

GOOD STUFF

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE
NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



STAY COZY



In this issue:

- Conference Recap
- NDLA Awards
- NEW! Quarterly Committee Blotter
- NEW! News from the Board

The Good Stuff

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Marlene Anderson

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Lesley Allan

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Remember to check our [website](#) for more information and updates

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Will Martin, NDLA President

But wait!

I hear you saying, “*Didn't we see Stephanie Galeazzo take the gavel at the last conference?*”

Yes, you did! Unfortunately, Stephanie has had to step down for health reasons. I thank her for her service to the organization and wish her all the best going forward. However, when a vacancy like this occurs, it falls to the President-Elect to step up. In this case, that's me.



For those who may not know me...

I'm the Head of Digital Initiatives, Systems and Services at the University of North Dakota Chester Fritz Library. I spend my time worrying about computer stuff. I grew up in Colorado and I've lived in North Dakota since 2010. I like games, good stories and knowing how to do things.

During my presidency, I hope to arrange some more professional development opportunities for NDLA members. First up though, we will need to hold a special election to fill the vacancy in the President-Elect seat. A call for nominees should already have gone out by the time this issue of the Good Stuff is published, but it's likely the election hasn't happened quite yet. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in running for

President-Elect, please [contact BreAnne Meier](#) to make a nomination. In other news, after four years with the company Star Chapter, NDLA has decided to move its website to a new host called Wild Apricot. The process of migrating to the new host is well under way. Before long, we'll have a shiny new web site. Hopefully, one that's a little easier to maintain!

Thank you for the service you render to your community. Thank you for being a member of NDLA!



WELCOME THE INCOMING BOARD!

NDLA Executive Board

President

[Will Martin](#)

Chester Fritz Library
University of North Dakota

President-elect

(Pending nomination and board election)

Past President

[Rita Ennen](#)

Dickinson Area Public Library

State Librarian

[Mary J Soucie](#)

North Dakota State Library

Treasurer

[Aaron Stefanich](#)

Grand Forks Public Library

Secretary

[Abby Ebach](#)

North Dakota State Library

MPLA Representative

[Randi Monley](#)

Minot Public Library

ALA Councilor

[Sara Westall](#)

Fargo Public Libraries

Web Editor

[Joshua Pikka](#)

Minot Public Library

Archivist/Historian

[Trevor Martinson](#)

North Dakota State Library

Academic & Special Libraries Section

[Brittany Fischer](#)

Chester Fritz Library
University of North Dakota

Health Science Information Section

Chair: [Erika Johnson](#)

School of Medicine & Health Sciences
University of North Dakota

Secretary: [Devon Olson](#)

School of Medicine & Health Sciences
University of North Dakota

Public Library Section

[Andrea Placher](#)

Williston Community Library

School Library & Youth Services Section

Chair: [Shari Mosser](#)

North Dakota State Library

Secretary: [Carmen Redding](#)

North Dakota State Library

Bylaws and Policies Committee

Co-chairs:

[Virginia Bjorness](#)

North Dakota State Historical Society

[Kristen Borysewicz](#)

Chester Fritz Library

University of North Dakota

WELCOME THE INCOMING BOARD!

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

[Karlene Clark](#)

Chester Fritz Library

University of North Dakota

Finance Committee

[James W Murphy](#)

North Dakota State Library

Legislative Committee

[Janet Anderson](#)

Minot Public Library

Membership Committee

[Nicole Eckroth](#)

University of Mary

New Members Committee

[Karlene Clark](#)

Chester Fritz Library

University of North Dakota

Nominations, Voting & Elections Committee

[BreAnne Meier](#)

North Dakota State Library

Professional Development Committee

Co-chairs:

[Jessica Gilbert-Redman](#)

School of Medicine & Health Sciences

University of North Dakota

[Devon Olson](#)

School of Medicine & Health Sciences

University of North Dakota

Technical Services / Government Documents Committee

[Susanne Caro](#)

Main Library

North Dakota State University

The Good Stuff

Editorial Committee

[Shannon Yarbrough](#)

School of Medicine & Health Sciences

University of North Dakota

Website Committee

[Joshua Pikka](#)

Minot Public Library

Sub-Committees:

FlickerTale Committee (SLAYS)

Co-Chairs:

[Amber Emery](#)

Fargo Public Library

[Louie Lauer](#)

Fargo Public Schools

Library Events and Conferences

January 2022

January – [National Braille Literacy Month](#)

January 4 – [World Braille Day](#)

January (Date TBA) – [Lake Superior Libraries Mid-Winter Unsymposium](#)

January 21-24 – [ALA LibLearnX \(Virtual\)](#) - rebrand of the ALA Mid-Winter Meeting

January 24 – [ALA Youth Media Awards](#) (Will be held during LibLearnX and will include ALA affiliate awards such as the Asian/Pacific American Awards for Literature, Sydney Taylor Book Award, and biennial American Indian Youth Literature Award)



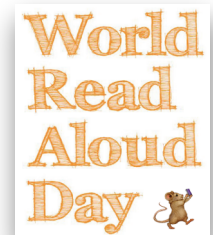
February 2022

February 2 – [World Read Aloud Day](#)

February 7 – [Registration opens for the 2022 ALA Annual conference](#) to be held in Washington D.C. during the week of 23-38 June

February 22 – [Digital Learning Day](#)

February 28-March 4 - [iSchools iConference 2022](#) (virtual)



March 2022

March – [National Reading Month](#)

March 2 – [Read Across America Day](#) (Dr. Seuss' birthday)

March 12-13 – [Tucson Festival of Books](#)

March 16 - [Freedom of Information Day](#) (held annually on or around this date)

March 23-25 – [Public Library Association \(PLA\) 2022 Conference](#)





In early November, the most recent NDLA President, Stephanie Galeazzo, stepped down following some health concerns, leaving the door open for Will Martin, the President-Elect to succeed. In her letter of resignation, Stephanie thanked the executive board for their support as she assumed the role of President and stated that she has truly enjoyed being a part of

NDLA, “I wish you all continued success and hope to work with you again in the future.” An executive board meeting was scheduled under our new *NEW* President, Mr. Martin, who addressed his goals for the organization as well as the annual business of the administration. A listserv notice was released soon after seeking President-Elect nominations. Look for news of the election results in the next quarterly release of *The Good Stuff*.



The Public Library Section under its new section chair Andrea Placher of the Williston Community Library is excited to announce that the Public Library Section now has a Facebook page, and everyone is invited to join. Andrea says, “You will be asked a few questions to confirm your membership, but it’s so easy! The Group is called NDLA Public Library Section, and we would LOVE

to have you. This is a brand-new idea, and we are hoping it is a useful tool for our members. If you even have any questions, please feel free to email me andrap@ci.williston.nd.us.” To find (and join!) this brilliant idea, go [HERE!](#)



As some of you may know, after a conference vote to proceed, StarChapter, the host for the NDLA website, will be phased out for a new Membership Management company, Wild Apricot. This is an opportunity for website redesign and

improved website functionality on many levels! We are excited for the easier maintenance a move like this promises. As our new President, Will Martin, says, “Please pardon the digital dust as we get things moved over.”



Carmen Redding is stepping down as chair of the EDI Committee. Karlene Clark has been officially appointed as the committee’s new chair



2021 NDLA Executive Board Election Results

President-Elect: Will Martin with 96.61% of the votes**

Secretary: Abby Ebach with 100.00% of the votes

Academic and Special Libraries Section Chair-Elect: James Murphy with 100.00% of the votes

Public Library Section Chair-Elect: Carissa Hansen with 72.00% of the votes

School Library and Youth Services Section Chair-Elect: Jennifer Hess with 71.43% of the votes

Health Science Information Section Chair-Elect: Devon Olson with 100.00% of the votes

Health Science Information Section Secretary: Kellie Meehlhause with 57.14% of the votes

****New President-Elect pending nomination and special election**



Next NDLA Annual Conference is slated for October 5th-7th, 2022, at the Clarion Hotel in Minot, ND. Save the date!





Quarterly Committee Blotter

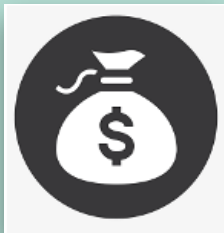
A committee chair contribution...



The **Bylaws, & Policies Committee** recently finished merging the NDLA Constitution and the NDLA Bylaws - so we changed our name from the Constitution, Bylaws & Policies Committee to the Bylaws and Policies Committee. One of our next items on the agenda is connecting with new Board members about the NDLA Policy Manual. We usually meet via Zoom monthly to quarterly (depending on how many changes we're working on). If anyone would like to hear more, or is interested in being a member of the Bylaws and Policies Committee, please feel free to reach out to either [Kristen](#) or [Virginia](#).



The **Equity Diversity Inclusion (EDI) Committee** will meet next in December, usually meeting once a month. Current projects include developing a platform to share EDI resources with NDLA, as well as writing EDI articles for *Good Stuff* and presenting at the annual NDLA conference. If you are passionate about EDI efforts and can fit a one-hour meeting every month, please contact [Karlene Clark](#).



The **Finance Committee** has begun the process of soliciting and submitting annual budget requests for review. Next up is an overall evaluation of the annual and conference budgets in preparation for quarterly reviews or board meetings. The committee is made up of the chair, James Murphy, as well as the three presidents, the treasurer and the membership chair. If you have questions concerning this committee and its current business, please contact [James](#).

The **Membership Committee has no current business to report.**

The **Legislative Committee has no current business to report.**



The **Nominations, Elections and Voting Committee's** current topic of interest is the vacant office of the current administration's President-Elect. After the November Executive Board Meeting, it was decided that a listserv announcement would be made seeking nominations. The committee currently consists of two - BreAnne Meier, committee chair and Mary Soucie. If you are interested in volunteering to assist this committee or have a name to submit for President-Elect nomination, contact [BreAnne](#).

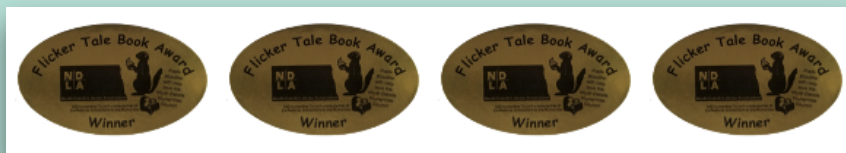


The **Professional Development Committee** is currently looking for new members who are interested in promoting professional development opportunities for our members. The committee's main responsibility is to review grant applications and awards funds as appropriate. It also manages the mentorship program! There are plenty of opportunities to promote professional development throughout the organization so if you are interested in joining this group, please reach out to [Jessica Gilbert-Redman](#) or [Devon Olson](#).

The Good Stuff Editorial Committee met for an annual review in October. Based off some informal conference feedback, the committee discussed the feasibility of format or accessibility changes through the StarChapter/Wild Apricot transition. The committee is always seeking content that will add to the NDLA experience, fostering a shared network of professional development, insight and collaboration. The committee currently consists of Shannon Yarbrough, Lesley Allan and Marlene Anderson. If anyone would like to hear more, contribute a one-off piece or regular column, or join the discussion of how best to make the newsletter accessible to the organization, please contact [Shannon](#).



The **Website Committee** recently met to discuss the transition of the member management and website hosting platform from Star Chapter to Wild Apricot. Style, formatting, functionality and layout options have been explored and initial steps to transition before next year's conference are in the works. The committee currently consists of Josh Pikka, Kristen Borysewicz and volunteer, Shannon Yarbrough. If anyone is interested in joining the transition effort, please contact [Josh Pikka](#).



The **Flicker Tale Committee** is a subcommittee of the SLAYS section. The committee is always happy to welcome new members from *all* kinds of libraries. They are currently seeking volunteers to assist in the nomination and decision-making process on the annual Flicker Tale awards for children and teens. Other committee jobs include author/illustrator visit arrangements, social media engagement, criteria, and voting. Meetings are virtual. If you are interested in joining a meeting or volunteering, contact [Amber Emery](#) or [Louie Lauer](#).





Good Stuff From Around the State

Thanks to the generosity of Traci Lund, our fabulous 2020/2021 Past-President, *The Good Stuff* is able to share a most [amazing presentation of NDLA Retirees, New Members, and special shout-outs](#) pulled together for the NDLA Annual Conference Awards Banquet and chock full of some of the best kinds of **People Stuff**. If you missed the conference, or just want a second gander... simply follow the link!

[Mary Drewes](#) was enjoying retirement after a 17-year career as a reference librarian at UND's Chester Fritz Library when her local library needed a library director. Mary had always enjoyed library work and decided to apply because working for her local library was a way to give back to the community. In August, Mary retired again after three years leading the **Enderlin Municipal Public Library**, and [Mattie Richardson](#) took over as the new library director. Congratulations to both Mary & Mattie!

Along those same veins...A welcome and congratulations to all of North Dakota's new and new(ish) public library directors!

[Cindy Aaser](#) Hazen Public Library

[Nicole Korosmo](#) Northwood City Center Library

[Amy Rime](#) Turtle Lake Public Library

[Kristin Schafer](#) Lidgerwood City Library

[Lexi Broschat](#) Griggs County Public Library

[Margo Burthold](#) McVille Community Library

[Celeste Ertelt](#) (*interim*) Lake Region Public Library

[Marie Petry](#) Cavalier Public Library

[Diana Lange](#) Rolla Public Library

[Sara Dux](#) Forman Public Library

[Kandi Sharp](#) Washburn Public Library

[Jackie Johnson](#) Heart of America Library



Carrington City Library recently remodeled in order to install a designated Children's Area. The area features front-facing shelving for picture books and bins for board books - all at a level easily accessible to our youngest readers! Also new are hands-on learning centers and seating areas. Check out the fresh look. [Mary Soucie](#), NDSL State Librarian joined Carrington City Library for their Open House





Good Stuff From Around the State



IN REMEMBRANCE:

Karen Keller, of the **Bottineau County Public Library**, passed away unexpectedly in her sleep December 11th, 2020. She was a librarian at the Bottineau County Public library since January 2008. Karen loved reading, spending time at the lake, football and being with her great nieces and nephew. She will be remembered at the library as always giving the best book suggestions, and welcoming patrons.

Ronald D. Padot, 53, died peacefully at home in the Detroit area surrounded by family on Nov. 23, 2021, after being diagnosed earlier this year with pancreatic cancer. Ron was born March 26, 1968, to (Melvin) Don and Carolyn Padot in Grosse Pointe, Mich.

He had a passion for helping his country and people, serving in the Army until April 1991 and continued his service through his work after earning a Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University in 2009. In his career at the Fargo, N.D., VA Health Care System for more than a decade, Ron assisted doctors and nurses in their treatment of veterans as a medical librarian. Full obituary can be found [here](#).



Charlotte Bedlion started with the Bottineau County Public Library in January 2021. Char previously helped at the library as a Story Time substitute and was a day care provider. Char enjoys watching football and hockey, cooking, baking, and spending time with her grandkids. Welcome Char!



The **Williston Community Library** would like to welcome our new Mobile Library Coordinator, [Tori Lee](#). Tori joins us with four and a half years of experience from the Grand Forks Public Library, where she did any number of library related things. We are so excited for her to join our team and is already fitting right in. Currently, she is helping us navigate bookmobile service to a merged school district, which is no easy feat. She delivers story times to children all over Williams County and just took part in her first community event.



Good Stuff From Around the State



The **Chester Fritz Library (CFL)** of the University of North Dakota recently held a Grand Re-Opening on October 22nd. A celebration of the first major renovation since 1981, the event showcased increased student and faculty spaces as well as improved quality and availability of technologies within the building.

CFL has a couple of new additions to the staff. The new Business & Government Documents Librarian is **Brian Garrison**. He was formerly a Digital Projects Librarian at the University of Kansas and spent the last few years teaching English in Japan. And last but not least, **Nichole Martin**, a former volunteer in the Department of Archives & Special Collections, has secured a new role as the Access Services & Periodicals Associate. Welcome to the team!



State Library Updates

New staff have joined the State Library staff in the last few months. Patron Services Director **Carol Sterenberg** joined us in October, just in time to attend the NDLA Conference. Carol oversees the staff that interact directly with patrons; ILL, Circulation and Reference and Talking Books. We have two new Reader Advisers in Talking Books; **Chelsea Sorenson** joined us just over six months ago and **Jenna Peneueta-Snyder** joined us in November. **Tammy Kruger** is our new School Library Specialist. Tammy is the go-to person for all questions related to school libraries. Our Inter-library Loan Specialist, **Allie Suko**, is our new Fiscal and HR Clerk. This position was previously held by Michele Balliet Unrath who is no longer with our agency. **Kathy Jo Cline** is our new Statewide Cataloging Associate; she is the contact person for the libraries that we supply cataloging services for.

Data Analyst **Kristen Northrup** is the new State Data Coordinator for the Public Library Survey. Kristen will administer the survey and the communication related to the survey. When I gave my annual report at the NDLA conference, I highlighted a new service that we are offering to libraries. If you need help obtaining or analyzing data in relation to a grant application or other project, please contact Kristen at knorthrup@nd.gov or (701)328-4681.



A playground for curious minds.

Grand Forks Public is excited to have many new smiling faces at the library. In the past year, we have added 12 new team members.

Additions to the Information Services team include: Lily Bonebrake, Mary Lawson, Fatema Suleiman, Jacey Atilano, Jessica Hauger, Grace Falconer, Wesley Byzewski, Bee Hutchens, and Tanya Enfield

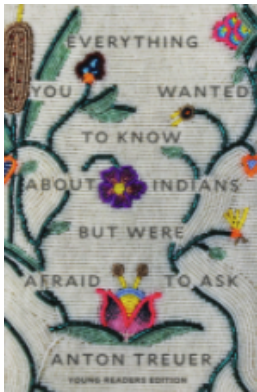
Additions to the Children's Services team include: Arielle Stansbury,



Good Stuff From Around the State

Ella Fosse, and Kathryn Rutz

Lastly, [Jessica Bailey](#) joins the team as the new Executive Administrator. We are excited to welcome these new employees to our creative and curious team.



1 Book 1 Community Author Visit: Anton Treuer, *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians but Were Afraid to Ask* Author

by [Melisa Duncan](#), **Fargo Public Library**

The Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo public libraries, the Carl B. Ylvisaker Library at Concordia College, Livingston Lord Library at Minnesota State University Moorhead, North Dakota State University Libraries, the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, the Indigenous Association and Moorhead Public Schools Native Education selected *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians but Were Afraid to Ask* by Anton Treuer as the 1 Book 1 Community selection for 2021.

This year's 1 Book 1 Community reading program featured events that included films, book discussions, and historical exhibits as part of the series. The highlight of the event series was the author visit and presentation. More than 300 people attended the Treuer's visit which was held at Concordia College's Knutson Center Centrum in late October. In addition, over 180 people viewed the live stream of the event that evening.

An essential and engaging read for Native and non-Native readers, Treuer's book *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians but Were Afraid to Ask* answers questions with solid information, humor and compassion while building a foundation for true understanding and positive action. A professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji (Minn.) State University, Treuer is a racial equality advocate and the acclaimed author of 20 books. His equity, education and cultural work has put him on a path of service across the region, the nation, and the world.

The project received support from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through Lake Agassiz Regional Library (major sponsor), Concordia College Cultural Events, Friends of the Fargo Public Library, Friends of the West Fargo Public Library, Friends of the Moorhead Library, and Moorhead Community Education. The 1 Book 1 Community project highlights the cooperative nature of our local organizations, and truly creates a movement to foster community through reading.

NDLA Fundraiser

Turn on AmazonSmile in
the Amazon app to
generate donations.

amazonsmile

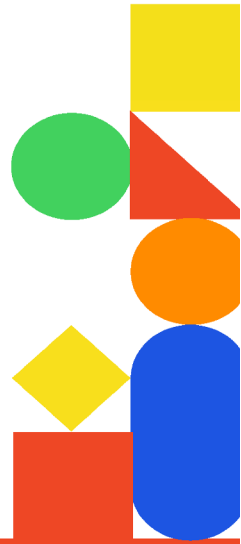


Support your org & purchase with purpose!

You can increase your organization's donations by spreading the word about Amazon Smile. Amazon will donate .5% of your Amazon online purchase to North Dakota Library Association every time you shop...if you designate the North Dakota Library Association as your nonprofit organization of choice.

Shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7103272>

NDLA Annual Conference 2021 Wrap-up



A Few Conference Stats...

114 NDLA Members +
84 Guest Registrations

=

188

Total
Attendees

Location:

Alerus Center/
Canad Inn

Grand Forks,
ND



Awards & Plaques \$662.97

Thursday's Buffet Dinner \$3,314.85

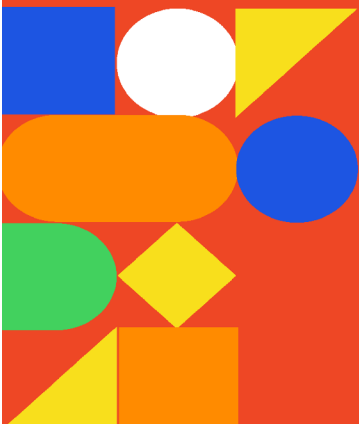
Amount raised from the Slide-off
& Silent/Live Auctions \$2,699.00

Annual Conference Income as of
9/3/2021 \$22,885.00

32 sessions

3 keynote speakers

6 extra entertainment
opportunities
(traditional & non)



Survey Results

Displayed results are based on 31 responses

Session Popularity by Attendance

The most well-attended sessions were the Keynote Speakers: Anton Trueur, Julia Torres, and Linda Sue Park

Outside of standard NDLA Annual Conference events...

The 2nd & 3rd most well-attended sessions Grant Writing tips & Tricks and a tie between Diversity Audits for Public Libraries and Leading with Gratitude

It was just nice to connect in person!

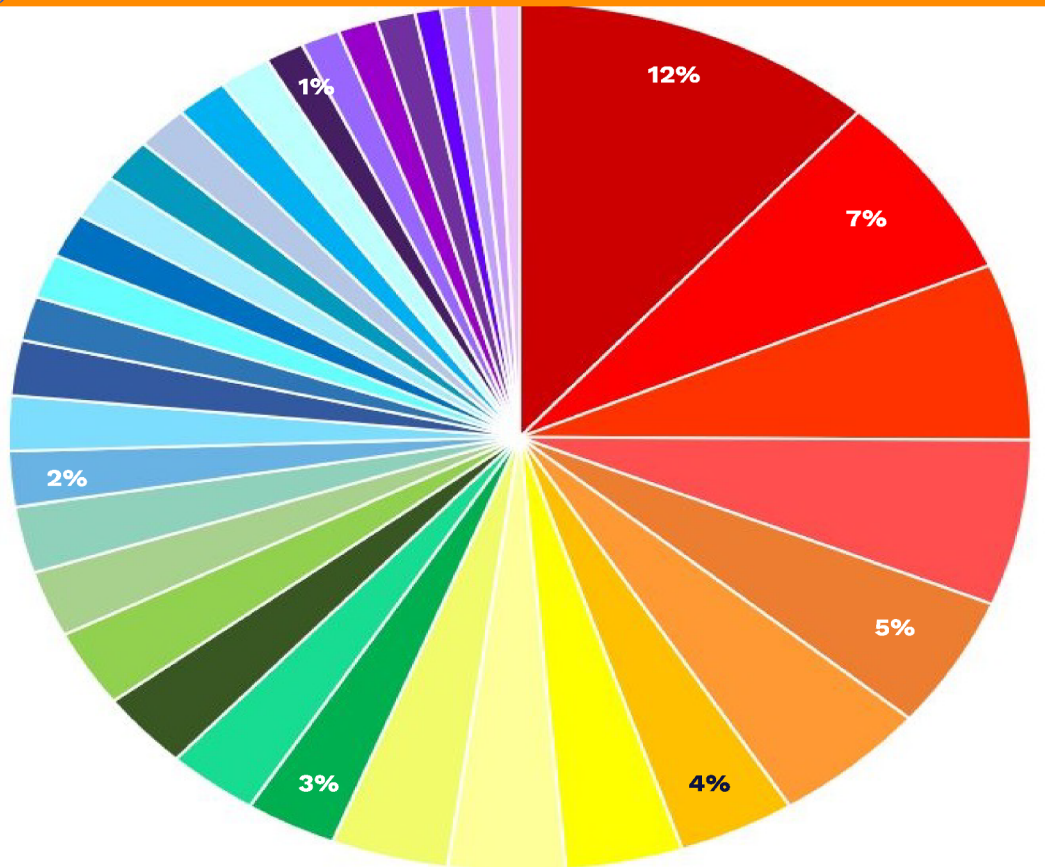
Excellent work finding and booking these speakers!

The keynote speakers were truly fabulous, and their messages were so important.

I want to hear updates on their projects!

Invite them all back next year

I loved the keynotes!



- Keynote Speakers
- Live Auction
- Grant Writing Tips & Tricks
- Leading with Gratitude
- Executive Board Meeting(s)
- Mayor's New American/Immigrant Committee
- Senior Programming...Making a Connection
- Do School Librarians Need to Know How to Catalog?
- Renovations and how ADA updates were addressed at CFL
- Addressing Receiver Apprehension in Library Patrons
- A Librarian's Guide to Board Games in the Library
- What is EDI anyway?
- Post-COVID Health: Libraries Keeping Communities Healthy
- Trade Journals as Historical Resources
- Library Marketing 101: Where Do I Begin?
- Pandemic Cartography/Mapping IL Curriculum while...
- Name that (Government) Resource
- Getting to Know Region 4 of the Ntnl Library of Medicine
- NDLA Awards Banquet
- Section Meeting(s)
- Vendor Social/Exhibit
- Diversity Audits for Public Libraries
- Evening Entertainment
- Intellectual Freedom and Freedom of Speech
- Committee Meeting(s)
- A Framework for Anti-Racist Information Literacy
- Gender Identity Issues
- Write the Book You've Always Wanted to Read
- National History Day 101
- Make and Take Kits
- 10 Podcasts You Need to Hear
- Reaching Out: Meeting the Needs of Rural School Librarians
- Story Time or Bust/Early Literacy Outreach
- Better Together: Libraries & Writing Centers
- Just Do It!: Combining Circulation and Reference
- Text Mining for Library Research: Tools & Techniques

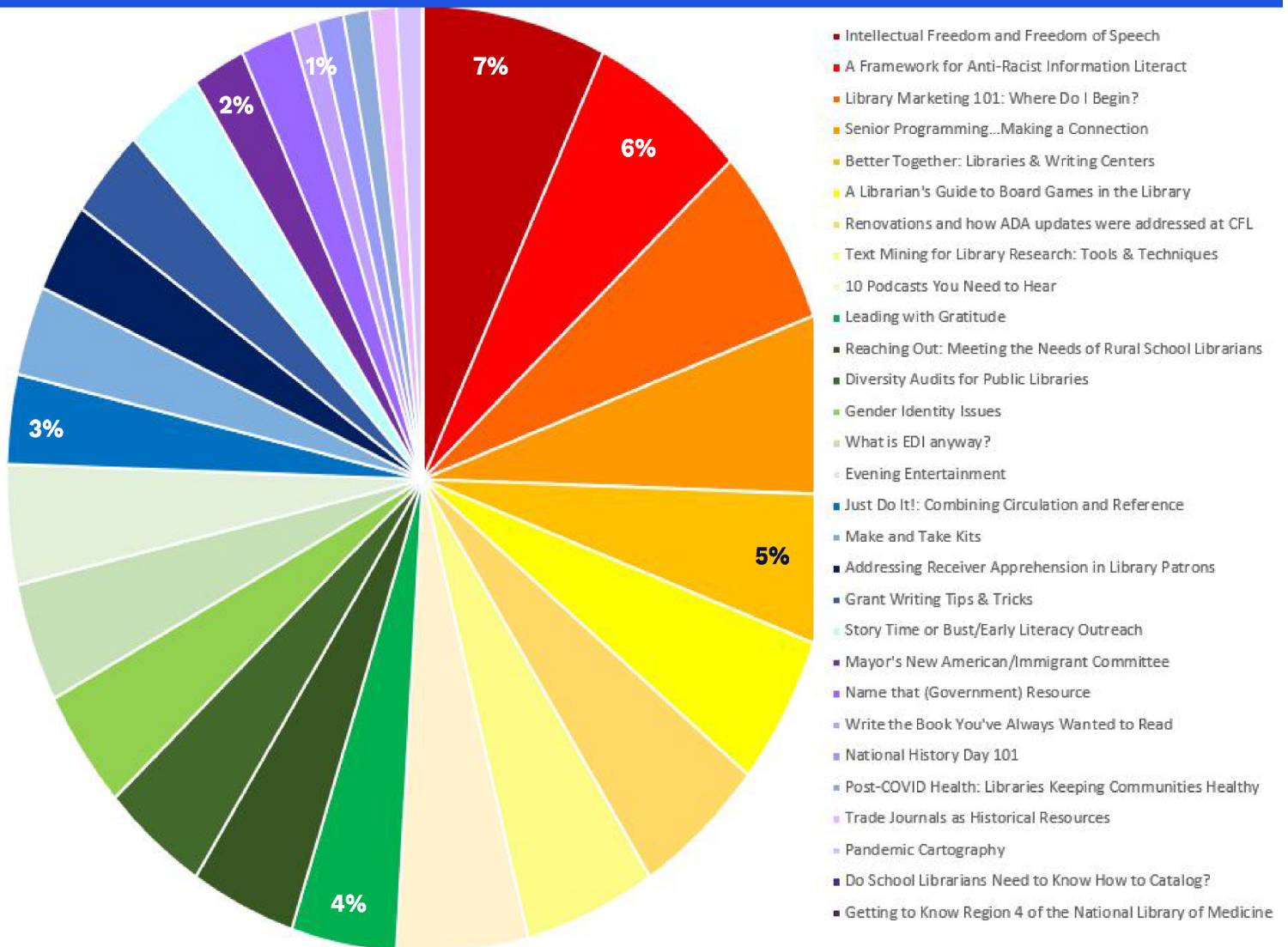


Session Popularity by Interest/Unable to Attend

The most wanted session that people could NOT attend was Intellectual Freedom and Freedom of Speech.

The 2nd most wanted session that people could NOT attend was (a 3-way tie!)

A Framework for Anti-Racist Information Literacy Instruction
 Library Marketing 101: Where Do I Begin?
 Senior Programming...Making a Connection



I enjoyed meeting and exchanging ideas with other librarians. Learned a lot from the cataloging session (not about cataloging... but from the discussions everyone was sharing!) Sooo good!! I also found the the keynotes all so relevant to me being a better librarian.

This year's keynotes were terrific. Also loved the session on Gender identities. I feel that one could have been a longer workshop.



What NDLA Had to Say

The keynote speakers were all fantastic! They were all engaging and shared such important messages. Huge thanks to the conference team for booking them!

I enjoyed the speakers. Interested in community assessment methods for next year.

The timing of NDLA has changed making it harder for us to attend. It used to be held in September. Would love to come back!

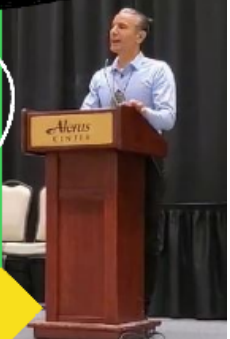


Keynote authors and preconference Julia Torres were standouts this year! Great choices!

Next year, please make sure there are microphones available for speakers in all the rooms. There were many sessions I could not hear the presenters. And don't let the presenters say, "I'm loud, I don't need a microphone." Yes, you do.

Oh my word! :) Past-President Traci Lund's enthusiasm during the live auction was amazing!! She had us laughing until we cried and also terrified that she was going to hurt herself!

I appreciated hearing from a Native American speaker



Message from the PAST...Past-president

By Traci Lund

Director, Divide County Public Library



That was AMAZING!!! Putting on a conference is no easy task. I certainly didn't do it alone. I am so thankful for our Conference Committee. As the saying goes, lots of hands make light work! If it weren't for the Conference Committee, we would not have had such an amazing conference. Kudos to all involved! Thank you to you- *yes, you!* Thank you for coming, thank you for participating, thank you for adding conversations and questions! It's because of the members that we keep doing this year after year.

Let's talk about those speakers! Holy smokes, Anton Treuer blew us out of the park from the minute he took the stage. I am now looking at Mango Languages for how I can speak Ojibwa. Julia Torres... Who was able to listen to her speak all 3 times? Then there was Linda Sue Park - equally as amazing! These speakers were phenomenal.

What I think is so wonderful about our conferences, though, is the breakouts. To the speakers/presenters in our back yards: You all killed it!! Mic drop for you all!!!

If you would like to be part of the planning for next year, I know Rita Ennen would love your help. Speaking of Rita... it is truly amazing that she is stepping up to the plate to take over the vacant Past President role. Three cheers for Rita!!

Mark your calendars for next year- October 6-8th Minot (why not!). The Minot crew already have some great ideas. Those ladies are crazy so you know it will be good!

To finish, I just want to say THANK YOU to you all- you did vote for me. I mean I wasn't running against anyone... but you still had to vote! Thank you to the executive board... THANK YOU for allowing me this opportunity, for allowing me to lead, follow and to completely screw up! I am beyond grateful for the experiences, friendships, memories, and opportunities.

I am from Crosby, a very small town in the middle of nowhere. I am the director and at the top of the ladder as far as my physical job goes but I am not at the top of my professional career. I want more, I need more, and NDLA has allowed me to do that.

Some of you may have heard me say I am counting down the hours till I am done but honestly, I am sad. I will miss you all and let's face it, you know I am not going anywhere. I will continue to voice my opinion - You're welcome!

Again, I thank you for the opportunity. It was an amazing three years!!



2021 North Dakota Award Winners

Compiled with much assistance from many fabulous NDLA members!)



Before we get into the Awards details below, if you wish to see the official NDLA Annual Conference Awards Banquet Canva presentation (generously created and shared by Traci Lund), [Follow this link!](#) Some of the images below came directly from the slides. So, without further ado...

LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD: MARY SOUCIE



Mary Soucie, State Librarian, North Dakota State Library took home the 2021 Librarian of the Year Award. Congratulations and well done! You are appreciated by many, Mary! This award is given to an NDLA member who has made notable contributions to the North Dakota library profession, has furthered significant development of libraries in North Dakota, or has performed exemplary statewide service for an extended period.

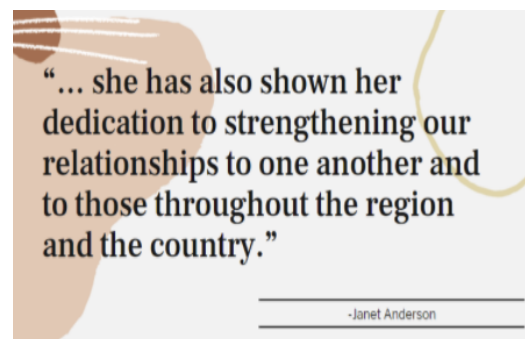
For those of you who are not familiar with Mary, here is a little bit about her...

GS: How would you describe your job?

Mary: As the State Librarian, I advocate for libraries at that local, state, regional and national levels. I am the Director of the North Dakota State Library. I am lucky enough that I still occasionally get to do “librarian things” like reference, collection development and when I visit ND libraries, story time, weeding and staff development.

GS: How did you come to be in your current position?

Mary: I have been a librarian for almost 30 years. (Yikes how did that number get to be so high?!?) I have an MLS from Dominican University; I graduated when there was no “I” in the degree. I have been a School Librarian, a Youth Services Librarian, the School and Youth Services Consultant for a Regional Library System and a Public Library Director.



GS: What was one of the most consequential LIS efforts (in your perspective) that you have been involved with this last year?

Mary: Shortly after the pandemic started, NDSL offered weekly and then bimonthly Community Meetings to offer a forum for librarians and library staff to ask questions and learn from each other. We discussed the pandemic response in almost every meeting but there were so many topics that were explored and I hope this provided a rich opportunity for ND librarians to connect with one another.

2021 North Dakota Award Winners

Compiled with much assistance from many fabulous NDLA members!)



“Mary is not just the State Librarian. She is also a wonderful mentor and a beautiful person. She is always willing to answer a question for a fellow librarian and if she doesn’t know the answer, she will find it out or point you in the direction of someone who can help.”

-Kerriane Boetcher

GS: What do you like most about the library and information science field?

Mary: I absolutely love connecting people with resources, books, other library materials and other people. I believe that libraries are the center of their communities. I enjoy connecting with people and sharing my love of libraries. I always planned to teach and then be a Youth Services Librarian. I never dreamed I would be a Library Director let alone a State Librarian but I am so honored and blessed to have the position that I have and to work with so many great colleagues, many of whom I am lucky enough to call friends.

GS: What do you like most about NDLA?

Mary: I really like the NDLA members that I get to work with and the variety of things I get to do through NDLA.

GS: What is a unique tidbit for your fellow NDLA'ers to know about you?

I am a Harry Potter fan, our dogs are named after the Weasley twins, and they live up to the mischievousness of their namesakes. I am listening to audiobooks a lot right now because I can do other things while reading and I love that. This summer, my husband and I purchased e-bikes and have rediscovered the joy of bike riding.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD: VIRGINIA BJORNES



The President’s Award allows the current NDLA president to recognize those who gave outstanding service to the Association during their administration. In 2020/21 this award was given to the most wonderful Virginia Bjornes of the North Dakota State Historical Society “for her attention to detail and her commitment to codifying the restructuring proposal, put forth by Past President Lund, into the NDLA Constitution & Bylaws”. This is the second time the Bylaws & Policies committee has been rightfully recognized for their efforts. Kristen

Borysewicz took home the President’s Award in 2019. Congratulations to the pair of you for your efforts on this much-needed project. And congratulations to Virginia for being recognized at the latest NDLA Annual Conference!

When asked what she liked most about the library and information science field, Virginia responded that, “The work of maintaining collections and spaces that serve the

2021 North Dakota Award Winners

Compiled with much assistance from many fabulous NDLA members!)



public, either for research or just general interest, is what I like most - along with the opportunity to interact with and help people. I also enjoy organizing collections (so library work has always been a good fit!).” Within the North Dakota Library Association, she enjoys “meeting others who work or volunteer in libraries and hearing about their experiences - projects, challenges, successes, and ideas.”

MAJOR BENEFACTOR AWARD



This citation is awarded by the NDLA Executive Board to a person or persons who have made significant contributions to a library or libraries in North Dakota. The 2021 award goes to Linda Lindemann from the Friends of the Mott Public Library, a longtime volunteer of # years. Nominated by the Mott Public Library Director, Selena Merriman: “Without [Linda’s] help, I would never have been able to learn the ropes in my new position as Director of this library. I began working here in our small-town library a few days after the previous director of 6 years resigned. I had some huge shoes to fill! Linda had been

the volunteer here long enough that she was pretty seasoned. Since I had no previous experience, she had to teach me pretty much everything. I appreciate her more than words can say!”

Linda has been working with the Mott Public Library approximately 5 years and finds that the most enjoyable aspect of her involvement with the library is that she has the opportunity to indulge in one of her favorite things - holding a book in her hand and turning the pages.

LIBRARY CHAMPION AWARD

The NDLA Legislative Committee was extremely fortunate to receive multiple nominations for the 2020/21 Library Champion Award. This award is presented to an individual (or multiple individuals!) in a federal, state, city, or county leadership position that has supported and/or advocated for libraries in North Dakota. After reviewing the nominations, the Legislative Committee decided to select *three* individuals for this award since their work to support ND libraries in 2020/21 was so impactful.

In no particular order:

Bismarck City Commissioner Nancy Guy: Christine Kujawa, Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library (BVMPL) Director, nominated Commissioner Nancy Guy “asa great supporter of the overall operation of the library, our services, and the programs we provide to the community. She shares our story and statistics with such vigor and excitement that anyone listening to her can't help but want to know more about the library.” Christine explained in



2021 North Dakota Award Winners

Compiled with much assistance from many fabulous NDLA members!)



her nomination letter that Commissioner Guy used her “calm and persuasive” manner to help ensure millions of dollars of necessary building work since her election in 2014.

In a recent Bismarck city website bulletin (Oct 8th (now [archived here](#))), it is stated that Commissioner Guy “successfully advocated for funding for a new roof, replacing the 30-year-old HVAC system, and redesigning and replacing the library’s 35-year-old exterior siding, windows, and doors.” Ms.Kujawa went further, “We have been fortunate to have her on our team to advocate on our behalf. I can think of no better way to express our gratitude to her than with the esteemed Library Champion Award, for she is truly the epitome of a Library Champion.”

Commissioner Guy’s response was recorded as follows:

“I am honored to receive the Library Champion Award from the ND Library Association. The BVMPL has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. It has grown to be a vital part of our community, providing information, services, and personal and professional growth opportunities to people of all walks of life. We are so fortunate to have such awesome leadership and staff taking our library to the next level.”



Williston Mayor Howard Klug: Mayor Klug was nominated by the Williston Community Library Director Andrea Placher. Andrea wrote: “Mayor Howard Klug has always been a Library Champion in my eyes. He fully supports our library, has always ensured we have more than adequate funding, is a superb library cheerleader and even personally donates every year to our summer reading program. However, during the unprecedented year of 2020 Mayor Klug went above and beyond in my opinion. He supported not only our library, but our library

board, me and more importantly our library staff. Not only were we able to keep all our staff on board, we were able to pay them 100% of their salaries, even when we were closed.” Andrea went on to say that Mayor Klug “truly cares about our library staff and the community we serve.”

Mayor Klug and Andrea Placher, Williston Community Library Director were featured in an article by the Williston Herald on Oct 12, 2021, after a surprise reveal of the award at Commission meeting. Curious? [Follow the link here.](#)

The article states Mayor Klug’s response upon receipt of the plaque:

“I have a lot of love for libraries and appreciation for what they do. The library is a community gathering place for people. For people that come to the City of Williston, that is their go-to place. It’s a welcoming place, and that’s what we try to portray here in the City of Williston. This is really special to me.”

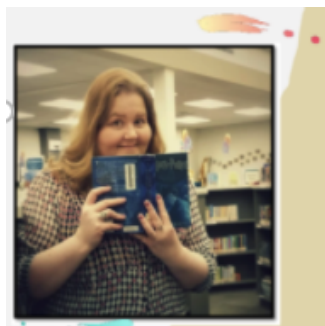
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State Senator Erin Oban: ND State Librarian Mary Soucie cited Senator Oban's sponsorship of Senate Bill 2157 relating to membership of the ND Library Coordinating Council as just one of many reasons Senator Oban was a Library Champion. "When I reached out to her to ask her to sponsor it, she said yes without hesitation," Mary explained. Further, Senator Oban went above and beyond just sponsoring this bill. "She also made suggestions throughout the process and was very supportive. She did research and presented information on the different types of libraries as well as the impact of the changes."

YOUTH EXCELLENCE PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARD: LESLEY ALLAN



This citation was awarded to Lesley Allan by the School Library and Youth Services (SLAYS) division of NDLA as a person who exemplifies excellence in library services to youth. Lesley was nominated as "[she] has made it her mission to advocate for libraries and works diligently to prove their relevance and purpose."

GS: What do you like most about the LIS field?

Lesley: As a school librarian there are two things. The first, that moment when a student finally connects with a book and you can just tell - they have moved from kinda tolerating reading to loving it. For me, it was *Bunnicula*. For some, it was *Harry Potter* or *Hatchet* or *Judy Moody*. I treasure being a small part of a student's literacy adventure. The second thing I love about being a school librarian is seeing these same students year after year. Unlike a traditional classroom teacher, we have the privilege of helping grow a student's love of literacy over years instead of months. We can choose to be that consistent place of awe and comfort for a student or a consistent 'Meh' moment for them. I always want to strive for the first!

GS: What is the most consequential project (in your perspective) that you were able to be a part of this last year?

Lesley: As a still green library director, I geek out over things like pacing guides and horizontal/vertical alignment of standards because, to me, these are exciting pieces of advocacy for libraries at a district level. Last year we created our first K-12 pacing guide using ND Library and Tech standards plus the new ND Computer Science and Cyber Security standards (There was discussion about using AASL, but we wanted to focus on our state standards just like our subject/classroom co-teachers do). From this grew a spot for my voice on other curriculum framework committees and a chance to blend in our standards with classrooms - to no longer teach as an island. I know some larger districts may already be ahead of us in this area, but for Williston Basin School District, this is a big deal

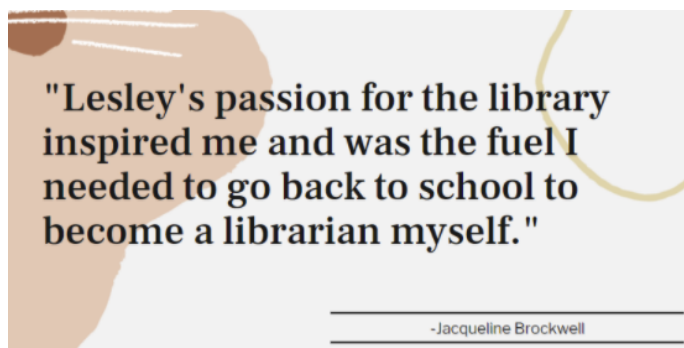
2021 North Dakota Award Winners

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GS: What is important or interesting to you about NDLA?

Lesley: During the Grand Forks annual, one of the Williston librarians who attended is a newbie to our field. She summed up my feelings for NDLA with her own emotional reflection on the conference. I won't be able to quote her exactly but she had been watching me - the people that I said hi to, got hugs from, caught up with, and chatted about new ideas and professional growth. She said - with that starry, fresh, new-to-the-field awe in her voice - she was so excited to join the NDLA family and couldn't wait til next year to make those connections and see those people and grow as a librarian. That is still NDLA for me and it is important to me that NDLA is always that place for **every** member. If you haven't found that connection at NDLA yet - reach out through email or, better yet, come sit next to me and the Williston crew at the next conference. You've got family here!



LIBRARY STAR AND WHEELIE AWARDS

These awards are presented to North Dakota libraries in recognition of the administrators and staff that provide exceptional service with the financial resources at their disposal. The STAR/Wheelie honor is bestowed on those performing the best across a range of per-capita measures within a peer-group of libraries with similar operating expenditures.

**STAR: Total Operating Expenditures
<\$10,000**

- Killdeer Public and School Library
- McVille Community Library
- New England Public Library

**STAR: Total Operating Expenditures
\$10,001–\$25,000**

- Velva Public and School Library
- Maddock Community Library
- Max Community Library

**STAR: Total Operating Expenditures
\$25,001–\$50,000**

- Lisbon Public Library
- Cavalier Public Library
- Mohall Public Library

**STAR: Total Operating Expenditures
\$50,001–\$150,000**

- Hazen Public Library
- Divide County Public Library
- Griggs County Public Library

**STAR: Total Operating Expenditures
\$150,001+**

- Grand Forks Public Library
- Fargo Public Library
- Leach Public Library

Wheelie Bookmobile Award:

- Ward County Public Library Bookmobile *

*The metrics considered for the Wheelie award are total circulation per capita, bookmobile stops, and mileage

2021 North Dakota Award Winners

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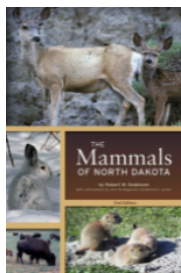


NOTABLE DOCUMENT AWARD

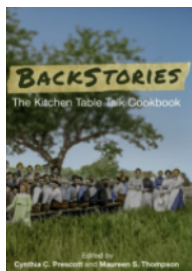
The Technical Services/Government Documents Committee is proud to present the winners of the annual Notable Documents contest. This competition celebrates the publications from North Dakota State Agencies.



First place: *His feathers were chains*, Denise K. Lajimodiere, NDSU Press (2020) Lajimodiere's newest collection of poetry takes its title from a statue the author observed - an Indian on a horse - fashioned from welded-together farm implements. The premise of the collection is overt criticism of settler society, but the poetry is subtle, approachable, and grounded in Ojibwe knowledge and customs. *Feathers* is divided into five sections: Broken Glass Dreams, Identity, His Feathers Were Chains, Thin White Heat, and Dancing with a Whirlwind.



Second Place: *The Mammals of North Dakota* (2nd ed), Robert W. Seabloom, NDSU press (2020) *Mammals* documents 88 mammal species with full color photos, text, and maps. Identification includes common, scientific, and known Native American names. This new edition features an increased number of recorded species, as well as significant shifts in distribution across the state such as moves made by the opossum and the spotted skunk. Detailed accounts include information on species descriptions, habitat, ecology and behavior, reproduction, status, conservation, and taxonomic keys for species identification. Introductory chapters define the mammalian bio-geography of the state, the mammalian paleo fauna of North Dakota (by John Hoganson), and the principal habitats of North Dakota (by Bill Jensen).



Third place (tied): *Backstories: The Kitchen Table Talk Cookbook*, Cynthia Prescott and Maureen Sherrard Thompson, North Dakota University, Digital Press books. (2021) Sharing recipes is a form of intimate conversation that nourishes body and soul, family and community. *Backstories: The Kitchen Table Talk Cookbook* integrates formal scholarship with informal reflections, analyses of recipe books with heirloom recipes, and text with images to emphasize the ways that economics, politics, and personal meaning come together to shape our changing relationships with food. By embracing elements of history, rural studies, and women's studies, this volume offers a unique perspective by relating food history with social dynamics. It is sure to inspire eclectic dining and conversations.



Third place (tied): *Sixty Years of Boom and Bust: The Impact of Oil in North Dakota, 1958-2018*, Kyle Conway, North Dakota University, Digital Press books (2020) In the 1950s, North Dakota experienced its first oil boom in the Williston Basin, on the western side of the state. The region experienced unprecedented social and economic changes, which were carefully documented in a 1958 report by four researchers at the University of North Dakota. Since then, western North Dakota has undergone two more booms, the most recent from 2008 to 2014. *Sixty Years of Boom and Bust* republishes the 1958 report and updates its analysis by describing the impact of the latest boom on the region's natural and built environment, politics and policy, crime, inter-group relations, and access to housing and medical services.

On the DOCKET: Holidays Edition

By Susanne Caro, TECHSERT/GODORT Committee Chair
Government Information Librarian, North Dakota State University



Federal Holidays: Evolution and Current Practices

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is part of the Library of Congress and provides clearly written and concise reports to congressional committees and Members of Congress. Previously these reports were only available to Members of Congress and their staff. If you wanted to read one you had to contact your Senator or Representative for a copy. Now you can go directly to the [CRS website](#). These reports have been written on a broad range of topics.



[How to Cook a Thanksgiving Turkey](#) The USDA really doesn't want you and your family to suffer from salmonella! They have recommendations for how to cook your turkey without poisoning your family. If turkey isn't on the menu, worry not! They have advice for cooking other meats and recipes for [tofu](#).

[The Consumer Protection Agency](#) doesn't want you burn down the house. Their [Holiday Safety](#) resources include graphic videos you can share with family members who are less safety-minded with the turkey fryer. This agency also lists toy recalls, and if you don't want to search their website, you can get the recall [app](#).

The Library of Congress always has great resources, including [Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: With Christmas Greetings From Montgomery Ward \(1948\)](#). If Rudolph doesn't get your toes tapping try the [Holiday polka](#), one of many festive scores available in the LOC collections. If that isn't enough [this blog](#) links you to even more materials, including collections of [Christmas cards](#).



Every year the [Capital Christmas Tree](#) (also known as the Peoples' Tree) comes from a National Forest. This year the tree, named Sugar Bear, is coming from California. There is a [whole website](#) dedicated to the capital tree and you can see its progress and learn more about the forest where it is from.

Remember, you can track Rudolph at the official [NORAD site](#) (North American Aerospace Defense Command). Why does the military track Santa? In 1955 a local media advertisement directed children to call Santa direct but someone mis-dialed. The child had called the Crew Commander on duty at the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center. NORAD continued the tradition starting 1958. You can now track Santa via [social media](#).

Microaggressions

By Karlene Clark, EDI Committee Chair
Coordinator PRC Reference Services, Chester Fritz Library, UND



Micro-aggressions have been compared to the phrase “death by a thousand cuts.” These are compliments that are, in most cases, unintentionally offensive. They lead to the recipient dealing with a trauma response- a form of “battle fatigue”- in which going to work feels like a need to prepare to face comments throughout the organization. The words or actions directed at the person are not policy violations, but they do erode the sense of self and value over time. This can interrupt or cancel a person’s desire and excitement about coming to work.

Trauma responses do not affect a single group of people. When we don’t understand, or if we perpetuate old biases or behaviors, we can inadvertently add to a person’s sense of being attacked. This can relate to groups such as BIPOC, LGBTQ+, being female (or male), being differently abled, having an invisible illness, and more.

What can this look like? A few examples to consider:

- *“I love your hair; can I touch it?”* Often directed towards BIPOC. Consider if you ask others you know this same question. Saying you like someone’s hairstyle is okay; asking to touch is not.
- *“You’re so articulate” / “Your English is so good.”* Again, this is often said to members of the BIPOC communities. Consider what bias your thinking comes from in the assumption that they would not be able to speak well.
- *“You guys.”* Members of the LGBTQ+ community – and many others these days - are conscientious about pronouns and the usage of them. Grouping everyone together as a *“guy”* can be seen as insulting, derogatory, or degrading. Consider, instead, using something like *“You all”* or *“Everyone.”*
- *“You’re such an inspiration”* to someone who is disabled – visible or invisible can be perceived as needlessly cruel. The recipient had no choice in the matter. They are just going through life, doing the best they can in most cases with no intention of being a beacon to look to. Unless they are a motivational speaker and doing a presentation on the topic, consider, instead, **SAYING NOTHING**.
- *“That’s crazy”* or *“I’m being so OCD”* when you are not diagnosed as such can complicate a situation that is already stressful. Neurodivergent people are very aware of their differences and hearing things such as this strikes deeply. Instead, consider the following options:

“It’s crazy in here” can change to *“It’s really busy today.”*

“That’s a crazy idea” can change to *“I haven’t heard an idea like that before.”*

“My boss is crazy” can change to *“I don’t understand what they were thinking.”*

“I’m being so OCD” can change to *“I just feel like I need more order in my life right now.”*

Microaggressions

By Karlene Clark, EDI Committee Chair
Coordinator PRC Reference Services, Chester Fritz Library, UND



How do we show up? How do we stop hurting our co-workers? Those that deal with micro-aggressions are exhausted and often will not say anything. Start with yourself. Evaluate your own views and biases. Apologize when you catch yourself. If you see something, consider how to help and what to say.

[*“That’s Crazy”: Why You Might Want to Rethink That Word in Your Vocabulary*](#)

[*What Exactly is a Microaggression?*](#)

[*What is a micro-aggression? 14 things people think are fine to say at work — but are actually racist, sexist, or offensive*](#)

Appreciating Diversity During the Holidays



Presented by:

**Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion**®



Created by Baker College DEI Council

What's Happening Around MPLA?

By Randi Monley, MPLA Representative
Children's Librarian, Minot Public Library



In Arizona:

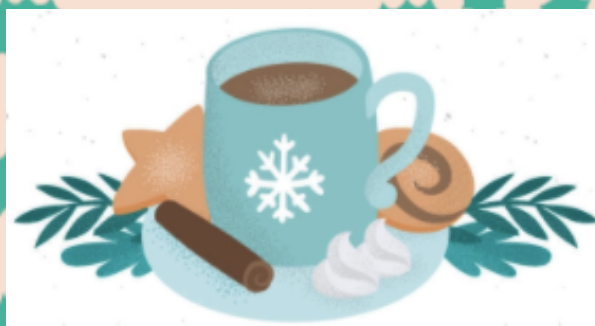
June 30, 2021 marked the eighth anniversary of the terrible day when 19 members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots firefighting crew lost their lives fighting the Yarnell Hill Fire outside Yarnell, Arizona. The Granite Mountain Hotshots were based in nearby Prescott, and after the tragedy the Prescott Public Library worked with community partners to preserve images from the impromptu memorial that sprang up outside their fire station. Images and videos from this collection are now a part of the Arizona Memory Project, where they are available to citizens and researchers.

In Nevada:

Humboldt County Library in Winnemucca, NV developed a project for their collection by creating and circulating Story Time kits. We decided upon this need because the Covid-19 pandemic moved all our programming to virtual platforms. Many patrons expressed difficulty in keeping younger children's attention on this type of programming. The Story Time kits brought the in-person programming that we were unable to provide into the home for families to recreate themselves. Each kit contained the stories and activities based around a theme-with puppets, jingle-bells, and lyrics for story-time songs to round it out the experience. Some of the activities were flannel storyboards, educational toys and activities, accessories to assist in dramatic play (like a tea set or doctor playset), and sensory activities. Each kit also included Wonder books from Findaway and Indestructibles Baby-Proof books. Each kit is housed in a clear backpack and includes an instruction sheet, a list of items included in each bag, song lyrics, and finger plays. We looked for items that would be easy to clean, durable, educational, and beneficial to the theme of the Story Time bag as something we would use ourselves during an in-person program

In South Dakota:

The Siouxland Libraries had an outdoor evening event September 24th at the Strawbale Winery in Renner, SD. Lakota guest speaker, Victor Douville, will talk about the stars and Lakota culture. Telescopes will be available to view the night sky. The woodwind quintet, Prairie Winds, will entertain with their music and the library's bookmobile will be available as well.



Catch UP with the ALA!

By Sara Westall, ALA Chapter Councilor
Reference Librarian, Fargo Public Library

Greetings fellow NDLA'ers!

ALA is hosting the first [LibLearnX Conference](#) January 21st-24th. This conference will be held virtually. LibLearnX has taken the place of the ALA Midwinter Meeting and according to Past ALA President Julius Jefferson *will be* a “dynamic, member-focused experience, designed to motivate, inspire, and engage all attendees in discussions that will shape the future of libraries and their communities.”

"Learn by doing" in hands-on workshops, “bite-sized” offerings, and other formats to match your learning style with an emphasis on experiential learning.

Participate in 120+ live and on-demand education sessions in a wide variety of topics that will offer solution-based education for immediately actionable insights.

Be inspired by featured speakers, learn from subject matter experts, and enjoy beloved authors (new and established).

Celebrate your colleagues, favorite authors, and books at the award ceremonies.

A four-day event designed to be interactive, intimate, and thoroughly invigorating.

P.S. Some of those featured speakers include SNL's Molly Shannon, and YA author Kelly Yang. Registration is now open.

[Join us at LibLearnX!](#)

The decision to make the conference fully virtual was made in mid-September:

The Library Learning Experience scheduled for January 21-24, 2022, in San Antonio, Texas, will take place virtually.

“Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and surge of its variants coupled with the size, scope and location of LibLearnX, it is necessary to cancel the in-person portion of the event,” said ALA President Patricia “Patty” Wong. “As such, the Executive Board voted to transition the in-person portion of LLX in January 2022 to a virtual-only conference.”



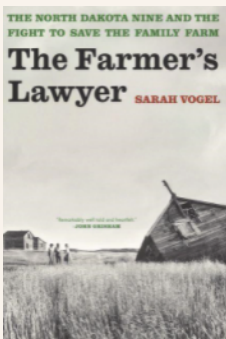


***Chico's Promise: A Superhero, Lives Saved, and a Promise Made!* by Mike Monahan**

\$25, 147 p., hardcover. Available from the author's website

In 1969, a dog named Chico, once owned by a retired Williston police officer, was sent from Williston to join the 46th Scout Dog Platoon in Vietnam. Chico was paired with Specialist 4 Mike Monahan and the two walked point from May 1969 to April 1970. During that time, Chico alerted the unit to booby traps, several enemy bunkers, and numerous fresh enemy trails. He also alerted Monahan to a tripwire hooked to explosives during one of their patrols. While Monahan was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with Valor, Chico got something more fitting for a hero of his kind – a thick, juicy steak served raw. After working together for a year, Monahan went home, but Chico stayed behind with another handler. About a year after that, the Army decided Chico was too aggressive and sadly he was euthanized. In fact, some 4,300 military dogs were abandoned or euthanized by the end of the Vietnam war, something that weighed heavily on Monahan.

In ***Chico's Story***, Monahan talks about his time with Chico and shares the promise he made to the furry hero. The promise was to honor Chico and the lives of every military dog left behind by working to save 50,000 dogs by paying adoption fees at select no-kill shelters throughout the United States. Monahan established a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to saving canine lives named [Chico's Promise](#).



***The Farmer's Lawyer: The North Dakota Nine and the Fight to Save the Family Farm* by Sarah Vogel**

\$28, 432 p., hardcover; \$9.99, Kindle; \$14.99, NOOK (Available at local bookstores and online from [Barnes and Noble](#), [Amazon](#), [Target](#), [Walmart](#), [Books a Million](#), and [Bookshop.org](#))

In the early 1980s, rural American farmers were suffering through the worst economic crisis to hit since the Great Depression. Family farmers were threatened with foreclosure and called on attorney Sarah Vogel to help. At the time, Vogel was a young lawyer with a solo practice as well as a single mother. As she took on clients who could not afford to pay her and dug into the case, it wasn't long before she faced foreclosure herself. Still, Vogel persevered and eventually brought a national class action lawsuit, *Coleman v. Block*, and won her fight for family farmers' rights.

Author Sarah Vogel lives in Bismarck and is an attorney and former politician whose career has focused on family farmers and ranchers. Vogel was the first woman in U.S. history to be elected to the position of state agriculture commissioner and she served as North Dakota's State Commissioner of Agriculture from 1989-1997. In 2006, the American Agricultural Law Association awarded her its Distinguished Service Award for

contributions to the field of agriculture law. In 2015, singer Willie Nelson honored Vogel at Farm Aid's thirtieth anniversary for her service to farmers. She is also a passionate advocate for Native American rights. You can learn more about Vogel, her book, and the case [here](#).

Critical Acclaim for *The Farmer's Lawyer*

"Vogel sets this appalling story of a politicized bureaucracy run amok against a rich portrait of North Dakota farm life and its political tradition of rural solidarity ... The result is an engrossing legal saga and a rousing tribute to prairie populism."—Publishers Weekly

"Engaging, suspenseful, and often heartbreaking ... This stirring account is a testimony to [Vogel's] continuing work as a strong advocate for America's farmers."—Booklist

"... Vogel's memoir approaches the case with a sense of history, giving in-depth insight on what happened within the farming community and the procedures and institutions put in place to prevent it from happening again. She recounts the personal stories of her plaintiffs with heart and discusses her own involvement as a non-trial lawyer with self-deprecating humor while also showing her intense dedication to her clients. VERDICT An enjoyable true-life legal drama on par with Erin Brockovich. Vogel uses only the occasional legalese, and her story will appeal to readers who enjoy a good underdog legal story."— Stacy Shaw, Denver, Library Journal

Klasberg, North Dakota



***Klasberg, North Dakota: Collected Stories from the Middle of Nowhere* by Jeffrey Miller**

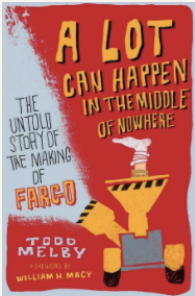
\$9.99, 128 p., pbk. Available from [DakotaBookNet](#) and [Amazon](#)

"Small towns in the middle of nowhere" are familiar to those of us who live in the Northern Great Plains. The stories in this book are set in the fictional town of Klasberg and invite the reader to share in the relationships small town people have with each other and to experience the joys, the sorrows, and the triumphs of their everyday lives. *Klasberg, North Dakota* shines a light on "the reality of modern rural living, far from the big city." Author Jeffrey Miller has been published in a wide variety of magazines and writes about hunting, fishing, fur trapping, and modern homesteading. He also writes a monthly column, "Musings from the Cottonwood Bend," for the Cass County Reporter. Miller and his family live on the banks of the Sheyenne River near Kindred, North Dakota.

***A Lot Can Happen in the Middle of Nowhere* by Todd Melby; foreword by William H. Macy**

\$19.95, 232 p., pbk. Available from [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Minnesota Historical Society](#), and [Prairie Public](#)

One of my all-time favorite movies is the 1996 Coen Brothers film, *Fargo*! In fact, I have watched it so many times that I know much of the dialogue by heart. In honor of



the film’s 25th anniversary, the [Minnesota Historical Society Press](#) published *A Lot Can Happen in The Middle of Nowhere*, which explores “the behind-the-scenes creative moments that made *Fargo* a critical and cultural success, including casting struggles, the battles over dialect, production challenges (a lack of snow), and insights from the screenplay and deleted scenes.” The book also “examines to what extent the story was inspired by true events (as the film claims),” and whether Joel & Ethan Coen “are trustworthy narrators of their own story.”



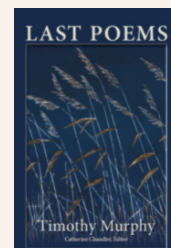
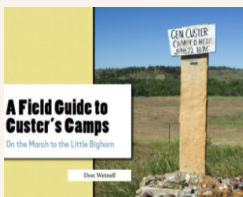
North Dakota Blue Book 2021-2023

\$20; 620 p.,softcover. Available from the [State Historical Society of North Dakota Museum Store](#)

The 2021-2023 edition of the [North Dakota Blue Book](#) was unveiled at a ceremony at the State Capitol on October 26, 2021. The *Blue Book* is a publication of the Secretary of State’s office and serves as a go-to resource for all kinds of information about our state. The feature chapter of the 2021-2023 edition highlights North Dakota State Parks. Other chapters include: North Dakota Almanac, Federal-State Relationships, Judicial Branch, Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, Tribal-State Relationships, Elections, Education, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy. The first Blue Book was issued in 1889 and since 1995, a new edition of the book has been published every biennium. Twenty editions are available online at [State Historical Society of North Dakota](#). Once the 2021-2023 edition is digitized, it will also be available online.

Good news! [NDSU Press](#) is offering several new & forthcoming books. Visit their [website](#) for all the details.

- ***A Field Guide to Custer’s Camps: On the March to the Little Bighorn***, by Don Weinell, Release Date: August 9, 2021
- ***Field Notes: Poems*** by Margaret Royal, Release Date: November 2, 2021
- ***In Plains Sight: Poems*** by Bonnie Larson Staiger, Release Date: August 6, 2021
- ***Last Poems*** by Timothy Murphy; edited by Catherine Chandler, Release Date: July 29, 2021
- ***The Night We Landed on the Moon: Essays between Exile & Belonging*** by Debra Marquart, Release Date: September 12, 2021

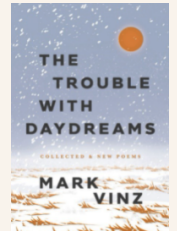


Prairie Madness, POPP Award Winner, by Katherine Hoerth, Release Date: TBD.

Price Per Barrel: The Human Cost of Extraction by Robin Lynn Behl, Release Date: October 22, 2021

A Song for Liv by Wayne Gudmundson, Release Date: August 19, 2021

The Trouble with Daydreams: Collected & New Poems by Mark Vinz, Release Date: September 1, 2021



Our Story of Eagle Woman: Sacagawea. They Got It Wrong by The Sacagawea Project Board of the Mandan Hidatsa & Arikara Nation

\$50, hardcover, 360p. Available from [Paragon Agency Books](#) and [MHA Interpretive Center Gift Shop](#), New Town

Sacagawea, the female guide who helped the Lewis & Clark Expedition make its way to the Pacific Ocean, is a well-known figure in American history, but is what we know about her right? Tribal members on the Fort Berthold Reservation, including descendants of Sacagawea, have long maintained that she was Hidatsa and Crow rather than Shoshone.

In August, the Sacagawea Project Board of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation released its book (six years in the making) about this famous woman. Dennis and Sandra Fox established a board to oversee the project and managed the development of the book, which was published by The Paragon Agency. Board members were Gerard Baker, Calvin Grinnell, Bernie Fox, Carol Newman, and Wanda Sheppard. Others who helped with the writing and research were Quincy Baker, Claryca Mandan, Jerry Birdsbill Ford, and Michael Welsh. Proceeds from the sales of the book will be directed to the MHA Interpretive Center, with an emphasis on its cultural programs.



Ruby Aurthur by Lindsey Undlin

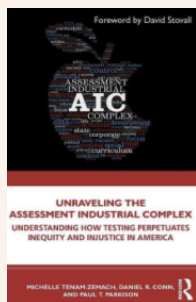
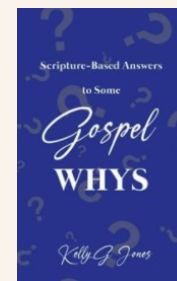
\$10.99, 292 p., pbk.; \$10.99, Kindle. Available online from [Amazon](#)

In July, at the age of 14, Lindsey Undlin of Lansford became a published author with the release of her book, *Ruby Aurthur*. Undlin has been writing since fifth grade and says “the people and towns around me” inspired her to write the book. She likes seeing “how different towns and people interact with each other and how their upbringing affected them.” (Minot Daily News, Aug. 2, 2021, p. 1) *Ruby Aurthur* is about a girl who moves to Swallowville and tries to get on the varsity team with the help of a couple of friends. Undlin has plans to turn her story into a series and is currently working on the second book.

Scripture-based Answers to Some GOSPEL WHYS by Kelly G. Jones

\$20, 46 p., hardcover; \$10, ebook. Available online from [Dorrance Publishing Co.](#), [Target](#), [ThriftBooks](#), and [Walmart](#)

Kelly G. Jones, a New Town wife and mother of six, penned this book to “show how organized religion, faith, repentance and much more is relevant in our lives.”



Unraveling the Assessment Industrial Complex: Understanding How Testing Perpetuates Inequity and Injustice in America by Michelle Tenam-Zemach, **Daniel R. Conn**, and Paul T. Parkison

\$160, 138 p., hardcover; \$44.95, softcover; \$38.49, NOOK; \$44.95, Kindle. Available from [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), and [Routledge](#)

Daniel Conn, one of the co-authors of this book from Routledge, is an Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Master of Education Program Director at Minot State University. He believes there must be a better way to measure a student’s educational progress than standardized testing. In *Unraveling the Assessment Industrial Complex*, Conn and his co-authors present a critique of the assessment industry and the adverse impact that standardized testing has on students, teachers, and society.

NDLA Membership Report - October 27, 2021

Submitted by Nicole Eckroth

Category	Current
Academic and Special Libraries Section	67
Health and Sciences Information Section	26
Public Library Section	114
School and Youth Services Section	81
Individual	214
Retired & Friends	8
Institutional Members	6
Student Members	6
Trustees	5
Total Members	236

Treasurer's Report
As of December 1, 2021
By Aaron Stefanich, NDLA Treasurer

CHECK BOOK 12/01/2021

	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Funds	\$37,699.11			
Annual Conference 2021	-\$2,400.00	\$36,420.00	-\$28,067.89	\$8,352.11
Annual Conference 2020	-\$5,709.37	\$50.00		-\$5,659.37
Book Sales	\$1,116.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,116.32
Dues		\$11,084.25		\$11,084.25
HSIS Partner Account	\$6,969.19			\$6,969.19
Investment Account Transfers		\$0.00	-\$116.09	
Other receipts/disbursements		\$3,930.77	-\$6,652.86	
NDLA Funds Subtotal		\$51,485.02	-\$34,836.84	\$16,648.18

Check Book Balance 12/01/2021

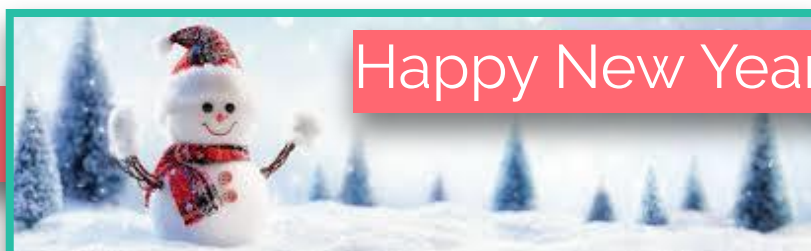
\$54,347.29

MONEY MARKET & CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	End. Balance
NDLA Bank Money Market Ready Cash	\$12,332.05			
Interest		\$1.07		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$12,333.12
Professional Development Bank Money Market RC	\$11,572.12			
Interest		\$1.02		
Deposits		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$116.09	\$0.00	
				\$11,689.23
NDLA CD	\$21,791.53			
Interest		\$0.00		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$21,791.53
Professional Development CD	\$15,007.52			
Interest		\$13.08		
Transfers		\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$15,020.60
TOTAL investment accounts	\$60,703.22			\$60,834.48

TOTAL EQUITY 12/01/2021

\$115,181.77



Happy New Year!