



Michigan Cooperative Directors Association Report for Library of Michigan Board of Trustees March 14, 2019

MCDA Activities:

- On February 15, 2019, MCDA members took part in a half day SOAR Analysis facilitated by David Votta, Community Engagement Librarian from MCLS. The focus of this type of analysis is to help organizations focus on their current strengths and opportunities to create a vision of future aspirations and the result they will bring. The group is committed to working together to better serve their member organizations.
- Kate Pohjola Andrade represented the MCDA at the MAME's first Coalition for Michigan School Libraries event in Brighton, MI on February 23, 2019.
- Small Libraries, Big Impact mini conference will take place on April 29 and April 30 at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Registration is open and we are expecting the spots to fill in nicely, with the initial registration distributed among the six sponsoring library cooperatives from March 4-15. Then there will be open registration as of March 16th.

Detroit Library Cooperative – JoAnne Mondowney, Director

- Main Library's Adam Strohm Hall is the site of an exhibit, "Black Bottom Street View," that will be available for viewing through March 2019. Architect Emily Kutil has recreated the Black Bottom neighborhood using historic photographs from the Burton Historical Collection. The exhibit was featured in the February issue of Hour magazine and the January 24, 2019, edition of the Detroit Free Press.
- "Neighborhood Natives," a photo series exhibit of notable Detroiters returning to the neighborhoods they grew up in, is located on the first floor. The exhibit includes photos of Mary Wilson of the Supremes and world-class boxer Tommy Hearns.
- Beginning on Thursday, March 7, 2019, the Sherwood Forest Branch will present "Cranbrook Science on the Go," a four-week educational series for children and tweens. The hour-long programs provide opportunities for children to explore scientific topics in a way that is accessible and fun.
- In May 2018, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan and their partners at General Motors donated 60 Internet-enabled tablets that allow DPL customers to access ABCmouse, a popular online educational program for children ages 2-8. These tablets were placed in five branch libraries. In December 2018, the organization donated an additional 80 tablets, for a total donation of 140 tablets. These additional tablets will be placed at other branches, allowing for increased access to the ABCmouse program.

- International jazz vocalist, model and actress Kimmie Horne will be the opening performer for the 19th Annual Comerica Bank, Java & Jazz at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, March 19, 2019. The public is invited every third Tuesday from March – July to enjoy the best of Detroit’s musical talent.
- DPL is again partnering with Marygrove College on its 31st Annual Bauder Contemporary Authors Lecture which will feature 2018 National Book Award winner Elizabeth Acevedo, author of *THE POET X*. Several DPL branches will sponsor discussions of the book and programs for teens. Ms. Acevedo will discuss her book at 8 p.m., on April 26, 2019, at Marygrove College.
- A special feature in March at DPL’s Sunday locations – the Redford and Wilder Branches and Main Library – will be “Prime Time,” a free six-week program reading, discussion and storytelling series that helps families bond around the act of reading and talking about books.

Lakeland Library Cooperative – Carol Dawe, Director

- The Cooperative started partnering with Kent District Libraries on February 4th to allow items to be “Return(ed) Anywhere” between the two entities in order to improve the user experience. We are sharing statistical data and returns are equal between the two entities. We look forward to marketing this initiative to increase usage.
- Lakeland has rolled out a new ticketing system so that Tech-Help requests via e-mail will now automatically create a support ticket. We have already seen positive results in terms of member library staff feedback, better response time, and statistical data gathering. We have also purchased new and improved remote desktop software so that we can further assist our members.
- LLC Staff have streamlined ILS reports for member libraries so that all monthly and annual reports and some specialized reports are now scripted, automatically run and accessible via our website. We are also providing access to all recent (past 2 years) board, council and committee meeting packets via our website.
- We are providing our members with monthly updates to our Strategic Plans and we have created a monthly infographic so they can see Lakeland by the numbers. This information will also be posted on our website.
- Over 100 people attended the 2nd annual staff-in-service program on February 18th (President’s day, each year). This year’s topic was change management and stress reduction and was well received with enthusiastic participation and feedback.
- I have completed my first year at Lakeland and gave a year in review presentation at the last LLC Board meeting. I continue to enjoy the work, appreciate the efforts of the Lakeland staff and board and the dedication and support of the member libraries. We work for you and we are stronger together.

The Library Network (TLN) – Jim Pletz, Director

Initiating a new community focus was a top goal for The Library Network. Monies were allocated to contract the services of a Community Engagement Specialist. The goal was simple – is there fertile ground to cultivate TLN and member outreach efforts to cooperative members? What can a cooperative undertake that members are unable to undertake? Dale Jaslove fit our needs in a manner that was unrivaled. After five months working the varied communities that are served by TLN libraries, the following new programs and engagements are underway:

- Alzheimer’s Association – Sessions for family members and caregivers, and another for community members
- Center Stage - A return engagement of top-rated programs
- Jazz in the D - A multimedia program on jazz in 1920’s Detroit
- Michigan Opera Theater - A performance and critical study of a forthcoming show
- Sponsorships: Reduced admission tickets for The Detroit Red Wings, Little Caesar’s Arena Tours, Fox Theater with presentation of a library card

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative – Denise Hooks, Director

- MMLC scheduled over 650 programs for libraries through the Summer Reading season. In addition, we are still receiving new requests for Winter and Spring.
- Libraries were sent MMLC discount information on purchasing Launchpads and a few have taken advantage of the opportunity.
- Members purchased VOX Books through MMLC discounts and the children’s book/audio combination were distributed through the cooperative.
- The MMLC Board and membership was informed that I plan to retire on September 30, 2019. The Director position posting opened on February 15, 2019 and will close on April 15, 2019. The job has been posted on the MLA and ALA job sites as well as to Michlib-l.
- The MMLC Advocacy Committee is meeting to review the Advocacy Plan and to discuss the National Library Legislative Day event cancellation for 2019. Alternatives will be presented for use of those MMLC grant funds.
- The MMLC Advisory Council met on February 19, 2019. The speakers were: Anne Seuryneck, Foster Swift attorney, and Theresa Runyan, Mel Engagement Specialist, Public Libraries. Also, in attendance were Shannon White, LM, and Megan Dudek, MCLS

Mid-Michigan Library League – Sheryl Mase, Director

- Our Continuing Education Committee is working on short (less than five minute) videos to post on our cooperative's YouTube channel to assist members with quick information at the time of need.
- We have member libraries undergoing expansions, such as the Glen Lake Community Library in Empire, which will be in a temporary location while work is done on their new building expansion this spring. Cadillac Wexford Public Library's Manton branch has a new building project for which they have raised \$300K to date.
- We are continuing membership benefits of access to RBdigital downloadable audiobooks and Transparent Language Online, as well as four hours of paid tech support for each member by the "Emergency Geek." We are also running a second round of our mini-grant program this year.

Northland Library Cooperative – Roger Mendel, Director

- Many of the libraries had more days when they were closed due to severe weather this winter.
- Libraries have begun filing their Library Enhancement Grants. This program allows libraries to offer new services to their users.

Suburban Library Cooperative – Tammy Turgeon, Director

- The Suburban Library Cooperative Director and the Troy Public Library Director met with State Representative Padma Kuppa to talk about libraries and cooperatives and how they are funded.
- The Suburban Library Cooperative Director and the Clinton Macomb Public Library Director met with State Senator Paul Wojno to talk about an early literacy grant project that the Cooperative is working on. They were also able to discuss cooperative and library funding, the ConnectEd / Virtual Library Card program that the cooperative runs, and support for school media specialists in all schools.
- The Suburban Library Cooperative Director is now ad-hoc chair of the Partners Workshop Collaborative. The Partners are developing a workshop for November 2019 to be held in Lansing.
- Randy Riley, State Librarian, attended the SLC Advisory Council meeting in January to talk about LM, grant programs, and MeL.
- Theresa Runyan, Liz Breed and Megan Dudek attended the SLC Advisory Council meeting in February to talk about MeL and new training opportunities.

Superiorland Library Cooperative – Shawn Andary, Director

- Our Great Lakes Talking Books staff finished recording Cully Gage’s “A Love Affair with the UP” and it has been sent to Lansing for final editing so that the book can be made available to patrons in DTB format. The recording will also be available for download through BARD. We hope that this recording is the first of many. We are also exploring the idea of purchasing a recording booth that could be housed at the Peter White Public Library.
- UPRLC Annual Meeting planning has been progressing. The theme of this year’s conference is ADAPT.EVOLVE. LEAD. It will be held on September 18th and 19th at the Peter White Public Library in Marquette. We just sent out a save the date and call for proposals.
- The Dickinson County Library is having its TENTH annual Prom Dress swap on March 9th and 10th! This is a hugely successful event that allows teen girls in grades 9 through 12 to keep a formal dress and accessories.
- The Portage Lake District Library is having a day long staff workshop on March 14th and have opened the afternoon sessions staff from other libraries in the area that wish to attend. Superiorland Library Cooperative staff Jeremy Morelock will be doing a presentation on OverDrive and the Libby app, and Lissa Potter will do a presentation on Copy Cataloging and dealing with lost, damaged and missing items on the ILS. Lisa Waskin from the Superior District Library will be presenting on the Reference Interview.
- The Dickinson County Library is hosting a Youth Services workshop on March 20th. Our new staff member Eli Donnell will be presenting a session titled “3-D Printer Possibilities” and other presentations include topics on summer reading, PR, Wandoo Reader and more. Superiorland members will also be able to attend the presentations using Zoom.

White Pine Library Cooperative – Bryon Sitler, Director

This has been a busy month visiting libraries, assisting with directorship hiring, preparing final statistical analyses for each member, board training sessions, renewing movie licensing agreements and working with 2 libraries to improve their technology and automating one library.

Woodlands Library Cooperative – Kate Pohjola Andrade, Director

- Our collaborative purchasing power allowed us to buy 199 VOX Books for our member libraries at a discount. Vox Books are self-contained children’s audio books and are growing more and more popular.
- We ordered and distributed 158 sets of Labor Law Posters for libraries around the state. The purchase price before discounts is \$49.95, but with our large order, cost per set was \$16.25.
- We are in the beginning states of working with Dale Jaslove to bring programs like those offered at TLN to the communities served by Woodlands Library Cooperative.