



Kansas Libraries

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Take Control of Your Learning

By Brenda Hough (bckhough@gmail.com)

Library Consultant and Instructor, Lawrence, Kansas

What are you learning?

People often ask my 7-year-old son what he is learning. As an adult, however, it's a question that we are asked much less frequently. We are, of course, always learning. Every day we read and talk and encounter new things that require us to learn. As individuals working in and for libraries, our work environment is jam-packed with programs, services, and resources that foster knowledge. Like the shoemaker's children, however, our own learning needs are sometimes neglected.

Make a plan for professional learning.

Most of us feel a responsibility to engage in continuous professional learning and to apply that learning to provide relevant, high-quality service in our communities. Setting and achieving learning goals can make your work life more satisfying and it can ultimately lead to improved library services. Creating a learning plan is something an individual or a team can do to communicate intentions and identify action steps.

I always think of planning as a three part process. A: know where you are. B: know where you want to be. C: make a plan for getting from A to B.

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Cindy Hohl named 2016-2017 ALA Spectrum Scholar

Cindy Hohl, Customer Experience Manager at Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, has been named a 2016-2017 ALA Spectrum Scholar. The ALA Spectrum Scholarship program provides scholarships to applicants based on commitment to diversity, community outreach, academic ability and achievements, and leadership. Cindy says she "would love to assist with any diversity matters within our library community."

Spectrum Scholars were recognized at a reception during ALA Midwinter hosted by ALA President-elect Jim Neal, who is committed to expanding diversity inclusion measures within libraries.



2016-2017 ALA Spectrum Scholars at ALA Midwinter. Photo courtesy Cindy Hohl.



Cindy Hohl with Dr. Carla Hayden at ALA Midwinter. Photo courtesy Cindy Hohl.

From Our KLA President



Dear KLA Colleagues,

I hope that you have all been able to overcome the flu epidemic, and that you have finally settled into a new and exciting year. No doubt, it will be a year full of challenge for all of us, since many are not happy with the political situation and are actively protesting the threats to our rights and liberties. But we have to remember that we are resilient, and that when things are bad, we must work together to make an effort to find the positive—that pot of gold is never too far away from the end of that rainbow.

We as librarians are hardworking, dependable, knowledgeable leaders in our communities. Our creativity, problem-solving ability as movers and shakers and our collaboration will always put us in the forefront and move us forward to find ways to resolve the largest problems that tend to stop us in our tracks, even when it seems impossible to solve. We need to stay open-minded, active, and positive as we work within our communities, be it in academia or in public settings. The way forward will not be easy, but we can do it, step by step, continuing to transform our libraries to better serve our communities despite the dire political and financial limitations we face.

I want to let you know that despite the many challenges that KLA has had to weather over the past few months, we are looking to solve them by closing the KLA Office in Topeka and contracting with the Northwest Kansas Library System, located in Norton, Kansas, to have our KLA Office run more effectively in the future. Before our January KLA Council Meeting, members of our Executive Committee and our KLA Archivist took the opportunity to sort all the records in the KLA Office, making decisions about what to archive, what records to shred, and what records to keep and move to the system office. We as an Executive Committee have confidence in George Seamon, our current KLA Vice-President and incoming President of KLA, and his staff to get the KLA Office up and running efficiently over the next few months. At present, we are also attempting to make a change to improve our current accounting, conference, and membership software program by choosing a new software program. We have had virtual meetings with vendors in the hope of improving not just how we handle transactions at the KLA Office, but we also aim to make the Conference signup a lot easier for you in the future.

If you are an academic librarian, please note that our College and University Libraries Section has opened the search for proposals for their upcoming conference. Proposals can be submitted using an [online form](https://goo.gl/forms/gpCzKx02Dj2mRvud2) (<https://goo.gl/forms/gpCzKx02Dj2mRvud2>) and are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 17, 2017. You will be notified of acceptance by Friday, February 24, 2017. Please consider submitting a conference proposal. The CULS Conference will be held this year at the Oread Hotel, adjacent to the Campus of the University of Kansas, in Lawrence, Kansas, from April 27-28. I do look forward to attending the CULS Conference and meeting you all at this year's conference in my hometown.

Sincerely,

Gloria Creed-Dikeogu, Kansas Library Association President

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A. Know where you are. Start with some reflection. What did you do in the last year? What did you learn? What changed in your community, organization, and department or with your position? Think more broadly, too, and also consider how has the field changed? What new technologies, trends, or opportunities have you not yet explored? Consider these questions and critically think about your workplace performance and consider areas for growth. It may be useful to solicit input from peers or supervisors who are familiar with your job performance, too.

B. Know where you want to be. Two resources that may be useful to you as you consider areas for growth include:

WebJunction's Competency Index for the Library Field <http://bit.ly/2ke5oir>

This 88-page document lists skills, abilities, and knowledge in various areas, including technology, collection management, public services, and more. Don't let the document length intimidate you. It's meant to be browsed, not read.

Library, Archives & Museum Professional Development Needs 2016 Edition <http://bit.ly/2jZ3tRl>

This document is almost 300 pages long! It shares the results from an extensive research project related to professional development. The pages that I suggest you look at are **11-12** and also **48-53**. Browsing these competencies may help you recognize areas in which you want to focus your learning.

C. Make a plan for getting from A to B.

- Set goals. Based upon your research and reflection, identify things you want or need to learn. Start by creating a long list of possibilities and then establish priorities. Looking at the strategic goals for your library, organization or community can help you determine the learning priorities that are most relevant. Discussions with your supervisor can also be key as you narrow down your list of learning possibilities. From your list, select 3-5 learning goals. Try to set goals that are ambitious, yet realistic.
- Identify actions. For each goal, create an action plan. How will you achieve each learning goal? Read! Talk! Take a course!

For example, one of my current learning goals is to better understand Theory of Change and to identify useful related practical tools that can be used to help libraries. I am committed to spending ½ hour each week focused on this. Frequently, this means three ten-minute chunks of time devoted to reading articles. I have a paper folder and also a virtual folder where I save articles and also where I keep a Word document with my own notes and ideas. At some point, I may take a class on the



Credit: geratt/pixabay. CCO

topic. For now, it's amazing how powerful just setting this intention of learning is. I'm constantly encountering resources or examples that are related to Theory of Change and I can quickly add notes to my document or articles to my "to be read" folder. **Setting an intention to learn about something** and **creating a system for capturing learning** are two powerful things that can help you make progress on learning goals, even if you have only limited time.

We are all busy and can be so focused on helping others learn that we forget to address our own learning needs. However, with a bit of time, solid intentions, and a simple system for capturing resources and ideas, you can start to feel more engaged in your professional learning.

Music in the Library

by Ralph D. Tomlinson
Olathe Public Library



Brett Hodges, bass; Betse Ellis, fiddle; and Clarke Wyatt, banjo; lead the January 2017 Tuesday Tunes with Betse at the Olathe Public Library. Photo courtesy Ralph D. Tomlinson.

It all started at a conference. Not a library conference, but at the 2014 Folk Alliance International Conference in Kansas City, Mo. Pete Wernick, also known as Dr. Banjo, taught a two-session class on how to jam. As I sat in the room, trying to keep up with Wernick, one of the founders of the bluegrass band Hot Rize, and my classmates, I thought, why not start an acoustic jam session at the library?

I searched for someone to lead the jam session. The Folk Alliance staff suggested fiddler Betse Ellis, a founder of the “hillbilly riot” band the Wilders, winners of the 2009 Independent Music Award for Best Alternative Country Album. Tuesday Tunes with Betse, an acoustic jam session held the first Tuesday of every month, started in June 2014. We

have at least 15-20 musicians show up every month to sing and play, and a nice group of folks who come to listen. Occasionally, we have a guest artist join us. For the past three years, we’ve invited Latino musicians to lead a few tunes for our October Hispanic Heritage Month session. While we usually have musicians playing guitar, banjo, mandolin, harmonica and fiddle, we’ve had a few dobros and ukuleles, an accordion, a clarinet and an electric piano, played very quietly. Ages range from pre-teens to seniors.

But one night of music just wasn’t enough. In 2015, we added another musical program to our schedule. Usually, we try to book solo artists and bands to play on the third Tuesday, but we sometimes vary the date due to scheduling conflicts or touring artists coming to town. We love having local bands, but we’ve also booked a few nationally known artists as well, including Otter Creek, an award-winning duo from Salt Lake City, Utah; Grant Peeples, a poet and songwriter from Tallahassee, Fla.; and Dana Cooper, who grew up in nearby Independence, Mo. Cooper, who played in Kansas City coffee-houses as a teen, has opened for Lyle Lovett.

We’re especially excited about our February show. James Hill, recognized by critics as one of the world’s greatest ukulele players, and his wife, talented cellist Anne Janelle, will play the Olathe Community Center, Feb. 20. Local duo Victor & Penny open the show at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the concert, Hill will teach two ukulele workshops at the library. The workshops, limited to 30 participants each, filled up in three days. We hope the show will make more Olathe residents aware that the library offers ukuleles for checkout, as well as providing a rare opportunity to hear Hill & Janelle, who won the 2009 Canadian Folk Music Award for Traditional Album of the Year. Sponsors for the show include the library, Friends of Olathe Public Library, ArtsKC, KKFI 90.1 FM, Mainland Ukes and Whole Foods Market.

Later this year, the Flyin’ A’s, from Austin, Texas; Flagship Romance, of Jacksonville, Fla.; Bayou Seco, from Silver City, N.M.; as well as local favorites Brushy Creek and the Alferd Packer Memorial String Band, will play among the books at the Olathe Public Library. If you need to check out some music, come to the Olathe Public Library.



Just a few of the musicians who played at the August 2016 Tuesday Tunes with Betse. Photo courtesy Ralph D. Tomlinson.

Kansas Architecture is Theme for Series

The Kinsley Library's 2017 discussion series *Kansas Architecture: Reflections of Cultures* began on January 22 and will have three more monthly meetings. This is the sixth year the library has provided a humanities-based series for about 70 participants who come equally from within and outside Edwards County.

The three presentations at the first session included an introduction to vernacular architecture given by senior architect Ed Carlson, followed by talks on earthlodges of the Plains village tribes by KSU anthropologist Dr. Lauren Ritterbush, and on dugouts by a KSHS archaeologist Dr. Gina Powell.

Future meetings will include everything from opera houses to vintage gas stations, from sod houses to baseball stadiums and prairie cathedrals, and right up to today's metal buildings and green sustainable construction.

The library often goes outside its walls during a series. The February 12 session will meet in the Kinsley's Palace Theater, which is on the National Registry of Historic Places. One segment of the March 12 meeting will be a visit to Kinsley High School's new dome-shaped arena/storm shelter. The April 2 session will be divided between the Edwards County Sod House Museum and an architectural style bus tour of Kinsley.

"No matter what the series topic," said library director Joan Weaver, "we tie it into our local area or Kansas. Our speakers always look for connections, and we mount displays of local interest in the library."

This year the Kansas Sampler Foundation loaned their exhibit, *8 Architecture Wonders of Kansas*,

to be displayed in the library foyer. The library also generated six posters on Kinsley and Edwards County architecture, highlighting the Edwards County Sod Houses, schools in 1928, Kinsley Depot, churches, public architecture, and homes. These may also be viewed on the library website.



Senior architect Ed Carlson speaks to the group at Kinsley Library. Photo courtesy Joan Weaver.

"Our series is only made possible through a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council," said Weaver. "They are also instrumental in finding presenters and resources as we develop a series. They really fulfill their mission as a *nonprofit cultural organization that connects communities with history, traditions, and ideas to strengthen civic life.*"

A complete description of the series with future dates and online registration is available at the library website: www.kinsleylibrary.info.

Interested in getting involved in KLA?

KLA provides sections, roundtables, and advocacy issue support.

Use these links or visit the KLA website at kslibassoc.org.

[CULS \(College and University Libraries\)](#)

[GODORT \(Government Documents\)](#)

[RIAT \(Information Access and Technology\)](#)

[KILR \(Kansas Interlibrary Loan\)](#)

[KLIRT \(Information Literacy\)](#)

[PALS \(Private Academic Libraries\)](#)

[Public Libraries Section](#)

[Technical Services](#)

[Youth Services](#)

Cimarron City Library Story Time with Nursing Home

The Cimarron City Library started a program in October 2016 to hold Story Time with The Shepherd's Center nursing home. For October, November, and December of 2016, Story Time was held with the nursing home once a month. The residents enjoyed it so much that the library now holds the program twice a month on the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday of the month.

In January, the story program moved to the newly opened second branch of the long-term nursing care facility, with the Tuesday group meeting in the North Neighborhood facility, and the Wednesday group meeting in the South Neighborhood facility. Some residents travel back and forth between Neighborhoods to attend. One resident reported that she only gets out of her room when the children visit with the library program.

The library's Story Time program is run similarly to their original Story Hour program. As families arrive, toys and puzzles are available for families. Once most participants are gathered, the program opens with singing. The rest of the program is made up of reading stories, making crafts, and snacks. The program is well-attended, and the children interact well with the nursing home residents; the library even brings extra craft supplies for a nursing facility resident who likes to do the craft with the children. Although some changes are still anticipated, most seem to enjoy the program.



More photographs from Story Time are available on the Cimarron City Library Facebook page. If you would like more information about the program, contact Candis Hemel, Cimarron City Library Director at director@cimarroncitylibrary.org or call (620) 855-3808.

Photos courtesy Candis Hemel.



Leonardo da Vinci: The Renaissance Man exhibit on display

By Brandon West
Independence Public Library



Photo courtesy Brandon West.

The Independence Public Library recently opened a self-developed exhibit covering the life of Leonardo da Vinci. The exhibit entitled "Leonardo da Vinci: The Renaissance Man" consists of 10 panels, each measuring 3 feet wide by 6 feet tall. This hands-on exhibit discusses Leonardo's extraordinary contributions to anatomy, art, and his inventions. There are activities to engage youth of all ages, such as creating a paper model of da Vinci's flying machine and parachute, writing in the mirrored style of da Vinci, and drawing a self-portrait.

This is part of the IPL's yearlong aspiration to create four different exhibits, opening one each quarter. After each exhibit's three-month run in Independence, the exhibits are available for checkout to other libraries across the state.

Brandon West, IPL's Adult Services Coordinator, with editing help from Nancy Kishpaugh and Bill Gour, developed the exhibit. Thanks to the support of our Friends of the Independence Public Library, we were able to

purchase a large format printer in 2012, which enables us to print the exhibit in-house.

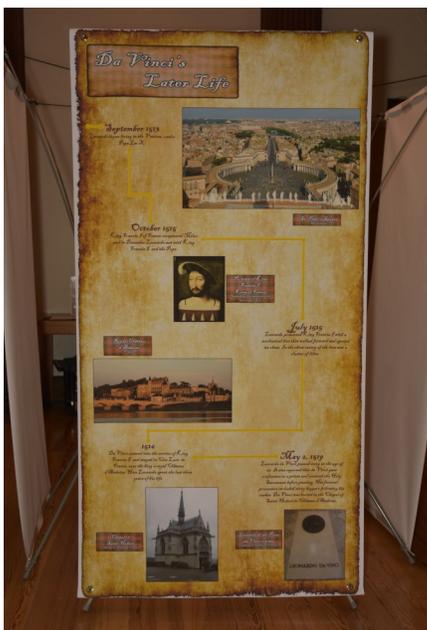


Photo courtesy Brandon West.

I began researching Leonardo da Vinci in late summer and was shocked to discover just how extraordinary he was. When starting the project, I knew very little about da Vinci; now I find myself bringing Leonardo up in all kinds of conversations. Leonardo da Vinci discovered how the human heart works, 500 years before anyone else. Da Vinci was more of a modern man, rather than a Renaissance man. When developing the exhibit, it was important to keep an open mind and allow the information to develop the flow of the exhibit. Through this process, I was able to create a title panel, early life panel, two panels each over his art, inventions, and anatomy studies, a

later life panel, and an ending panel.

"Leonardo da Vinci: The Renaissance Man" opened January 12th, 2017 on the eve of a potential ice storm. Still, families braved this threat, to view the exhibit. Children were engrossed in the hands-on activities while parents viewed the exhibit. Many of the conversations overheard included "I didn't know that" or "wow, he did that." The exhibit will be on display until March 31st, 2017.

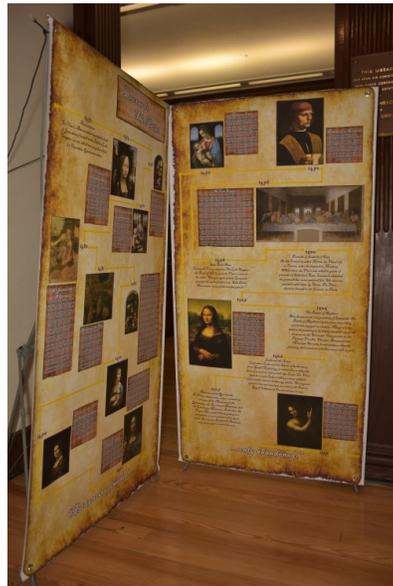


Photo courtesy Brandon West.



Photo courtesy Brandon West.

Continued on p.9

Kinsley Library Oral History Reaches the Nation's Children

If your school system subscribes to Scholastic *Storyworks*, your 4th and 5th grade children (along with a million others) had the opportunity to learn in the latest issue about the 1930s dust storms through the memory of 91-year-old Kinsley resident, Catherine Gleason Hatrup.

Catherine was just a girl at the time, but she still vividly remembers her fears when a massive dust cloud moved in on Black Sunday.

In October, 2014, the Kinsley Library recorded her life story as part of an ongoing effort to collect local oral histories. To date, the library has preserved her story and 71 others, making all of the audio interviews, transcripts, short video clips, and personal photographs accessible on the library website.

So it must have been a Google search which led Lauren Tarshis, Editorial Director for Scholastic Classroom Magazines, to learn about Catherine. Last September, she called library director Joan Weaver to ask permission to use Catherine's story and images in the December/January issue. And even better, she offered a little stipend to both the library and Catherine for their use.



Catherine Gleason Hatrup as a young girl. Photo courtesy Joan Weaver.

"I was so thrilled for Catherine" said

Weaver. "Like most of our interviewees, she didn't think she had led a very remarkable life. Now her childhood story of Black Sunday is helping children all over the United States understand how devastating humans can be to the environment."

Even though not all stories reach a nationwide audience, the Kinsley Library has found gathering oral histories to be important to their community. "It is a unique way a small library can remain relevant," said Weaver. "It builds pride both in the individual as well as the community when we see how the everyday lives of rural Kansans contribute to the fabric of our country."

For other stories, from riding in a plane with Charles A. Lindbergh, to driving in the Tractorcade to D.C., to fighting in the Korean War, visit www.kinsleylibrary.info and search their online catalog.

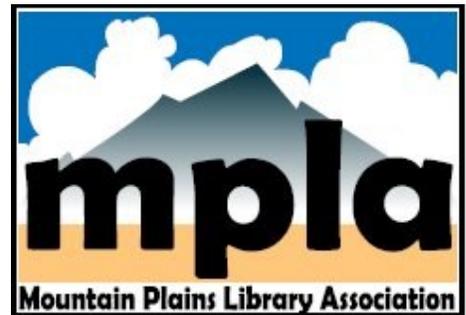


Catherine Gleason Hatrup. Photo courtesy Joan Weaver.

Professional Development Grant Opportunity

The Mountain Plains Library Association has Professional Development Grant opportunities for member librarians planning to attend conferences in 2017. Not a member yet? Please think about joining.

If you're not familiar with it, the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals, and Friends of libraries. In addition, MPLA just recently added a new membership category for authors. The states included are Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.



MPLA joins with its member associations to hold fabulous conferences. This year's conference is in Lake Tahoe, October 16-18. In 2018, MPLA is joining KLA in Wichita. 2018 will also be the year for another Leadership Institute, to be held at the YMCA in Loveland, Colo. Ask anyone who's attended one of the MPLA Leadership Institutes and they will likely tell you, as I will, that it was one of the most professionally rewarding experiences of their life.

Applications for the first round of this year's Professional Development Grants are due March 29 for individual members. There are also grants available for groups within state associations to help fund programs for fall conferences. The deadline for those grants is June 1.

--Diana Weaver, MPLA Representative for KLA

Leonardo da Vinci— Continued from p.7

Marketing the exhibit has been easier because everyone knows of da Vinci, and through word-of-mouth, there is a buzz throughout the community. We advertised on Facebook, and the local paper published a story about the exhibit with color photographs of the panels.

The library is planning a discussion over da Vinci in early February, and a book discussion over *Portrait of a Conspiracy: Da Vinci's Disciples* by Donna Russo Morin. The library is also working with the schools to offer class visits or to send staff to classes for presentations. Because funding can be an issue for teachers to be able to bring their classes to the library, we created a poster size replica (12.5"x24") available for use in the classroom.

For more information about "Leonardo da Vinci: The Renaissance Man," or to schedule a time to host the exhibit, please contact Brandon West at brandon@iplks.org.

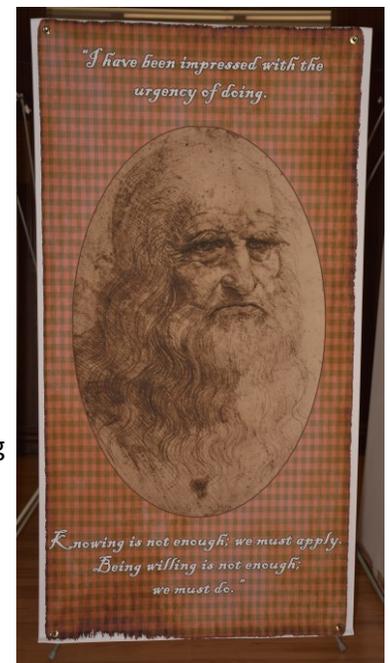


Photo courtesy Brandon West.



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Card No: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Membership dues: _____

Sections and Roundtables: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Mail this page to Kansas Library Association, 1020 SW Washburn, Topeka, KS 66604.



Online Membership and Renewal

<http://kslibassoc.org/home/join/>

KLA Mission Statement

The Kansas Library Association is the common bond, public voice, and collective for the Kansas library community.

KLA Vision Statement

Dynamic libraries and librarians serving all Kansans.

Kansas Library Association

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Website: kslibassoc.org

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\$105,000+.....	\$165.00
Student, Friend, Inactive or Retired	\$30.00
Trustee.....	\$25.00
(includes membership to both KLTA and KLA)	
Institutional Memberships	\$500.00

Sections and Roundtables

(check the groups you would like to join)

- _____ Youth Services Section — \$10.00
- _____ College & Univ. Libraries Section (CULS) — \$10.00
- _____ Private Academic Libraries Section (PALS) — \$10.00
- _____ Public Libraries Section (PLS) — \$10.00
- _____ KS Lib. Trustee Association Section (KLTA) — \$15.00
- _____ Govt. Doc. Roundtable (GODORT) — \$10.00
- _____ Info Access & Tech Roundtable (RIAT) — \$10.00
- _____ Interlibrary Loan Roundtable (KILR) — \$5.00
- _____ Library Instruction Roundtable (LIRT) — \$6.00
- _____ Tech Services Roundtable — \$10.00
- _____ Church Library Roundtable — \$8.00