

Memo

To: Montana State Library Network Advisory Council

From: Cara Orban, Statewide Projects Librarian

Date: November 10, 2015

Re: Statewide Projects update

ALA Annual Conference

Recipients of the four American Library Association Annual Conference scholarships, Lauren Cote of Missoula Public Library, Carmen Clark of Bozeman Public Library, Adam Kish of Twin Bridges Public Library, and Marian Mays of Butte-Silver Bow Public Library, presented on their experiences and key takeaways in a webinar coordinated by Jo Flick on September 17. The purpose of this post-conference webinar was to share insights and resources discovered at the conference with the greater Montana library community. Topics covered included mobile library services, keeping libraries relevant, STEM & StarNet programs in libraries, readers' advisory, bookmobiles, and tips for staff from small libraries on attending a big conference.

Courier

The state Critelli contract that commenced in January 2015 serves 54 libraries through 19 drop sites that have signed service agreements with Critelli as of October 2015. In the first nine months of the contract, drop site libraries and the State Library paid a total of \$35,825 in regular stops, excluding excess crate charges. Of this amount, drop site libraries collectively paid \$31,257 and MSL paid \$3,043 in FY14 LSTA for approximately 1,460 stops.

Participating libraries are sending an average of 685 crates per month, most of which (91%) is comprised of Montana Shared Catalog sharing group materials.

The Courier Advisory Board met on October 22 to develop a strategy for planning for affordable and inclusive service in the second year of the contract and beyond. Currently, the group has \$5,428 in FY15 LSTA to sustain the \$2 per stop discount for current participating libraries. To complement the findings of the MSC Executive Board survey, survey questions pertaining to physical delivery and courier service will be distributed in November to both potential and current participating libraries in order to learn more about partnerships, affordability, and other service issues in advance of planning for 2016-17. Responses will be reviewed in December and the Board will study different fee structure options that emerge as a result of those responses.

The Courier Alliance received a \$5,000 donation from the estate of the late author Ivan Doig, which was deposited into the Montana State Library trust. The Courier Advisory Board will discuss the use of these funds, which are not subject to a spending deadline, at their January budget meeting.

OCLC Group Services

The Group Services contract, which provides discounted access to unlimited cataloging and interlibrary loan tools for any Montana library, entered the second year of its three year renewal in July. Libraries that enrolled in FY15 were automatically reenrolled for FY16. 284 locations and branches were enrolled. Funds from 11 late FY15 enrollees in the amount of \$2,431 were applied to the FY16 bill and further reduced the amount due from MSL in the gap line. To date there are no late enrollees in FY16.

Discover It

Statistics for Discover It for January through September 2015 report 45,131 full text retrievals. We believe the full text number is a more useful point of reference than the session count, since session and search counts can be skewed where EDS is embedded in another resource and searched automatically. 175 full text articles were retrieved through the EDS API interface, which currently is integrated in the Enterprise interface to which Shared Catalog libraries have been gradually migrating this year. All MSC libraries are expected to be using Enterprise by the end of December. Cara Orban worked with Ken Adams to review the functionality of the EDS API interface within Enterprise and to improve relevancy of search results, in an effort to reach library users where they may already be searching.

MontanaLibrary2Go

Working with the MontanaLibrary2Go Executive Committee and State Procurement, Cara Orban prepared a request for information, issued in October, to gather information about other consortium models available through different e-content vendors. This provides the consortium with more information to help assess value of existing contract and make informed decision for contract renewals going forward. The Executive Committee met November 4 to discuss the results of the RFI and to review the current cost structure and use of member library funds in the MontanaLibrary2Go annual budget. The Executive Committee hopes to address the need to cover both content and the annual hosting fee, where amount of available LSTA or patron counts may be variable.

In September the MontanaLibrary2Go Selection Committee used the additional \$2,184 in FY14 LSTA approved for a one-time purchase to add 22 new titles and 45 copies in both ebook and audiobook formats to the shared collection.

Montana Makers

To date, 25 public and school libraries have hosted the Montana Makers makerspace kits which were purchased with FY13 and FY14 LSTA funds. Hosting libraries completed evaluation forms and surveys to report the successes and challenges of their programs, and whether goals articulated in the hosting applications had been met. Montana libraries indicated that arts and crafts and simple plug-and-play technology tools, such as circuits and MaKey MaKey, were most popular, whereas computer programming tools were more challenging and less used during the brief time frame. Most libraries agreed that the pilot helped them to increase STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and young adult programming offerings in their communities, and to try out makerspace materials that they may want to purchase. Beginning in October, the six makerspace trunks are assigned to federations in order

to reduce time spent planning around logistical challenges, while Cara Orban will continue to provide online training and orientation for makerspace hosting sites and collect statistics and evaluations for the project.

Between March and September, Cara Orban worked with library consultant Sue Walker at the Idaho Commission for Libraries to gather and organize survey information from small and rural libraries in both states in order to create a best practices guide for smaller libraries that are interested in starting a makerspace. This work culminated in a presentation at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October.

Share your Story

The new Share your Story website (<http://shareyourstorymontana.com/>) was released in September after design work by Luke Duran was completed and adapted to the MSL-hosted page by MSL IT staff Stacy Bruhn and Tom Marino. Butte Silver Bow Public Library staff collected eight oral history interviews from Butte's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community. Missoula Public Library collected seven interviews from military veterans of 20th century wars.

Currently, three public libraries are hosting digital recording kits through the end of 2015: Hearst Free Library, Philipsburg Public Library, and Preston Hot Springs Town-County Library.

The objectives of the Share your Story pilot are to provide broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage, and lifelong learning opportunities through Montana's public libraries; to encourage libraries to develop new partnerships with governing agencies, civic organizations, educational institutions, local businesses, and residents; to expand public programming opportunities for public libraries; and to introduce library staff and library users alike to new technologies.