



Michigan Cooperative Directors Association

Report for

Library of Michigan Board of Trustees

September 6, 2018

Michigan Library Cooperatives serve the needs of public libraries and many also serve multi-type libraries such as academic, school and special. The Cooperative Directors have submitted information for this report that reflects current achievements, ongoing planning, and future activities.

Detroit Public Library Cooperative – Jo Anne Mondowney, Director

- Meet Up, Eat Up and Read Up – 2018: Seven DPL branches are sites for the Meet Up, Eat Up free lunch programs for children ages 18 and under. The healthy lunches are provided by Samaritan Homes and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan in partnership with the Michigan Department of Education. Participating branches include Chandler Park, Douglass, Edison, Hubbard, Jefferson, Parkman, and Wilder. (June 25-August 31)
- Author Day: The 2018 Author Day program featured T. L. Criswell, author of *The Peacemaker*, the story of a teenager who struggled through the criminal justice system. Ms. Criswell spoke to more than 300 students and adults on May 10, 2018, at Main Library.
- Project Art: ProjectArt celebrated the conclusion of its nine-month tuition free after school arts program offered at six DPL locations: Main Library and the Campbell, Hubbard, Jefferson, Parkman and Wilder branches with exhibitions of the art work created by students and resident artists.
- Bowen Branch Honored: The Bowen Branch, located in Southwest Detroit, has been named a “2018 Hero of the Neighborhood” by the Urban Neighborhood Initiatives. Established in 1997, UNI is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to revitalizing the Springwells area of Detroit. The award was presented at UNI's 20th Anniversary Celebration on June 8, 2018.
- Author Talks: Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Charlie LeDuff was at Main Library on May 30, 2018, to discuss his new book, *Sh*tshow! The Country's Collapsing and the Ratings Are Great*. Dr. Michael Eric Dyson visited Main Library June 20, 2018, to discuss his newest book, *What Truth Sounds Like: Robert F. Kennedy, James Baldwin, and Our Unfinished Conversation About Race in America*.
- Birmingham Society of Women Painters: The Birmingham Society of Women Painters exhibited their work in Main Library's Galleria during April and May. The organization was established in 1944 to provide formal instruction and workspace for women painters.
- STEM Fair: DPL hosted a science, technology, engineering and math fair, “All About STEM,” at Main Library on Saturday, April 14, 2018. There were exhibits and demonstrations in Adam Strohm Hall. Children's Library became a makerspace for students to have hands-on experience. More than 200 students and their families enjoyed an afternoon of exploring STEM activities.

Lakeland Library Cooperative – Carol Dawe, Director

- The Lakeland Library Cooperative is moving forward with a number of important projects. The Advisory Council approved an action plan based on a SWOT that was conducted in May. The ILS Council approved a strategic plan in August. These two plans have some overlap and will be the

foundation for the board, councils, staff and members for the next few years. An overall plan may be added but this framework allows LLC to be “stronger together”, focus on our strengths and better meet the needs of our members.

- We conducted an upgrade of our ILS in August. We will be using Niche Academy and Zoom to provide training opportunities for our members. We are updating our phone system in August and will move to a new email system this fall to improve overall communication. We will seek approval of a more simplified budget in September and we will begin to review policies and procedures in the new fiscal year.
- We are looking forward to working together to improve services for our member libraries and their patrons/users.

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative – Denise Hooks, Director

- Scheduled programming for MMLC libraries and many other libraries throughout the state; reached a new all-time high booking number with 620 programs during 2017-18. The 2018-19 MMLC Performer's Showcase registration is now open: <http://mmlc.info/events/performers-showcase-september-18-2018/>
- Participated in the Friends of Michigan Libraries/Trustee Alliance strategic planning session in June 2018. MMLC will continue as FOML Fiscal Agent in 2018-19.
- Opened registration for the Collaborating Partners "Removing Barriers: A Library Accessibility Workshop". The event is scheduled on November 9, 2018 at Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. The link is: <http://mmlc.info/events/removing-barriers-a-library-accessibility-workshop/>
- Convened a meeting of the MMLC OverDrive consortia to review practices and consider new services.
- Awarded the 2017-18 Technology and Innovation Grants to public library members amounting to over \$120,000.
- Attended the Michigan Library Association Executive Summit focusing on leadership.
- Co-sponsoring two workshops in the Fall and next Spring with the Bay County Library System on library security and Capital Area District Library on marketing.
- Providing new MMLC Board Member orientations for Mary Herr, Bay County Library System; Sandy Drake, Capital Area District Library; Janie Lupo, Goodland Township Library and Jill Sodd, Mott Community College Library.
- Celebrated the retirement of Melissa Barnard, longtime director of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Welcomed Miriam Andrus as the new library director in Midland. Miriam was the former director at Big Rapids Community Library.

Mid-Michigan Library League – Sheryl Mase, Director

- Six of the eleven cooperative directors, along with several members of the Northland Library Cooperative, are collaborating together to plan of a conference that will take place late April or early May of 2019, which is the “off year” for the Loleta Fyan Small & Rural Libraries Conference.
- For our annual meeting, we will gather at Caberfae Peaks Ski & Golf Resort on September 20, 2018 with Library of Michigan staff providing updates and member library staff doing “speed round” presentations on a variety of topics
- The most recent statewide webinar was Anne Seuryneck's Top 5 Policies for Libraries. The archived webinars are all online at <https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars>.
- New maker kits for member libraries include a button maker, a printmaking kit, and “Teknikio” activating origami. The two MakerBot Mini+ 3D printers are being used frequently.

- The E-resources Committee wants to continue the RBDigital downloadable audiobooks and access to Transparent Language Online, and we will work together to decide what other e-resources to provide in the coming year for all members.
- The “Emergency Geek” service is still available and at the ready! Everyone starts the fiscal year with four hours in the bank. Some do not use theirs and put them into a bank for those who need more than four hours of tech support.
- Manistee County Library passed their millage renewal through 2023. The Lake County library millage renewal for Pathfinder Community Library, Chase Public Library, and Luther Area Public Library passed on August 7th by a margin of 3:1. The Betsie Valley District Library also passed a millage renewal through 2023, at .35 mills.
- We still have three un-automated libraries: Chase, Walton Erickson, and Wheatland. 33 of the 37 member libraries are now on MeLCat – YES! Walkerville is now automated, but they still need to implement MeLCat. We have several new directors.

Northland Library Cooperative – Roger Mendel, Director

- In April the Northland membership and Board voted to accept the request by the Tahquamenon Area Public Library for membership in the cooperative. The library will officially be a member October 1, 2018.
- This fiscal year has been the first year of Library Enhancement grants being awarded to members by the cooperative based on the size of the library. Among the projects approved are participation in Hoopla, increasing funding for library Overdrive accounts, upgrading computers and software, enhancing summer reading programs, purchasing hot spots, upgrading a/v equipment just to name a few.
- One of our cooperative goals for the coming year was to provide members with a significant continuing education experience in 2019 in the off years from the Rural Libraries Conference. Due to interest by several other cooperatives we have a planning committee to arrange for a mini conference in the spring of 2019.
- This past few months several member library boards have arranged for Board Training sessions with the Cooperative Director.

Southwest Library Cooperative – John Mohny, Director

- We have added a \$10,000 Workshop Budget for 2019
- We will offer the same Services that we provided this year: 2 \$1,000 Grants, RIDES, MLA Memberships, MCLS Memberships, Movie Licensing
- We are in good shape financially
- There will be 4 new Board members and new Officers will be chosen at our October meeting

Suburban Library Cooperative – Tammy Turgeon, Director

- The Suburban Library Cooperative member libraries have continued to add school districts to their ConnectEd/Virtual Library Card program. The latest district to implement the program is Warren Consolidated Schools.
- The SLC Shared System libraries’ are in the process of developing a new mobile app.
- Suburban Library Cooperative member libraries are partnering with Emagine Theaters to provide \$8 admission for a movie, including popcorn, on select days when patrons show their library card. Book group movie/discussions are also being planned.

- Two member libraries have new Directors: Mount Clemens Public Library hired Brandon Bowman and the Romeo District Library hired Claire Lopiccolo.

Superiorland Library Cooperative – Shawn Andary, Interim Director

- There are a number of new library directors and branch managers in our Cooperative. Roscommon Area District Library has a new Director, Colleen Dyke, Brevort Twp Community Library new branch manager, Josh Townley (affiliate of Superior DL), Detour Sch/Public Library new branch manager is Megan Stefanski (affiliate of Superior DL), Drummond Isle Library's new branch manager is Laura Hintz (affiliate of Superior DL).
- The Superiorland Library Cooperative filled positions for a Network Administrator and ILS Administrator this month, and we are looking forward to having additional staff to better meet the needs of our member libraries.
- The Manistique School/Public Library joined RIDES and began resource sharing with participating libraries on UPRLC's shared automation system. They are looking forward to starting participation in MeLCat sometime next year. Engadine Public Library and Wakefield Public Library began participation in MeLCat in late May.
- A recent survey of the Superiorland Library Cooperative Great Lakes Talking Books patrons indicated an interest in recordings of works by regional authors. Our readers' advisory librarian is looking into a possible partnership with Northern Michigan University to record Cully Gage's "A Love Affair with the UP." We will work with the BSBP Braille and Talking Book Library to ensure that the recording is made available to patrons in the proper format and that we obtain the proper permissions for use.
- Equipment for a TV Whitespace grant has finally arrived at the Cooperative after many delays. Although recently retired, Jean Montgomery has been working to configure the equipment, and we are hopeful that some of it will be installed and operational in 2 locations in Ironwood this month. Internet access will be provided from the Ironwood Carnegie Library to provide internet access in selected areas of the community using the frequencies that have been used for analog television signals in the past.
- We are experimenting with a new ticketing system called Freshdesk. The base plan is free of charge and it allows all of our support requests to be organized in a shared database. Requests can be initiated by member libraries by simply emailing support@uproc.lib.mi.us. In addition to helping us to avoid having requests get buried in individual email boxes, there are some reports that will help us to see how Superiorland staff is spending their time. Additionally, we can begin to add helpful documentation to a searchable knowledge base that can be made available to member libraries.

The Library Network – James Pletz, Director

- The Library Network (TLN) celebrated a major organizational milestone when the Sirsi/Dynix Integrated Library System (ILS) was shut down after 14 years of service. Carlx, an ILS system developed and managed by The Library Corporation (TLC), won the hearts and purse strings of the Shared Automation User Group, who voted unanimously to award the seven year ILS Contract to TLC Carlx. The migration process commenced at 6:00 PM on Friday, May 25.
- Novi Public Library hosted a TLN wide staff professional development day on May 25. Designed to reduce some of the anxiety of the ILS migration, the event was titled, "Stay Calm and Choose Civility," featured nationally acclaimed library administrator, Valerie Gross, and a number of specialists who helped to frame community debate with an air of civility. The closed campus event attracted 200+ participants.

- Present your valid library card, grab a bag of popcorn, enjoy a reduced admission adult ticket on the first Monday and Third Wednesday each month as your library card transports you to the world of cinema, all part of the collaborative project with Emagine Theater Entertainment and The Library Network. Over 30 TLN libraries are engaged in the project. The program envisions Emagine Theaters serving as a venue for book clubs and book discussion groups that will advance screen a film, discuss the relationship to the book and develop an interactive movie supported book discussion.

White Pine Library Cooperative – Bryon Sitler, Director

- The last couple months have been working on various tasks: finalizing the budget for next week's Board meeting, preparing information for upcoming "meet the candidate" sessions, scheduling the sessions and creating workshop presentations on board training, policy development and the Open Meetings Act, and making several presentations to boards.
- We've been reviewing our OverDrive circulation, creating a "cost-per-circulation" collection and monitoring it.

Woodlands Library Cooperative – Kate Pohjola Andrade, Director

- WLC's Penal Fines Task Force is moving forward with creating and implementing Penal Fines advocacy kits for our member libraries. As penal fines checks are coming out this summer, we're seeing a huge mix of amounts - some libraries are seeing more funds, while most are seeing declines.
- Our inaugural webinar, QUILTBAG: Welcoming and Supporting LGBTQ+ Teens in the Library, on May 30th, went very well. Multiple attendees have reported being more comfortable offering LGBT positive materials and programs in their libraries.
- We held a webinar viewing party on July 26 for Steve Albrecht's How to Respond to a Security Incident in Your Library, sponsored by ALA. Attendees were very pleased to have access to this kind of training in a group setting.
- Our workshop, The Care & Feeding of our Library Buildings, was very well received. A buildings/facilities-themed email list has grown out of this day.
- The cooperative's proposed budget for FY 2018-19 includes increasing mini grant funds to our member libraries, offering continuing education funds for libraries to use for their staff members, and covering the cost of Consumer Reports Online and adding Mango Languages for all of our member libraries. The budget goes to our advisory council this week, and then to the governing board in September.
- After investigating and using a trial for a competing product, our group has chosen to remain with OverDrive for our cooperative-wide eBook and eAudiobook provider.
- Kate has been out to visit multiple member libraries for board trainings, meetings with directors and committee meetings.
- The Eaton Rapids Public Library has become the Eaton Rapids District Library.
- Our National Library Legislative Day contingent was able to meet with all of our legislators!