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Connections

THE COMMON BOND, VOICE AND POWER FOR THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY

President's Message

Some very good work has been going on in CAL's Legislative Committee! Near the end of February, the Legislative Committee asked library directors in the Joint Budget Committee Member's districts to reach out and share how the State Grants to Libraries Act needs on-going and increased support. Here is an excerpt from one of those letters:

The grants are available to all eligible school districts, public library jurisdictions, and academic institutions. This year, 93% of Colorado's libraries—301 total—applied for and received grants ranging from the minimum of \$3,000 to \$132,500. Just to point out the value this has locally, the materials-buying budget in one-third of the libraries increased by 50% or more. This is a huge boost to our rural schools and libraries that would otherwise be unable to afford materials. These materials can be used by our families to encourage reading and early learning in our youngest children. Of course as more libraries are funded the amount available to each library decreases.

Libraries are a key community resource for parents who homeschool their children, with free, readily available access to materials, programs, and online resources directly from the home. I know you also support 21st century workforce for the state, an educational system to teach modern skills, plus a strong small business environment to employ them. All libraries and schools across the state strive to support and attain these goals as well. We offer materials, programming, and staff assistance for employment, plus the educational resources that students and families need to build a strong, educated workforce.

On behalf of all residents in District 2, I ask for your support in a modest increase to the State Grants to Libraries Act through the JBC. With this, we can expand our collection, allowing us to provide even more and better materials and services to our students, families, and residents.

The letters included examples from libraries in that senator's district showing how previous grant money was used to fund programs and expand collections. Join me in thanking the Legislative Committee for working hard to secure (and hopefully increase!) grant funding for Colorado libraries! Lastly, I encourage everyone to reach out to your district's representation in the state legislature and share stories about how libraries are helping their communities and how the grant funds are supporting those efforts.

- Joanna Powell, CAL President



Upcoming Events – see articles in this issue for details!

March 6: Program deadline - Paralibrarian Sp. workshop
March 11: Makerspace Interest Group info meeting
March 13: CoASL virtual meeting
March 15: CALCON15 program submission deadline
March 18: CAL Lobby Day
April 9: Adult Services IG meeting
April 10: CAL Board Meeting
April 17: PLA 2016 submission deadline

April 20: CoASL Spring Workshop
April 23: Paralibrarian Division Spring Workshop
April 29: Readers Advisory IG Spring Workshop
May 1: WLA/MPLA conference proposal deadline
May 1: Reforma Colorado Mini-Conference
May 4-5: National Library Legislative Day
June 5: CoALA Spring Workshop
October 22-24: CALCON15

Associations

CASL

The Colorado Association of School Libraries (CASL) Board is busy planning opportunities for Teacher-Librarian collaboration for summer 2015. Teacher-Librarians: look for updates by joining the School Librarian's Town Hall Community on [Google Plus](#) and by liking the Colorado Association of School Libraries (CASL) on [Facebook](#).

The CASL board meets monthly. Contact CASL president Megan McQuinn at megan_mcquinn@dpsk12.org for more details about meetings, events, and how to get involved with CASL!

Stay Connected through:

[Facebook Colorado Association of School Libraries \(CASL\)](#)

[Facebook ALA Think Tank Group](#)

[TLChat - Google Community \(Teacher Librarian Chat\)](#)



CoASL

The Colorado Association of Special Libraries (CoASL) March meeting is a virtual one on March 13 from 12-1pm. Our speaker will be Dan Cordova, Colorado Supreme Court Law Librarian. Dan will be presenting on "Special Libraries of the Future." The link for the meeting is <http://breeze.careeredonline.com/r16ww537tnw/>.



SAVE THE DATE!

What: CoASL Spring Workshop

When: April 20th, 2015 12-4pm

Where: 350 Blackhawk St. Aurora, CO 80011

More info to follow!

CoALA

Colorado Academic Library Association (CoALA) is excited to announce dates and locations for upcoming Spring Workshops – Unconference

Friday, June 5th, Colorado State University, Morgan Library will host CoALA's Spring Workshop – Unconference. This one-day session is an opportunity for librarians to collaborate and learn in an unstructured yet highly effective format.

Friday, July 24th, Adams State University, Nielsen Library will host CoALA's Spring Workshop – Unconference. This too is a one-day session for librarians to share ideas and learn from one another

The Unconference format allows every attendee to participate and contribute. Whether you are an expert, novice, or just interested in exploring a topic—the Unconference format provides the environment for a more organic conversation to take place. No rehearsing, no Power Points, just a chance to share and exchange ideas.

Themes and topics of an Unconference can include but are not limited to: Instruction, Reference, Research, Publishing, Framework for Information Literacy in Higher Ed., Distance learning & Librarianship to name a few. Begin thinking of ideas or topics; you may want to lead a breakout session yourself. We would like to hear from you about themes or topics of interest.

CoALA will provide additional attendee information via CAL website and CoALA Wiki to contribute ideas. Stay tuned!



Colorado Academic Library Association

CAL Connections is the monthly newsletter of the Colorado Association of Libraries. Please send comments, corrections or suggestions to aroth@dclibraries.org



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Divisions

Paralibrarian

The Paralibrarian Division's Board is diligently planning the Spring Workshop. It will be held on April 23rd at the Boulder Public Library.

The keynote speakers will be Karen Lemke, Liz Von Taulffkirchen, and Becky Van Den Berg of the Pine River Library in Bayfield, Colorado, voted Best Small Library in 2014. If you saw them at CAL, you know you're in for an entertaining and informative presentation!

We are in need of presenters! If you or someone you know would like to present, please submit a proposal at <http://goo.gl/forms/PckhjTxFAV>

The theme is "You are a Champion: Be Extraordinary". The deadline has been extended and is now March 6th.

There are also 5 scholarships available. Submit your application at <http://goo.gl/forms/Xfz5JLdxKm>. The process is very simple. If you've always wanted to attend, but you didn't have the funds, this is a great opportunity to attend for free.

Please watch for the registration form which should be on CAL's website around mid-March.

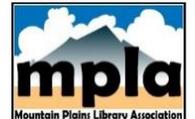
Contact Farabe Smith at farabe@elbertcountylibrary.org or Suellen Brenner-Bladek at Brenner-BladekS@boulderlibrary.org if you have any questions.

CAL Trustees & Friends

Registration has opened for National Library Legislative Day (May 4-5). This two-day advocacy event brings hundreds of librarians, trustees, library supporters, and patrons to Washington, D.C. to meet with their members of Congress and rally support for libraries issues and policies. Registration information and hotel booking information are available on the ALA Washington Office website at <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld>. Holley Carroll (hcarroll@poudrelibraries.org) is our Colorado contact.

INPUT REQUESTED: Please, take 2 minutes to lend your INPUT to our 2015 workshop planning efforts: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7MPV5K6>
We need your input to create a successful event!

Mountain Plains Library Association



Grant Money available! Did you know that you can apply for grant money from MPLA - for yourself or for your state association? Did you know that each year, some grant monies never get distributed due to a small number of applications? Grant monies go to support professional development. Expenses grants can be used for: Attending conferences or work-shops; enrolling in courses, either online or in-person; or contracting with a guest speaker for a state conference.

Online meeting platform chosen for MPLA: MPLA represents twelve states, so its membership and Executive Board members are scattered over a wide area. Face to face meetings are all too rare. In past years, most MPLA board and committee meetings have been held via conference call. In 2015, the Association is transitioning to online meeting software. This will add interactivity, streamline collaboration between individuals and committees, and open up new ways to connect with people throughout the region. MPLA President Annie Epperson called together a task force to compare the options and recommend a software solution to the Executive Board. Zoom was recommended by the committee & chosen by the board, which met using the new videoconferencing platform at its January 5 meeting.

Annual MPLA Conference: Every year, MPLA teams up with a different state association to provide a joint conference. This year, MPLA is working with the Wyoming Library Association. Join us from Wednesday, September 23rd to Friday, September 25th 2015 at The Little America Resort in Cheyenne, Wyoming. WLA/MPLA are calling for programming/papers for the 2015 joint conference to be held at Little America in Cheyenne. The due date for program proposals is end of business May 1, 2015. We look forward to receiving program proposals that support the conference theme: Changing Libraries in the New West. Visit the conference submission site: <https://survey.uwyo.edu/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=82K1lm73H>

Committees

Conference

The CALCON15 Call for Proposals is now open, and we will be accepting program submissions through March 15, 2015. This is your opportunity to tell Colorado librarians about the wonderful things you are doing at your library! CAL encourages submissions from all types of libraries, regardless of size or location. All library staff are invited to submit proposals on a variety of subjects, including HR, marketing, administration, legal, and more! You can access the program submission form from the homepage of the CAL website.

In other news, the CALCON 2015 Conference Committee has a new co-chair! Please join me in congratulating Steph Myers from the High Plains Library District! Steph will become CALCON chair for the 2016 conference.

Finally, our committee met in February to discuss the overall conference schedule and potential keynote speakers. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding our keynotes for 2015!

Breaking News!

Keynote Speaker: Michael Stephens



The CALCON15 Planning Committee is excited to announce Michael Stephens as one of our keynote presenters. Michael is Assistant Professor in the School of Information at San Jose State University. His column in Library Journal,

"Office Hours" discusses "issues, ideas, and emerging trends in libraries and LIS education." As a professor in the School of Information, he understands the challenges and opportunities new graduates will face as librarians and educators. He provides a unique perspective for the professional in the field to better understand their role within our learning communities. Michael's blog, Tame the Web explores emerging trends in libraries and education from technology to library structures and virtual environments. Michael travels throughout the U.S. and internationally to discuss what he is most passionate about which is to promote creative and

open uses of technology to support and drive library services and learning. CALCON15 is honored to welcome Dr. Michael Stephens. For more information about Michael visit: tametheweb.com/

Legislative

Share Your Community's Story Join CAL's Lobby Day on March 18, 2015!

What is CAL Lobby Day? It is your opportunity to have some fun while connecting with your state legislators. Lobby Day is a chance to celebrate and share stories about the tremendous impact that libraries have in our communities around the state.

We hope to have a strong presence at the Capitol and representatives from all types of libraries are encouraged to attend.

Don't know what to say? Don't worry! Talking points will be provided.

Join the members of this year's CAL Leadership Institute (CALLI) Lobby Day by contacting Elizabeth Kelsen Huber at ekelsenhuber@clicweb.org to volunteer for either a 2 or 4 hour shift between 8am-12pm on March 18. Or, contact your legislators directly and schedule a visit with them sometime that week and let her know about your efforts

Communications

The new charge for the Communications Committee was approved at the February Board meeting. The committee is moving forward on improving CAL's social media presence through Twitter, Facebook, & LinkedIn and you should be seeing relevant tweets, posts and discussions about CAL and Colorado Libraries later this month.

We need your help!

 Do you have access to the CAL Flickr page at flickr.com/photos/cal-webs/?

The committee would like to be able to access that page, but doesn't know who has the login!



Similarly, we don't know who has access to the email ColoAssocLibs@gmail.com and would to use that as well.

Please email aroeth@dclibraries.org if you can help!

Interest Groups

Adult Services

The Adult Services Interest Group will be meeting April 9 (Thu), 9 am-noon at the Denver Public Library, Central Branch - Gates Meeting Room. The event host is Laurie Spurling, who is eager to get topics for discussion! Send your ideas to lspurlin@denverlibrary.org. We are planning on providing a dial-in option for those that would like to attend virtually. If you would like to be added to the ASIG email list, please send a note to Dodie Ownes at downes@dclibraries.org

Future meetings:

July 8 (Wed), 9-noon at Arapahoe Library District, Koelbel Library, Centennial – host, Pamela Bagby

Oct 8 (Thu) – noon – 3 at Garfield County Libraries, Glenwood Springs Branch Library – host, Maura McKenna Masters

International Library Cultural Exchange

ILCE-IG Begins Three New Activities:

At the recent meeting, the CAL Board approved two new projects of the International Library Cultural Exchange Interest Group.

At the last CAL conference, Jane Mirandette told the exciting story of her work in Nicaragua at the San Juan Del Sur Library. Many at the conference program indicated an interest in going to Nicaragua, visiting Jane's and other libraries, and experiencing Nicaraguan culture. The CAL Board approved such a trip to be sponsored by CAL and ILCE. It is currently scheduled for November 7- 16. Watch for more information in March.

The CAL Board also approved a grant program to support activities in the Colorado library community that supports international programs that help developing libraries or domestic projects that celebrate cultural understanding. Again, watch for more information in March.

March will be a big month as we are also previewing a quarterly newsletter about ILCE activities. We will make this available to all of CAL.

Finally, as ILCE expands its activities, we would also like to expand our Steering Committee. If you would like to help plan these and other exciting activities, please contact Janet Lee at Janet.lee35@gmail.com or Nancy Bolt @ nancybolt@earthlink.net

Readers Advisory

The RAIG or Readers Advisory Interest Group held our Winter Meeting on Feb. 12 at DCL's Parker Library. The group discussed the possibility of developing two presentations for CAL -- one about developing book clubs (and rethinking them) and Children's Advisory (a subject that can scare even seasoned RA professionals). We also talked about how we can network between meetings, and talked about the upcoming (April 29th) Spring Workshop which will feature Keren Dali as a Speaker.

It was great to see fellow RA people from Douglas County, Arapahoe, Pueblo, Lafayette, Westminster, and Security libraries. Detailed notes can be found on CAL in the [RAIG blog](#)

Makerspace

Do you have a makerspace in your library? Are you thinking about developing one? Do you just really like the idea as a whole? Would you like to share thoughts and discussions with and ask questions of a group of like-minded people who are facing similar challenges?

The new Makerspace Interest Group might be just the place for you! An organizational and inaugural meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 11, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Make at PPLD's [Library 21c](#) in Colorado Springs.

Please email Becca Cruz, rcruz@ppld.org, if you would like to be added to a mailing list for this interest group! To help with setup, please let Becca know if you will be attending the March meeting.

Business Services

The Business Services Interest Group met via virtual meeting on February 18th. Attendees discussed business-related events, successes, & challenges. Next meeting is May 20. Contact Terry Zarsky at Tzarsky@ppld.org for information about the Business Services Interest Group.

CAL CON innovate inspire connect

CALCON 2015

Register Today!

In case you missed the update: Due to a scheduling conflict, the new conference dates are Thursday Oct. 22 - Saturday October 24.

Call for Proposals



We are excited to see how you and your team are innovating and implementing new ideas. The 2015 CAL Annual Conference focuses on how to innovate, inspire and connect the library community across the state. The Conference Program Committee is seeking proposals for programs that:

- demonstrate connections between libraries and their patrons, partner, other libraries;
- stimulate imagination, foster creativity & ingenuity;
- engage communities and demonstrate leadership for libraries of every size and every type.

Deadline for submissions: March 15, 2015

Other News: PLA 2016 Conference (Denver): PLA is accepting two session formats for PLA 2016—preconferences and programs. Preconferences are in-depth educational sessions for 50 to 100 attendees. They can be a half-day, full-day or day-and-a-half in length. Programs are 60-minute sessions that can feature a single speaker or a panel of speakers or can be a guided audience discussion or activity. Program attendance can vary from 50 to 500 people. The deadline for submitting proposals is April 17, 2015. Information about the proposals process is found [online](#) through the PLA Conference website.

Blue Spruce: The 2015 Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award is Cinder, by Marissa Meyer. The formal announcement was made at CCIRA on February 6. Sixty two Colorado public and school libraries participated in the voting, nearly twice the number from previous years! Information on the 2015 award and a list of 2016 nominees are available at coloradobluespruceaward.org.

Reforma Colorado 2015 Mini-Conference: May 1 at Denver Public Library. Visit the [Reforma Colorado blog](#)

CoALA Peer Review: Colorado Academic Library Association (CoALA) is once again proud to offer peer review of proposals for the 2015 CAL Conference. While intended primarily for proposals related to original research conducted in an academic library setting, peer review is offered for any proposal that provides the requisite documentation of original scholarship.

For more information on submitting a proposal, view the [program proposal packet](#), [submission form](#) and [the peer review process](#) or contact:

Submission process: Jean Heilig at Heilig_J@cde.state.co.us

Peer review process: Paul Mascareñas at pmascarena@regis.edu.

CALCON15: Christine Kreger at Kreger_C@cde.state.co.us

[Submit your program proposal here!](#)

[Save some \\$\\$\\$ and register before June 1 for CALCON15](#)

CALCON16 Committee co-chair

The CALCON Committee needs a 2016 co-chair! The co-chair will help the chair for the 2016 conference (Steph Myers, High Plain Library District) for the 2016 conference year, and assume the chair position in 2017.

[Co-chair duties are outlined on the CAL website](#)

If you are interested in applying, please send a letter of intent, a current resume, and a supervisor letter of support to Joanna Powell, CAL President at Joanna.Powell@ccaaurora.edu by 12 PM March 31, 2015.

This is a great leadership opportunity!

Questions? Email Christine Kreger (2015 Chair, Colorado State Library) kreger_c@cde.state.co.us