President’s Letter

Greetings Montana Librarians and friends! A happy holiday season to you all!

I hope everyone is doing well, coping with the weather and the flu. I must admit, the flu caught up with me and I am still on the mend from that, and trying to catch up with everything I wasn’t able to do.

First, the long awaited news: The MLA specialty license plates are available! You may need to call your county to have them order some, but they are finally available. THANK YOU to everyone who was involved in this whole (long) process. I came in late to the game so I won’t name names - you know who you are - but please know that your work is now paying off and you are truly appreciated. A portion of the cost of the plates comes back to MLA, so please let your family, friends, and strangers on the street know about the plates. You may view the plates at http://www.doj.mt.gov/driving/platedesign/serviceorganizations.asp

Just for fun, I am going to give a free book to the first current MLA member who submits a photo of their vehicle with their new MLA plate. We may use your photos for future publicity so please keep that in mind. Send your photo to evaenglish@yahoo.com with a subject heading of “MLA License Plate Photo.”

2010 conference planning is moving along great under the supervision of Connie Strittmatter, Alice Meister and Gale Bacon, along with Janel and Mark Trowbridge from T and T Conference and Event Management. They all have been working very hard to make sure there will be something of interest for everyone. I attended the program selection meeting and am thrilled to report that there are going to be some great pre-conference programs, sessions and speakers offered for all areas of librarianship. In December, there will be an interest survey available so that the planners can ensure we have appropriate space available for everyone. Please log onto the MLA or 2010 Conference website to fill out the survey as soon as it is available. As a reminder, conference will be held April 7-10, 2010 in Bozeman.

I also attended the ASLD/PLD Retreat at Chico Hot Springs. A big thank you to the organizers of that event. There were some very informative and interesting programs. While we were there, we also held the Fall MLA Board meeting. One area of discussion was the location of future conferences. With the assistance of our conference planners, we hope to put more plans in place at our next meeting.

One more fundraising effort MLA is working on is our cookbook. Lisa...
President’s Letter, continued

Mecklenberg Jackson would like all submissions prior to January 1, 2010.

With everyone’s help we can put together a great cookbook! Contact Lisa or myself regarding how to submit your recipes.

Finally, Della Dubbe is looking for a few good men and women who would be willing to step into the line of Montana Library Association leadership. She is seeking nominations for the following positions: MLA Vice President/President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, ALA Representative, and Director at Large for Western Montana. Serving MLA is a very rewarding experience! You’ll get to know more about your Montana Library Community and work on the future of our profession and how we can best serve our communities.

Help keep interest in libraries and MLA growing; contact Della to volunteer.

Until next time,

Eva English
MLA President
Fort Belknap College Library Director

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If you are interested in placing an ad, or sponsoring the MLA Focus Newsletter, please send inquiries, articles, ads, and reviews to the editor:
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Three Forks, MT 59752
Phone: 406-285-3090
Fax: 406-285-3091
Cell: 406-579-3121
E-mail: debkmla@hotmail.com

Offline 2010

February 19-20, 2010
MSU Billings College of Technology
Billings, MT

If you have a workshop you’d like to present or a library technology topic you’d really like to see covered, please get this information to Dee Ann Redman redmand@ci.billings.mt.us or Suzanne Reymer reymer@mtlib.org by December 10, 2009 for consideration.

Then join us for our own Winter Olympics of library technology and CHOCOLATE!

Watch Wired-MT and the MLA website www.mtlib.org for more information.
Certification Program Update

At its October meeting, the Montana State Library Commission approved recommendations made by the Certification Update Focus Group. The Focus Group has worked during the past year reviewing the certification program and considering input from librarians about proposed changes. The approved changes include creation of three certification tracks, new continuing education requirements, and less paperwork. Details about the update requirements and the certification process are on the Montana State Library webpage at: http://www.msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Training/certification/default.asp. The updated certification program will launch in January 2011 with a new manual and forms.

Apply for a SWIM Library Education Scholarship

Application forms are now available for the SWIM scholarship program which offers two types of scholarships to Montana residents:

--earn an MLIS degree through the University of North Texas distance graduate program; at least six Montanans will receive 80% of tuition and fees (up to $12,960) from SWIM

--earn a School Library Media Endorsement through the University of Montana or Montana State University distance programs; at least four Montanans will receive 80% of tuition and fees (up to $4,320) from SWIM

There are two application processes: applications to the universities are due by February 1st, 2010; applications for the SWIM scholarships are due by March 15, 2010. More information about the scholarship program, including the application forms, is available at: http://www.msl.mt.gov/swim/. SWIM is funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

2009 Collection Management Honor Roll

Each year, the Montana State Library Commission’s Collection Management Honor Roll recognizes libraries that are committed to sharing resources. To be eligible, libraries must have a current and approved collection management policy on file at Montana State Library, have at least 50% of their holdings on the WorldCat database, and be actively adding and deleting database holdings. For your library to be considered for the 2009 Honor Roll, the collection management policy needs to be submitted to MSL by December 31, 2009.
Awards & Honors Committee Seeking Nominations

By Molly Ledermann, Chair
MLA Awards & Honors Committee,
Reference Librarian,
Missoula Public Library

It’s time to think about the outstanding achievements of our colleagues and give them the recognition they deserve with MLA Awards and Honors. Following is the vital information you need for nominations. You can also find detailed information and descriptions of the awards in the MLA handbook section of the MLA website and on the MLA Conference website.

1.) Three letters are required for every nomination: 1 (one) letter from the nominator and 2 (two) letters in support of the nomination. Hard copies and/or email attachments are fine. No more than three letters will be considered. For the Media Award, a copy of the nominated project must also be submitted.

2.) All nomination materials should be sent to:
Molly Ledermann, Chair
MLA Awards & Honors Committee
Missoula Public Library
301 E Main ST
Missoula, MT 59802
mkliss@missoula.lib.mt.us
(406)728-5900 (fax)

3.) The deadline for nominations is Monday, January 25, 2010.

Honorary MLA Life-Time Membership
May be conferred upon an individual who has either made an outstanding contribution to librarianship or has rendered outstanding service to library interests. To be eligible, an individual shall have made a contribution of lasting importance to the field of librarianship. The contribution must be outstanding enough that there can be no question of his/her suitability. Only living persons may be considered.

Library of the Year
Conferred upon any type of Montana library, library system or network for distinguished achievement in service. The staff, library board or administering body, and the community or people served shall be involved in the work for which recognition is sought. Award shall be based upon but not limited to activities or accomplishments such as the following:

• User services
• Development of innovative partnerships through networks, systems, cooperative planning and programming
• Sound collection development policies
• Offering opportunities for professional growth and job satisfaction of all employees
• Improvement of physical facilities resulting in better services

Sheila Cates Award for Librarian of the Year
Conferred upon a librarian in recognition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment in library service. The librarian must be currently employed in any field of librarianship in Montana and must be a current member of the Montana Library Association. Award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

• Provision of high-quality, community-centered library services
• Contribution to any area of service benefiting users
• Distinguished service to the profession, including outstanding participation in activities of professional library associations and/or notable publications
• Leadership in education and inservice training for librarians
• Leadership in cooperative activities
• Outstanding development of library techniques, management, and/or facilities

Trustee of the Year
Conferred upon a Montana public library trustee in recognition of outstanding achievement and leadership. Nominations may
be made by any library board, individual library, librarian, trustee, MLA member or Montana State Library Commission. Equal consideration shall be given to trustees of small and large libraries. The award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities and accomplishments such as the following:

- Service to the local library and participation in state and national activities
- Constructive accomplishments in promoting library service shall be considered rather than the length of service as a trustee
- Interest in and contribution to the development of library services beyond those of the local community
- Achievements of nominees are judged according to criteria found in the Montana Public Library Trustee Manual.

Special Friend to Libraries Award
Purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or groups who have rendered outstanding service in support of library interests within Montana. The award is conferred simply as a reward for a job well done. Nominations are accepted from members of the Montana library Association only. Award need not be based solely on service rendered during the previous year, but may be based on cumulative years of service.

Pat Williams Intellectual Freedom Award
Conferred upon an individual or group who has made significant contributions during the past year to the enhancement of First Amendment rights. The recipient should have demonstrated a clear understanding of the principles, nature, responsibilities and implications of the First Amendment. The recipient should be a Montanan or a non-Montanan whose contribution has a demonstrable effect on Montana. The recipient should have applied that understanding of the principles in one or more the following ways:

- In defense of the principles in the face of a serious challenge to it which defense is not necessarily limited to libraries,
- In support of the principles through an active role in Formulating programs which develop people’s ability to deal with a full range of opinion/controversy and with the issues associated with such controversy, or
- Developing or materially assisting in the development, of a legal base for the continued enjoyment of freedom of mind, its strengthening, and its defense, or
- Expanding the philosophical foundation of the principle or contributing to better understanding of it.

Interest Group Excellence Award
Conferred upon an individual member of an MLA interest group or upon an interest group as a whole, for meritorious service on behalf of Montana libraries and/or librarians. Award shall be based upon, but not limited to, activities or accomplishments such as the following:

- Comprehensive projects which benefit the larger library community
- Exemplary programs or outstanding services which are not available through other channels
- Extraordinary assistance to other libraries and/or librarians in Montana

Media Award
Conferred to honor a production for broadcast or work for publication which best underscores the value of libraries to community and society. This includes works prepared for television, radio, cable, film, and/or print media. News articles/programs and documentaries also qualify. The broadcast or publication of the nominated work should be within the two years preceding the annual conference at which the award is to be made. A copy of the nominated work must be submitted to the Awards and Honors Committee for review.
Contribute to a Literary Feast

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson
ML PR & Marketing Committee Chair

Do you make a scrumptious chicken cordon bleu? Apple pie? Or perhaps yummy appetizers are more your thing? Regardless of your cooking specialty, MLA wants your recipes! We are planning on publishing our very own association cookbook as a fundraiser and we need your recipe assistance.

WHAT: A fundraising cookbook entitled: A Literary Feast: Recipes from the Montana Library Association

WHY: A fun delicious way to raise money for the association!

HOW: You can enter in your own recipes online. Go to: http://www.typensave.com.
Click on login
Contributor: Your name
(Please include your library name as another contributor)
Login: librariansyum
Password: d4nag
Add one recipe--or many!

If electronic data entry is not for you, you can e-mail your recipes, fax your recipes, or even snail mail your recipes. Contact information is located below. We need everyone to participate! The more recipes we get, the better the cookbook will be, and the more money we will raise for the association. And don’t forget--these fabulous cookbooks will make excellent gifts!

WHEN: Send in your recipes as soon as possible, but no later than January 1, 2010. The cookbook will be published and for sale by the annual conference in April in Bozeman.

As an extra bonus, we’ll be including pictures of the MLA library community on the divider pages of the cookbook. We’re thinking about making that into a little contest with fabulous prizes. So, keep that in mind and think about ways you might bring the theme “A Literary Feast” to photographic life in your library.

There are 70 million books in American libraries, but the one I want to read is always out.
~Tom Masson
Marjorie Doyle, Reference Librarian
Missoula Public Library

The 2010 Emerging Leaders (EL) program, which is in its fourth year, kicks off with a daylong session during the 2010 American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in Boston.

Connie Paul, one of the program’s facilitators said, “It’s networking at its best.”

It will enable approximately 100 library staff from across the country to participate in project planning workgroups; network with peers; gain an inside look into ALA structure; and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers.

Participants will receive two days of orientation and education with Maureen Sullivan, an organizational development consultant whose practice focuses on leadership development for the profession, and Connie Paul, executive director of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative. “The first three groups have shown what dynamic promise the Emerging Leaders hold for moving ALA into its future. Our fourth program will build on the lessons learned and success achieved by them,” Paul said.

Following the kickoff session, it will grow and develop in an online learning and networking environment for six months, culminating with a poster session showcasing the results of the project planning work at the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Participants commit to taking part in all aspects of the program and may have an opportunity to serve on an ALA, Division, Chapter or Round Table committee or a task force or work group upon completion of program.

More than one-third of this year’s participants have received sponsorships. The Emerging Leader from Montana will be Sarah Daviau, Adult Services librarian from Lincoln County Public Libraries in Libby and is being sponsored by the Montana Library Association. Each sponsor commits to financial support of an Emerging Leader in order to defray costs for attending the ALA Midwinter Meeting and the Annual Conference.

Belgrade Community Library News

By Gale Bacon, Director
Belgrade Community Library

Belgrade Community Library Passes Levy
The Belgrade Community Library staff is thrilled to announce the passage of a new operating levy for the Belgrade Community Library. The new funds will come to the library for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Because of the successful passage of the levy, the Gilhousen Foundation has awarded the library a one time $35,000 grant. $15,000 has been designated by the Gilhousen Foundation for new materials and $20,000 for everyday operations and/or debt reduction. We are indebted to the Belgrade community for stepping up in an extremely challenging financial era.

Library Receives Fall Festival Proceeds
On November 6, 2009 the Belgrade Chamber presented the Library with a check in the amount of $3,964.00. The library was the 2009 recipient of the Fall Festival raffle. The theme “Today’s Readers...Tomorrow’s Leaders” promoted the community library as an important resource for making reading materials available for patrons of all ages. The funds will be used for primarily for youth and children’s collection development.
Fiesta Latina!

By Amy Ling, Library Assistant  
North Valley Public Library

When North Valley Public Library staff members Amy Ling and Carrie Hearn approached their director about attending an MLA preconference on Spanish Language Outreach, Renee McGrath was supportive, but skeptical. “Do we have a Hispanic population in the Bitterroot?” she wondered.

But Amy and Carrie were inspired by what they learned at the day long seminar sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Montana State Library, and the North Valley Public Library Spanish Outreach Program was born.

Staff began by networking with Hispanic patrons and community members to form a weekly Spanish Conversation Group. This group has been meeting weekly since [date] and continues to grow; currently it has 27 members. Discussions are informal and generally revolve around recent activities of members with native Spanish speakers leading the dialogue and assisting those less fluent in the language. Participants often bring food, and always have fun.

In September 2008, the Library hosted its first “Fiesta Hispana” complete with music, dance, and food to celebrate Spanish cultures from around the world. More than 100 people attended the event, which also showcased the library’s new collection of Spanish and Spanish-English materials.

This year, the Spanish Conversation Group decided to celebrate the seven Latin and South American countries that gained their independence during the month of September with a month-long “Fiesta Latina.” The inaugural event was held at the library. Members of the conversation group provided authentic decorations, including clothing, flags, etc. to provide a festive atmosphere. Each member cooked a traditional recipe from one of the celebrated countries; each was labeled with their name and country of origin. A native Guatemalan brought his guitar and sound system and sang traditional songs. Local dance instructors described the history of several Latino dances and then demonstrated them. The audience response was terrific! Many people jumped in and began to dance.

We were amazed at the community response to this event. There were more than 160 people in attendance – more than at any library event to date!

In September 2008, the Library hosted its first “Fiesta Hispana” complete with music, dance, and food to celebrate Spanish cultures from around the world. More than 100 people attended the event, which also showcased the library’s new collection of Spanish and Spanish-English materials.

Library Director Renee McGrath’s question was answered, “There IS a Hispanic population (and tremendous interest in Hispanic culture and heritage) in the Bitterroot Valley.” Checkouts of our Spanish materials continue to increase as interest in our Spanish Language Outreach programs grow. The most rewarding part of all has been bringing native Spanish-speakers into our library and helping to connect them to others in our community. For more details, visit our Spanish Language Outreach blog at: mtslo.blogspot.com
Missoula’s librarians took to the streets in a series of local parades that kept residents cheering, and staff in shape. We started with the University of Montana Homecoming Parade in October, unveiled our “book cart drill team” with carts decorated as horses, and our bookmobile decorated as a steer to go along with the theme “Sweet Home Montana.” We heard a lot of “Look, it’s the library!” coming from the crowd, and while we didn’t win the people’s pick award, we know we deserved it!

We had so much fun at the homecoming parade that we got straight to work redesigning our carts, and ourselves, for the Day of the Dead parade. As zombie librarians complete with white faces, glasses on chains and sensible shoes, we staggered through the streets, dramatically shushing the crowd and performing synchronized cart routines.

The Parade of Lights is next at the time of this printing. Not to be outdone, our group is preparing to transform once again, making our carts into a holiday train complete with lights and garland. And word has it that the jolly old elf himself might be driving the bookmobile instead of his sleigh this year. The parades are a great way to get out in the community, show we’re taking part in events, get people thinking about the library in a different way, and just plain old have fun.
Addition and Elevator Happening at the Rosebud Library

By Cheryl Heser, Director
Rosebud County Library

When the beautiful building which houses Rosebud County Library in Forsyth was constructed in 1970, it included long stairways to a basement “Community Center” with meeting rooms, a kitchen, and bathrooms.

A few years later, cabinets were added to the smaller meeting room to house the laminated back issues of all the county newspapers since 1894, an impressive collection which includes papers from Rosebud, Ingomar, Ashland, and other communities which haven’t had newspapers in years. In addition, the basement provides the only storage in the building other than a few small cabinets and a closet upstairs.

Beginning in 2003, efforts have been made to add an elevator to the building to accommodate not only the many senior citizens and some handicapped citizens but also caterers for functions and the staff, who were carrying everything upstairs and downstairs from books to furniture to appliances like the library’s television and DVD player.

The project got all the way to bids in 2004 and then was abandoned, despite a petition drive and numerous local letters of support.

In 2008 efforts were redoubled, including local fundraisers and donations, including several thousand dollars from the GFWC Forsyth Woman’s Club, who are the Friends of the Library, and the elevator found a proponent in new Commissioner Bob Lee, whose family are avid library users. The project finally got the nod from the Rosebud County Commissioners when they proposed it as the top “shovel ready” project eligible for stimulus funds through the State of Montana and then found additional Federal funds toward the cost. Construction began in November, led by the local Cottonwood Construction firm, and the new addition plus the elevator should all be usable by April 1, 2010. Patrons will be able to enter the library at ground level -- doing away with stairs which have been a problem, particularly in winter -- and then can choose between stairs up or down or the elevator. Meanwhile, entrance to the library is by the back door and use of the basement is suspended until spring, also necessitating canceling the semi-annual Book Sale usually held in November. My staff could use roller skates, considering the need up front where circulation and the computers are and the need in the back where people are entering and exiting, but the project will eventually make our lives and the lives of our patrons easier. I tell them it’s a little like pregnancy – it’s a long wait and definitely not convenient, but the results should be worth it all!
LIVE ANYWHERE while you attend our GLOBAL e-CAMPUS for Library and Information Science

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• Master of Archives and Records Administration (MARA)
• Executive MLIS Program
• San José Gateway Ph.D. Program

Learn about our online distance learning programs and our special initiatives for American Indians.

http://slisweb.sjsu.edu
Seeking Submissions from Practicing Librarians

Surviving and Thriving in the Recession: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians

Book publisher: Neal-Schuman


Afterword: Dr. Loriene Roy, Professor in the School of Information, the University of Texas at Austin, Past President of the American Library Association, Director/Founder, If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything Reading Club. Contributor, Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook, American Library Association, 2010

Chapters sought for an anthology by practicing academic, public, school, special librarians sharing their experiences on how librarians are handling the recession. Concise, how-to case studies, using bullets, headings, by librarians in the trenches based on experience using creativity and innovation. A sample will be supplied as to style.

No previously published, simultaneously submitted material. One or two chapters sharing the range of your experience, 2100-2300 words total. One article 2100-2300 words; or two articles divided so they total 2100-2300 words. Chapters welcomed by one librarian, or co-authored by two

Possible topics: creative staffing, financial planning, grant writing, community donations, sharing facilities, cooperative buying, maximizing the media, legislative participation, workshops for job hunters, innovative technology

The deadline for completed chapters (Call A) is January 10, 2010. Contributors will receive an agreement to sign before publication. Compensation: a complimentary book if sole author--if co-authored the complimentary book is shared; discount on additional copies

To avoid duplication, please e-mail in an attached Word File 1-3 topics each clearly proposed in separate paragraphs by December 10 along with a 80-90 word bio beginning with: your name, library of employment, city/state location, employment title, where you got your degree, awards, publications, and career highlights. If co-authored, each of the two librarian-writers will need to send a separate bio. You will be contacted as soon as possible telling you which one (if any) of your topics will work, inviting you to e-mail your completed chapter; an invitation doesn’t guarantee acceptance. Please place RECESSION/your name on the subject line to: smallwood@tm.net

Seeking Submissions from Soon-to-be Retired, Retired Librarians, or Projects on the Topic

Librarians Retirement Handbook: By Colleagues In the Know

Book Publisher: Library Juice Press


Foreword: Robert P. Holley, Professor of Library & Information Science, Wayne State University, obtained his doctorate from Yale University, his MLIS from Columbia University. Dr.
Seeking Submissions, continued

Holley contributed to, Writing and Publishing: The Librarian’s Handbook, ALA Editions, 2010

Afterword: Sarah Passonneau, Assistant Professor, Assistant-to-the Dean, Iowa State University Library. Previously a community college, school librarian in Minnesota; county librarian in California. Contributor: Greening Libraries, Library Juice Press, 2011

Chapters sought for an anthology by soon to be retired or now retired academic, public, school, special librarians sharing their experiences on retirement to help colleagues. Those doing studies also welcome. Concise, how-to chapters, using bullets, headings

No previously published, simultaneously submitted material; 2100-3000 words total. One chapter or two. If two, please divide words—one chapter may be 1000 for example, the other 1300 words. No co-authors

Possible topics: Financial Planning Before Retiring; Early Retirement—or Not; Part Time/Full Time Jobs After Retirement; Using Library Skills to Enhance Retirement Life; Writing for Publication or Family Histories; Keeping Healthy in Mind and Body; The Aging Process, Wills, Assisted Living; Going Back to School, Auditing/for Credit; Political Office and Leadership Positions; Notable Retirement Activities; Retirement Daily Economics; Legacies, Memorials

The deadline for completed chapters (Call #1b) is January 10, 2010. Contributors will receive an agreement to sign before publication. Compensation: a complimentary book, discount on additional copies

To avoid duplication, please e-mail by attached Word File, 1-3 titled proposals each in a separate paragraph by December 10, along with a 85-90 word bio beginning with: your name, current or previous library/libraries of employment, city/state location, employment title(s), awards, publication titles, memberships, and career highlights. If co-written by two authors, please send a separate bio of 85-90 words for each author. You will be contacted as soon as possible telling you which one (if any) of your topics will work, inviting you to e-mail your completed chapter(s); an invitation doesn’t guarantee acceptance. Kindly place RETIRED/your name on the subject line to: smallwood@tm.net

Pam Henley, Technology Assistant
Bozeman Public Library
MPLA Representative

MPLA is reminding all members to update their information in the MemberClicks area. You can log in using the log-on box at the bottom of the MPLA home page (http://www.mpla.us/) . Once in, go to My Profile and check all your contact information, especially your email address. MPLA will be using this for future contact.

Are you interested in a trip to Ireland next summer? Join MPLA on a Literary Ireland tour! Fly to Dublin, then tour Belfast, Galway, Killarney and Limerick. Highlights include Trinity College Library, the National Writer’s Museum, Linenhall Library and an occasional literary pub crawl. Deadline for a deposit is December 31, 2009. See the complete information at http://www.mpla.us/irelandbrochure.pdf.
2010 MPLA Awards

Do you know someone in the library world who goes above and beyond to provide service well above the level of their job description, someone who has innovative ideas, new approaches to old problems, a level of enthusiasm and positive thinking that affects both librarians and patrons? Is there a special project in your community that libraries and librarians have been a part of, perhaps one that has not been recognized in other ways? Or perhaps you know someone who has given years of service to school or public libraries, or who has made a significant contribution to the profession over a period of years. Please consider nominating such a person, organization, or company for an MPLA award.

Awards will be presented at the 2010 MPLA Joint Conference with the Oklahoma Library Association in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in April 2010. Academic, public, and school librarians are eligible; groups, organizations or companies will also be considered for appropriate awards. Nominees for some of the awards must be MPLA members. The MPLA Literary Contribution Award will be given to an author whose work has furthered an understanding and appreciation of the twelve-state Mountain Plains region.

Nominations must be made by a current member of MPLA. To nominate a person or group for any of the five awards, please use the nomination form, or available on the website, http://www.mpla.us/committees/awards/index.html. Nominations must be postmarked by the deadline, January 15th, 2010 and may be sent by mail or by email.

The MPLA Awards Committee is seeking nominees for the following five awards:

☐ **MPLA Beginning Professional Award:** To recognize an MPLA member who, within the first five years after receiving a library/media masters degree, has made a positive impact as a library media specialist on the quality of library service in his/her library or community. Innovative programming and planning, use of resources, and the implementation of special projects will be considered.

☐ **MPLA Distinguished Service Award:** To be given to an MPLA member who has made notable contributions to the library profession or has furthered significant development of state, academic, public, or school libraries in the Mountain Plains region, or who has performed exemplary service for an extended period of time. If a retired individual is nominated, the nominee may be a past member of MPLA.

☐ **MPLA Unsung Hero Award:** To be given to any library individual(s) or group(s) in the MPLA region who have worked on a special project that has significance to a community but which has not been eligible for a library award, or which, for other reasons specified by the nominator, has not been recognized by any library organization to the degree that it merits.

☐ **Carl Gaumer Library Champion Award:** To be given to the individual, organization, or company whose positive support of the Mountain Plains Library Association is demonstrated through repeated conscientious endeavors in support of libraries, library staff, and trustees, or through professional activities.

☐ **MPLA Literary Contribution Award:** To be given to an author whose published writings have successfully furthered an understanding and appreciation of the Mountain Plains region. The author need not reside in the region, and the nomination may be based on either a single work or a body of works. Published works will be evaluated on the basis of literary worth, readability, and evidence of responsible research.
Mountain Plains Library Association
Awards Nomination Form

Nomination For __________________________ Award

Nominee:
Name ______________________________________
Mailing Address ______________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
Telephone Number ______________ email address __________

Submitted by:
Name ______________________________________
Address ______________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Zip ______
Telephone Number ______________ email address __________

Nominee’s Specific Contribution(s) to Merit the Award:

Additional information about the nominee’s achievements and contributions should be attached to this form. Please include supporting documentation if available. Photographs are welcome.

Nominations and documentation should be mailed to:

Ellen Fockler
Washoe County School District
425 E Ninth St P.O. Box 30425
Reno, NV 89520


If you have questions about the nominating process, please contact Ellen Fockler, efockler@washoe.k12.nv.us; 775.682.5552 or 775.742-0184 (cell)
NCCE 2010: Teacher Librarian Summit
MARCH 3, 2010 * 9 AM – 4 PM * SEATTLE, WASHINGTON * $210

Make Your Own Magic:

TRANSFORMATIVE SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMS
This day-long summit is a call to action for Teacher Librarians. Even though the role and need for school library and information services and functions are more essential than ever, many school library programs are being cut or scaled back. It's time for dynamic and targeted actions.

This NCCE Teacher Librarian summit will provide participants with a clear vision, defined responsibilities and an action plan for teacher librarians as they work with school administration and information technology leaders. Mike Eisenberg, and other leaders in the field of information literacy and technology education, will engage participants with ICT standards, program standards and resources to assist teacher librarians in preserving and strengthening school libraries.

Featuring:
Michael Eisenberg
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Gail Petri and Sherrie Galloway
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Highlights
- Defining our role for 21st Century Schools
- Leading the implementation of standards for our schools
- Building partnership for Information Literacy and Technology
- Coordinating with Administrators and IT teams
Lunch will be provided!
Exclusive Prizes and Give-a-ways!
Space is Limited

NCCE Welcomes: Library of Congress
The Research Library of the United States
MARCH 4-5, 2010 * MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS
ONE-HOUR SESSIONS

PRESENTERS:
Sherrie Galloway
Educational Outreach Specialist

Gail Petri
Education Resource Specialist

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SESSIONS
- Teaching With Primary Sources: Audio and Video
- Teaching With Primary Sources: Maps
- Teaching With Primary Sources: Photos
- Using Books as Hooks to Primary Sources
- Differentiation Using Primary Sources
- Showcasing the NEW Teaching With Primary Sources Professional Development System