Submitted by Book Marks Editor

Eighty-eight libraries are ready to check out park passes to South Dakota library patrons for the program’s first summer. The Check Out South Dakota State Parks program is a collaboration between the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Department and the South Dakota State Library. The full list of participating libraries is located at: https://library.sd.gov/sdstateparks/participating.aspx

There was media buzz when the program rolled out in late January 2023. When the program was reported on local news, patrons started coming in to ask questions about the program and vowed to come back in the summer and check out a pass.

According to Brenda Hemmelman at the State Library, thus far the passes have been checked out 162 times between January and April 2023. She is anticipating a big jump in circulation numbers this summer.

While all the free passes provided by the State Library have been claimed, If other libraries want to participate, passes are $80. Contact Rachel Comes at Rachel.Comes@state.sd.us at Game Fish and Parks for more information.

The program ends May 2024.
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we come closer to the end of my term as president, I want to encourage our South Dakota librarians, you, into involving yourself in SDLA! Whether it be on a committee, running for office, or just sharing cool things happening at your library during a session at SDLA. Involve yourself!

Covid was a tough time for all our libraries, and many of us are still playing the catch-up game, but being a part of SDLA can help buff your resume, get you experience, and get to know other librarians better. It may seem daunting, but our librarians across South Dakota are helpful in every way. They are accommodating, willing to answer questions, and will help you along the way.

Every year we need volunteers to keep SDLA running, and I want this to be your sign to take up that position!

I hope to see you all at the conference this year!

Jamie

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Wednesday:
Leah Braun is a managing partner with Nsight Partners. Leah retired from the South Dakota National Guard at the rank of Master Sergeant after 22 years of military service, where she began to hone her passion for working with people.

Thursday:
Julia Lyon is an award-winning former newspaper reporter who now writes children’s books about hidden history. She wrote A dinosaur named Ruth in 2021 about Ruth, a prairie girl, living in South Dakota in 1905 who finds a huge secret in her backyard.

Friday:
Tifanie Petro serves as the Director of Advocacy and Prevention at Children’s Home Society and multiple statewide awareness and education campaigns. Tifanie believes that by empowering children we can create resilient families and communities.
Hello! Following are things the ALA has done, and things I have been up to this year:

**ALABased Update**

Submitted by Danielle De Jager-Loftus

Hello! Following are things the ALA has done, and things I have been up to this year:

**AL Annual Conference & Exhibition** is in Chicago, IL — June 22-27, 2023. I am registered to attend the digital experience, online only.

**During National Library Week:**

- **April 26** Rep. Jayapal introduced a resolution to honor library workers, library services, and more. Here is the Congresswoman’s new release:


- ALA-APA endorsed rather than ALA because of the union aspects of the resolution.
- Representatives Emanuel Cleaver II (D-MO-05), Shelia Jackson Lee (D-TX-18) and Shontel Brown (D-OH-11) introduced the Prison Libraries Act of 2023. The bill has 25 additional co-sponsors. ALA is pleased to endorse this bill.

**2023 ALA Election Results**

ALA Election Committee met and certified the 2023 ALA Election Results, April 12, 2023. The ALA membership voted on the 2024-2025 ALA President, Councilor-at-Large, and the ALA bylaws revision.

Cindy Hohl is the 2024-2025 ALA President.

**ALA LibLearnX 2023**

All documents for this meeting can be found here.

Attendee report: 2653 attendees at LLX, 1711 are reg members (i.e. not vendors, corporate members, free attendees)

**Friday January 27**

ALA Bylaws Convention, Special Council Session 1-5pm

This meeting was specifically set up in order to finalize work on revising the ALA Bylaws. There were 12 articles that did not have amendments suggested and we went through them quickly. On the articles that did have amendments, they concerned various things.

- Article V – Makeup of the Executive Board in the absence of Council, what representation was the optimal makeup and who votes for them. (I voted for the original Forward Together suggestion)

**Saturday January 28**

- We met the six Executive Board candidates.

- Council voted whether to approve an extended timeline for a simplification of membership dues, to approve dues adjustments (general price hike but with reduced fees still in effect and free membership for international members), and to try to standardize Round Table dues. There was lengthy discussion.

- Resolution on continuing virtual access to ALA Membership Meetings passes

- Revision of Core Competencies of Librarianship passes (more social justice inclusion, more reference to “library workers” not just librarians)

- Resolution on establishing a policy monitoring oversight for Exec Board (referred to COO)

- Changing function of Code of Conduct Committee and changing the charge of the IT Advisory Committee
ALA CONSELROR UPDATE CON’D

Sunday Saturday January 29
ALA Council Meeting 1:30-4:45pm

Memorial tributes
- Terrilyn Chun
- Deanna Bowling Marcum
- Dr. Roberto C. Delgadillo
- Menahem Schmelzer
- Barratt Wilkins
- Betty Lee Sung
- David Philip Norris

Reports
Intellectual Freedom Committee put out a six-page report which is well worth reading and can be read here: https://bit.ly/ALAIFC
  - do we use the DEI scorecard within the policy manual (passed. I voted for this but with reservations since it primarily centers BIPOC issues which are very important but only one part of DEI ideals)
  - do we add more to the policy manual about support for school librarians (passed, I voted yes)
  - do we apologize to historical wrongs done to black school librarians and move forward working towards more EDI? (passed, I voted yes)

Report of Budget Objectives/Programmatic Priorities (approved budget)
Freedom to Read Foundation report – they **strongly encourage** chapters to join the Freedom to Read Foundation and I believe SDLA has done this, and it would be good to make a donation to the Merritt Fund. https://www.oif.ala.org/the-merritt-fund/

Affiliates
Voted to approve affiliate status for the organization Literacy Nation https://www.literacynation.com/ (passed, I voted yes)

Resolutions (all are available in full at the document link above)
- Resolution on Human Rights and Freedom of Speech and Expression in Iran (passed – I voted yes)
- Resolution on Revising the Code of Conduct to Include Online Activity (discussion – got referred to the Committee on Professional Ethics – I voted against referral)
- Resolution to establish policy monitoring oversight for the Executive Board (referred to COO)

Additional Business
Discussion of whether the dissolution of Core (which used to be LLAMA, LITA, ASCLA and ALCTS) happened legitimately because of Parliamentary questions. (voted to refer to other places)
SDLA ELECTIONS:
ELIZABETH FOX FOR VP /PRESIDENT ELECT

Library Philosophy:

I believe that libraries are foundations of a democracy. They are a place where all people can have equal access to information and to entertainment. I believe that libraries have done a superior job creating safe spaces for patrons to learn new things, experience new points of view, and have access to and instruction for technologies they might not have access to otherwise and that this will only become more important in the future.

Librarians are well known for working together to meet the needs of our patrons across boundaries such as city/ county/ state/ country lines and across different types of libraries. As library staff members, I believe that we have a desire to help people and willingness to work together for the betterment of all.

Why do you choose to run for this office?

I am nearing the end of my career and feel that I still have something new to offer. I have held increasingly responsible offices over several organizations and feel that leading the library community in South Dakota would be a good pinnacle to my career.

The skills I have learned over the years make me think that I could be a good leader for the organization and I am excited about the possibility of gaining that opportunity.

What type of leadership and communication skills would you bring to this office?

I have held a number of positions in SDLA including being on committees as well as chairing committees. I edited BookMarks many years ago for a number of years. I served on the board of SDLA as treasurer (when treasurer was separate from executive secretary) and as Book Marks editor.

I have also served on committees for MPLA, ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries), Anthropology and Sociology Section (of ACRL), Women and Gender Studies Section (of ACRL), and I am currently chair of Anthropology and Sociology Section – a section with around 1,000 members. All of these positions have required various levels of leadership. A key element of leadership is communication.

Continued on page 4
While I am not so good at communicating over the phone (I think this may be genetic as my whole family dislikes the phone), there are many other ways of communicating. I believe that one of the things that came out of COVID is the recognition that Zoom or team meetings can be effective. While many of us are tired of these meetings, they are still an effective means of communicating and getting tasks done.

What do you think are the issues facing the Association?

I think there are serious legal issues facing libraries in the future and the association is an important element of fighting for the freedom to read. I think educating the public in general and the legislature in particular about the importance of allowing individuals and families to make their own choices in reading materials is critical. I also feel that librarians are feeling stressed and overworked and are less willing or able to contribute their time and effort so finding ways for the association to do its important work will be increasingly difficult. I think it will be crucial for the association to find ways for all members to participate in small ways that combine to become the big works we need.

What do you plan to accomplish during your term if elected?

I think we need to reconsider how we accomplish our advocacy work. The Library Issues Committee was reformulated a few years ago and then things changed again (e.g. we no longer host a legislative day with a meal). I think we need to look at the association’s goals in terms of advocacy and what we can do to be as effective as possible. I also think we should look at current technology in relation to learning from each other. I think it is possible to have mini-conferences focused on specific topics of interest without the time and expense of traveling. An association is only as strong as its members and we need to keep our members involved and invested in the association.
New wellness tool kit for teens at the Rapid City Public Library

Baylee Shultz, Teen Librarian at Rapid City Public Library, was visited the KOTA Territory News studio to discuss the library’s health and wellness resources for teens. There is even a virtual "Calm Room" filled with mindfulness multimedia options.

The database offers reputable information and support for teens. The database is linked from the library’s Research Databases page: https://rapidcitylibrary.org/research-6991

Watch Shultz promote the new library resource and learn more here: https://www.kotatv.com/2023/04/26/new-wellness-tool-kit-teens-rapid-city-public-library/

The Brookings Public Library added a yard games collection thanks to funding from their Friends of the Brookings Public Library group. The catalog of games on offer is available at: https://bit.ly/BPLyard
Save the date(s) Branch Out 2023:

Mini-conference designed for SD library workers to provide continuing education and networking opportunities to enhance your career.

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SD LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS

- Librarian of the Year
- New Librarian
- Librarian of the Year
- Support Staff of the Year
- Distinguished Service Award
- Trustee of the Year

The deadline for 2023 nominations is July 31st. Learn about the Awards and Submit at:

bit.ly/SDLA2023_Awards
The SDLA Professional Development Grants Committee is accepting applications for SDLA conference grants.

The deadline for applications is August 11.

Four SDLA Conference Grants are available to defray the costs of registration, travel, and hotel expenses, plus the costs of a substitute at the home library if needed.

Grants of up to $400 may be awarded.

Recipients must be personal members of SDLA.

Applicants are eligible to receive only one conference grant every three years.

Application forms are available on the SDLA website at https://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/page/ConfGrantApp
# Tentative Conference Schedule
## Rapid City, South Dakota
### September 27-29, 2023

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We have space for 2 more sessions! If you were thinking of proposing a session-- grab your chance now:

**Submit your proposals for the conference sessions!**
Welcome New Members:
- Jalynn Feininger, Watertown Middle School
- Tricia Erickson, Parker Public Library
- Lisa Richardson, Harrisburg Schools
- Tahlia Reynolds, Yankton Community Library
- Lila Teigen, Northwest Regional Library
- Kaia Brose, Vermillion Public Library

Quick News:
- EveryLibrary Institute Releases Report on Per-Capita Funding for Libraries and Public Services: https://www.everylibraryinstitute.org/funding_priorities_2023
- SD DOE is launching a statewide literacy initiative called Moving Literacy Forward. The purpose is to assist schools in developing a systemic, evidence-based approach to supporting literacy, focused on the science of reading. Contact Patti Lager [patti.lager@state.sd.us] at DOE.

The SDLA 2023 Conference committee is hard at work planning another spectacular conference for you. This year's theme is "Roll for initiative: everybody in".

We have space for 2 more sessions! If you were thinking of proposing a session-- grab your chance now:

Submit your proposals for the conference sessions!