

Centennial State Libraries

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Colorado Talking Book Library Has New Director

Debbi MacLeod has joined the Colorado Talking Book Library as the new director. The agency, part of the Colorado State Library (Colorado Department of Education) provides free service to Coloradans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical or learning disabilities whether permanent or temporary.

MacLeod brings a variety of experience from the private sector to the position as well as teaching and library skills. Early in her

career, she taught high school students in Maine, worked at the Colby College Library and substituted in school media centers.



Most recently, Debbi spent 15 years in the corporate world, first at Polaroid Corp in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and then Hewlett Packard in Colorado and California. Her expertise is in market, competitive and trend analysis; and at Polaroid she had responsibility for the business library.

Debbi received her MLIS from Simmons College, Graduate School of Library & Information Science in Boston, Massachusetts, and her BA from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. She has an entrepreneurial spirit from working in family businesses--a manufacturing company and an independent retail gift store.

The CTBL supplies recorded, Braille and large-print books and magazines as well as a small collection of descriptive videos. Delivery is via the U. S. Post Office. For information on the CTBL, contact 303-727-9277 (Metro Denver); 800-685-2136 (toll-free in state); e-mail ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us, or visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl/index.htm>.

Recent Elections Offer Libraries Opportunities

Aside from actual ballot issues, elections can offer a method to reach out to the community. A number of library facilities are locations for early voting or day-of voting. As citizens stand in line to cast their ballots, they needn't twiddle their thumbs. Some libraries provided recycled books or magazines to pass the time. And by inserting information about library services or library card applications, you can increase the impact even more. At Standley Lake Library in the Jefferson County Public Library system, library card applications increased by about 1/3 during early voting. An additional option is fund-raising. If you have a volunteer or Friends group that's interested, they can sell light refreshments for reasonable fees. (Thanks to Alycia Tulloch for the report on registrations.)

Award to Be Given for Small/Rural Library

Library Journal's new annual Award for the Best Small or Rural Library in America, cosponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, has been founded to encourage and showcase the exemplary work of these libraries. The award honors the library that most profoundly demonstrates outstanding service to populations of 25,000 or less. The winning library will receive a \$10,000 cash award, a feature story in the February 1, 2005 Library Journal, membership and conference costs for two library representatives to attend the Public Library Association Biannual Conference in 2006, and a gala reception at the conference. Nomination deadline: December 1, 2004. There is no entry fee. For information, contact miller@reedbusiness.com. (Sorry, can't find a web site.)

ALA Traveling Exhibit on Hamilton Available

The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, the New-York Historical Society, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History are accepting grant applications from public, academic and special libraries, as well as National Park historic sites, wishing to host the traveling exhibition, Alexander Hamilton: The Man Who Made Modern America. Download the application and guidelines at www.ala.org/publicprograms. Applications must be received by January 21, 2004.

The exhibit examines Hamilton's central role during the Revolutionary War and Founding period (1774-1804) in creating the economic, constitutional, social, journalistic, political and foreign policy templates for modern America. Two copies of the exhibit will travel to 40 libraries and National Park historic sites around the country between October 2005 and March 2009. Each exhibit will consist of six colorful, freestanding 18-foot-long and 7-foot-high panels.

Libraries and National Park historic sites selected for the tour will receive grants of \$1,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for planning seminar and/or programming expenses. Selected institutions will host the exhibition for a six-week period and are expected to present at least two free public programs featuring a lecture or discussion by a qualified scholar on exhibition themes. All showings of the exhibition will be free and open to the public.

Pikes Peak Receives Creative Award

Reflections of the Pikes Peak Region, recently published by the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) and Friends of PPLD, has been honored by the international MarCom Creative Awards 2004 competition – winning in both the calendar and book categories. Only 15 percent of the 3,344 entries received the prestigious Platinum Award in recognition of excellence in terms of quality, creativity, and resourcefulness. Reflections, a perpetual calendar, <http://www.library.ppld.org/SpecialCollections/ReflectionsOrderForm.pdf>, was originally conceived as a project celebrating the

Library's 100th anniversary in 2004.

A Feel-Good Library Article

The AAA member magazine, EnCompass" has a brief, but complimentary article about libraries in Boulder and Craig this month. See http://www.aaa.com/aaa/006/EnCompass/2004/nov/nov_MyColorado.html for the reminiscence by Susan Damon.

November News on Books and Writers Online

The November edition of the BOOC Book News is ready for download on the Book Organizations of Colorado home page, www.coloradobook.org. Print several and post in your library for use of patrons and staff.

MPLA/CAL Jam Session Awards

The Jam Session collection, with valuable ideas about, will be published in the next few weeks online. Here are the winners:

- South Dakota
I suspect there are public libraries already doing this, but one thing I have thought of doing for our library is a book blog where library patrons could write about books they have read recently.
David Alexander, MPLA member
Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian
Hilton M. Briggs Library
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD
- Nebraska
Our Friends of the Library purchased 100 shopping baskets (like the ones in retail stores) with our library's name imprinted on them. We check them out the same as books. Some times they are all checked out. Many families use them to keep track of their library books.
Linda M. Rea, MPLA member
Director
Hastings Public Library
Hastings, NE

- **Montana**
All of our library's student workers attended customer service training. We had "door prizes", provided snacks, and showed movie clips illustrating customer service concepts. Sessions included pre-scripted skits performed by students, puzzle exercises, brainstorming rounds and lively discussions.
Jan Fandrich – MPLA member
Technical and Access Services Librarian
Montana State University-Billings Library
Billings, MT
- **Kansas**
We hosted the "Library Olympics". Students competed in archery (exercise ball in the book drop), newspaper relay, and book toss, which consisted of an unabridged edition of Webster's—missing pages, poor condition—16 lbs, duct tape, and wired. It flew up to 22 feet in the air.
Donna M. Hobbs, MPLA member
Coordinator of Library Services
Manhattan Area Technical College
Manhattan, KS
- **Wyoming**
In the public seating areas, rearrange the furniture every few weeks. Move the couches, easy chairs, and coffee tables into spaces occupied by study tables, and vice versa. The students seem to like it. They sit in new places and see different collections and resources.
Sandra Barstow (member of MPLA)
Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance
University of Wyoming Libraries
Laramie, WY
- **Institutional libraries – state libraries, systems, associations (CAL and MPLA)**
The easiest way for libraries to gain visibility, support, and networks is by getting involved with planning groups of all types. I contact the organizer and offer to join the committee as a "community connection." This has led to lots of visibility in early childhood matters.
Bonnie McCune, CAL
Library Community Programs Consultant
Colorado State Library
Denver, CO
- **Colorado Academic**
A bright yellow reference on-the-go cart with horn and side mirror makes library and reference staff appear more approachable. Equipped with laptop it goes to remote locations: student union, computer labs, dormitories. Bright blue helmets prepare us for any research challenge.
McKinley Sielaff, CAL member
Documents Librarian
Tutt Library, Colorado College
Colorado Springs, CO

- **Colorado Public**
The Friends of the Library scheduled a “book night” at the Barnes and Noble. They received 15% of up to \$2,000 in sales, 20% between \$2,000 and \$10,000, and 25% after that.) We handed out vouchers to be turned in when making a purchase beforehand and at the store that night.
Larry Grieco, CAL member
Director
Gilpin County Public Library
Golden, CO
- **Colorado Schools**
Each spring, next year's kindergartners and their parents attend a library-based “Get to Know Your New School” party. Fourth graders give school tours, followed by a story and art project. The principal, PTA president and I speak. A public librarian talks about the summer reading program.
Kim Meyer, CAL member
Library Information Specialist
Marshdale Elementary
Evergreen, CO
- **Most Entries by a CAL or MPLA member**
We could have measured this by two criteria—most entries by a single person or most entries by a library. In both scenarios, there was the same winner: Tania personally submitted 15 entries and her library as a whole submitted 25.
Tania Hajjar, CAL member
Reference Librarian
Montrose Regional Library District
Montrose, CO

For additional information, E-Mail: [B. McCune](mailto:B.McCune)

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