when people share a memory.

Why are Scan Days important for communities and libraries?

Carlie: Scan Days are great opportunities to be able to preserve history or important documents. If anything were to happen to the original item due to age or accident, there is still a digital record of the item. I have also watched the event bring communities together as patrons connect with one another while explaining the stories behind their items.

Mary: Preservation of local history is important. We have scanned photos of city celebrations, historical buildings, and community leaders. Libraries may find importance in the event by bringing patrons into the library and beginning conversations about the families that make up the community both then and now.
Do you have any Scan Day stories that made an impression on you?

Carlie: At one of our events in September, there was a mother and daughter that stumbled upon the event while they were traveling from out of state to do some genealogy research. They had just started this research on a whim, and the library and some of the patrons were so helpful in providing information and resources specific to the town. They were able to find the plot of land that their family had owned and found some more details about their family. They were so joyful every time they found more information and it was so fun to witness.

Mary: I'll never forget the patron who brought in her grandmother's identification papers from WWII. When she took the papers out of her folder, she teared up. It is very humbling to know what our ancestors went through to survive hard times.

What is the oldest or most interesting item you’ve scanned?

Carlie: The oldest and most interesting items that I have scanned were a birth record and a war record that were tied together. The individual was born in Germany in 1831 and served in the German military from 1851-1854. It was amazing to see that piece of history and to be able to preserve it digitally for the patron.

Mary: I have scanned some tin-type photos. I’ve also scanned some WWII documents. People have brought in century-old documents such as birth certificates, citizenship papers, marriage certificates, etc. They are usually very delicate and show wear on the edges and fold creases. It impresses me how special these documents are to the families after so much time.

Is there anything else you would like to share about Scan Day?

Carlie: While we help preserve many patrons' historical items, it is also just as important to preserve more modern items. We have scanned people’s important documents such as medical records, birth certificates, marriage licenses, etc. It can be useful to have backups for these items in case of an accident or disaster.

Mary: Library Scan Day is a great way to get your keepsakes digitized, get into your local library, and visit with others who may share the same type of historical interests. The State Library does not keep a copy of your personal documents and photos. These are scanned and saved on a USB drive that is given to you and cleared off the laptop that we use for scanning.

Visit the South Dakota State Library LibGuide for more information and customizable promotion resources
https://libguides.library.sd.gov/services/scanday
NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS INCLUDE OCETI SAKOWIN ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS

Submitted by Liz Fayer

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Liz Fayer and I am a retired Project SECOND graduate coordinator from BHSU, which is an online secondary teacher certification program.

Joanna Jones and I have written two children’s books that address the Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings (OSEU).

Our books are being used in the Spearfish and Belle Fourche elementary schools. The teachers and students enjoy the books and have completed projects after reading Circle Boy: Bringing Black Elk’s Storytelling to Life with their teacher.

The other book is called She Sang to the Wind and along with the story are photos and descriptions of five Lakota/Dakota women Elders.

Jace DeCory, a Lakota Elder and retired BHSU instructor for the American Indian Studies program consulted on both books and was an active partner in determining the accuracy of the information and the ability of the books to promote the education and understanding of the Lakota culture.

As equity in education and promoting the positive culture of the Lakota people is our goal, Joanna, my co-author, Jace Decory, (Lakota Elder consultant).

I have recently read that only 45% of our teachers are using these understandings in their classrooms. We know that our books are well-liked by parents, teachers, and students and feel can help make further progress in supporting teachers in their important work of using the OSEU.

SD BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY CELEBRATES 53 YEARS

South Dakota State Library Facebook post

2022 marks the 53rd anniversary of the SD Braille and Talking Book Library serving South Dakotans. February 1, 1969, was when we were fully operational. January 28, 1969, was the day the library was originally dedicated.

The South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Library headquartered in the South Dakota State Library in Pierre, SD, provides free library services to eligible individuals in communities across the state in accessible formats including braille and digital audio talking books mailed to patrons for free, or downloadable from the NLS BARD website and BARD mobile app.
PIERRE, S.D.—With funding support from the South Dakota Community Foundation (SDCF), the South Dakota Historical Society Press released its third Pioneer Girl Project publication.

“Pioneer Girl: The Revised Texts,” written by Laura Ingalls Wilder, and annotated and edited by Nancy Tystad Koupal, deepens readers’ understanding of Laura Ingalls Wilder and the process through which she ultimately became an icon of young adult literature.

“Laura Ingalls Wilder is a great American storyteller whose work has stood the test of time,” says Tystad Koupal, Pioneer Girl Project director. “We are able to continue our study into her works and legacy because of organizations like the South Dakota Community Foundation, and we are eternally grateful for their support.”

Founded in 2010, the Pioneer Girl Project is dedicated to exploring Wilder’s life and works. The project’s first publication, “Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography,” edited by Pamela Smith Hill, was released in 2014 and became a “New York Times” bestseller. It gave readers access to Wilder’s original account for the first time. The second publication, “Pioneer Girl Perspectives: Exploring Laura Ingalls Wilder,” edited by Tystad Koupal and released in 2017, directed essay contributors to delve into the myths and realities of Wilder’s life. “Pioneer Girl: The Revised Texts” informs scholars and readers about the original manuscript’s metamorphosis into novels and about the intriguing editorial relationship between Wilder and her daughter, Rose Wilder Lane.

“The Pioneer Girl Project helps us better understand Laura Ingalls Wilder and her connection to South Dakota,” says Stephanie Judson, SDCF president. “The Community Foundation is proud to be a part of her continued study.”

Pioneer Girl Project books can be ordered by visiting sdhspress.com or calling 605-773-6009.

For more about the story behind the project, visit pioneergirlproject.org. To become a donor, please contact the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation at 605-773-6003 or info@sdhsf.org.

You can also make a direct donation to the Pioneer Girl Project, supporting its next publication, at sdhsf.org/donate/special_projects/pioneer.html.

For State Historical Society membership information, please visit history.sd.gov/membership or call 605-773-6000.

To find out more about the South Dakota Community Foundation, visit sdcommunityfoundation.org.
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Executive Secretary’s Report
2/1/22
Wells Fargo Savings.........$7,022.43
Wells Fargo Checking........$11,659.43
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$14,851.98*
Ameriprise Savings Cert...$18,956.86*
Raney Endowment.........$110,538.14**
Total......................................$16,3028.84

*As of December 31, 2021
**Raney $14,508 available for distribution

Membership Stats
Total: 355
Institutional: 31
Personal: 324

Quick News
- The South Dakota Department of Education’s division of Child and Adult Nutrition Services is seeking local sponsors to assist with running a federally funded program that provides nutritious meals and snacks to children in low-income areas during the summer months.
- The South Dakota Department of Education (DOE) has entered into a three-year statewide agreement with Swank Motion Pictures.
- Siouxland Libraries is hiring a summer intern to help plan and execute our summer outreach events. If you know someone who would may be interested, visit Ascend Internship Program for more information or to apply.
- Kelo covered the One Button Studios at The University of Sioux Falls
- Kelo’s story on the Black History Month displays at Siouxland Libraries and Mikkelsen Library.