

Executive Director's Report

ADMINISTRATION

By David Slivken

Presentation to County Commissioners

On April 16th, I, along with Ken Draves and Trustee Joe Wise, appeared before the Larimer County Commissioners at their weekly Administrative and Legal Matters meeting. We informed the commissioners of the recently completed Master Plan, and our desire to expand our services in the district. The commissioners were very complementary of the Library. A relatively accurate story appeared in the Coloradoan and may be accessed here:

<https://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2019/04/16/new-fort-collins-library-expansion-council-tree-part-master-plan/3485306002/>

Building a Better Colorado

On April 24th, I attended a community forum for Building a Better Colorado (BBCO) at the Fort Collins Senior Center. BBCO does not advocate for any specific policy solutions for any of the policy areas which we're exploring. Rather, BBCO convenes politically-balanced panels of subject-matter experts to discern the facts about a given policy challenge, defines a range of potential policy options to address that challenge, and then engages citizens in a constructive conversation to evaluate the merits of those different policy options. By giving control of the outcome to those whom we engage in the conversation, BBCO gives ownership of the policy challenge – and responsibility for identifying an appropriate solution to that challenge – to the people. BBCO plans to present at over 30 events in the next few months.

ClimateWise Platinum Member

The Poudre River Public Library District again is a platinum member of ClimateWise. *ClimateWise is a free, voluntary program that offers simple solutions to help Fort Collins Businesses reduce their impact, save money and gain recognition for their achievements in energy and water conservation, waste reduction, alternative transportation, and social responsibility. Here are some facts shared at the Envirovation Ceremony:*

1. Avoided 27,140 metric tons of CO₂e—equal to providing electricity to over 4,700 homes
2. Avoided 5.9M KWH
3. Produced 17.4M KWH of clean energy
4. Diverted 10,355 tons of waste
5. Saved 2M gallons of water

2019 Summer Reading Tour "A Universe of Stories"

The popular all-ages Summer Reading Challenge begins on May 28th online @ Poudrelibraries.org and in all of our libraries. This year's space-themed adventure tours the galaxy through books, live performances and storytelling, and hands-on art and science activities. The Library will be offering two new gadgets to compliment this summer's reading challenge:

Telescope - Black carrying case contains: telescope with 2 magnifying eyepieces; book "50 Things to See with a Telescope: a Young Stargazer's Guide"; book "50 Things to See With a Small Telescope"; folding tripod; instruction manual; red light flashlight.

Star finder kit - Kit contains the book "Star Finder!: A Step by Step Guide to the Night Sky"; glow-in-the-dark night sky viewing chart; Guide to the Stars (Northern Hemisphere) chart; Star and Constellation Pronunciation Guide; red light flashlight.

COMMUNICATIONS

By Paula Watson-Lakamp

- Completed monthly/weekly goals of Communication Plan
- Organized, managed, and supervised all graphic design work for the District
- Worked with OrangeBoy on dashboard and Savannah messaging system to send out new campaign to “Occasional” users
- Worked on new social media promotions and platforms including “The River’s Mouth” blog
- Continued work on new Captain Cache pod cast
- Worked with local and regional media on various stories
- Continued work on Strategic Plan Marketing strategies
- Rolling out 2019 Summer Reading Challenge – *A Universe of Stories*
- Project manager for new Strategic Planning process
- Working on May 4th Kessel Run, Comic Con, and Book Fest

HUMAN RESOURCES

HR Manager:

By Sabrina Stromnes

- Coordinated team building and training events for the Library Leadership Team.
- Worked with Volunteer Program Manager to create the structure for setting up an official internship program at the Library District and also to partner with NOCO Inspire to be able to start hosting high school interns, job shadows, and tours beginning Fall, 2019.
- Posted two Outreach summer internship opportunities, one of which is grant funded.
- Attended Lean Managers/Continuous Improvement training at City of Fort Collins.
- Coordinated Inclusive History and Heritage training that corresponds to the recognized history and heritage months for 2019. The recognized months are Black History; Women’s History; Asian and Pacific American Heritage; LGBTQ + Pride Month; Hispanic Heritage; National Disability Employment Awareness; and Native American Heritage. The training is required for all Library District staff and consists of short video clips to spotlight some of the “hidden figures” in American history.
- Recruitment
 - ❖ Hires:
 - Dominic Baca, Computer Lab Monitor (hourly part-time)
 - Sam Alvarez, Computer Lab Monitor (hourly part-time)
 - ❖ New Postings:
 - One Circulation Aide position
- Ongoing:
 - ❖ Employee relations issues
 - ❖ Performance management
 - ❖ Employee questions and support

- ❖ On/offboarding
- ❖ Manager/Supervisor questions and support
- ❖ Manage Workers' Compensation
- ❖ Assist employees with FML, STD, LTD, Non-FML medical leave
- ❖ Manage/support Volunteer Program Manager
- ❖ Liaison between City of Fort Collins HR, Payroll, Benefits and Learning

Volunteer Program Manager:

By Audrey Glasebrook

- Interviewed 12 volunteer candidates, and placed them in volunteer roles.
- Hosted volunteer appreciation event on April 17th (with approx. 35-40 volunteers and staff in attendance) and David presented Master Plan to volunteers.
- Posted many staff volunteer requests in Volgistics and sent out opportunity emails to all volunteers. Summer Reading Challenge volunteer shifts and trainings are now open!
- Created paperwork and processes for library internship program.
- Collected hours from 228 library and Friends of the Library volunteers who served in March.
- Met with Learning Org team, to plan for Staff Day 2019.
- Began working on talent/speaker communications for Book Fest 2019.
- Hosted DOVIA Webinar on April 2. Met with DOVIA Colorado Board to discuss education plans for 2019-2020.

OUTREACH SERVICES

By Johanna Ulloa Girón

We enrich the community by providing Universal Access to resources for knowledge, innovation, and enjoyment. ***The outreach team provided classes, storytimes, programs, and information to over 1000 individuals in the community during April!***

Inclusive: We create opportunities for people to belong. We celebrate and reflect the diversity of our community.

The Outreach Department began the celebration of Dia del Niño. El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day). Dia is a nationally recognized initiative that emphasizes the importance of literacy for all children from all backgrounds. It is a daily commitment to linking children and their families to diverse books, languages and cultures.



This year Harris Bilingual School is partnering with us to celebrate their 100th anniversary and celebrating Dia del Niño. During a Harris Bilingual School Assembly, Mexican artist and performer Armando Silva created a live paint. Armando Silva will continue to engage with the students through April to culminate the celebration with a community mural on May 10th.

video-call where they witnessed the creation of the paint. The excitement of children and adults is hard to describe!

The celebration was inspired by the book “Maybe Something Beautiful” that promotes the love for literature and art. Pen pals from Colegio Britanico de Tehuacan were part of this celebration through a



Curious: We explore new ways to connect and engage with our community

Digital Literacy in Webber continues to successfully grow. An evaluation of the class showed progress from all participants in digital skills and knowledge.

We participated in the Homeless Connect Fair, Poudre School Parent Academy, and the Bilingual Day at The Lee Martinez Farm.

COUNCIL TREE LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Currie Meyer

Money Smart Week observed March 30-April 6: Children’s Librarian Amy Holzworth coordinated games and displays at all three Libraries. Eighty-seven children participated in the Guess-the-Pennies-in-the-Jar Game. Two lucky kids guessed the SAME number, so they both won a jar of pennies and a piggy bank!

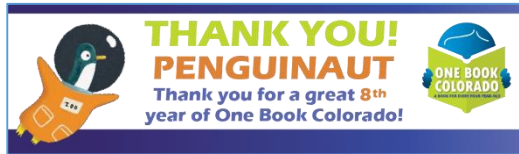


“Library Mentors” visit from Rivendell School: On April 5, nine Rivendell School fifth graders, with their school library coordinator, enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of the circulation work room and “Otto”, the automatic materials handler system. Angela and I provided the tour as a part of the students’ training to run their school library independently for the last month of school.



Circulation Supervisor Angela James shows Otto to Rivendell students. April, 2019

One Book Colorado: During April, Amy and I visited just under 100 children in early childhood classrooms at Kruse, Shepardson, and



Traut Elementary schools. During our visits, we read and gave away copies of the One Book Colorado book for 2019, *Penguinaut!* by Marci Coleen.

On April 12, twenty-eight adults attended Council Tree Library’s second installment of **Great Decisions**, a community-based discussion program about current foreign affairs, presented by the Foreign Policy Association. This month’s topic was the Middle East. Great Decisions programming is coordinated by library staff, funded by the Friends, and facilitated by community volunteers. It is new to CTL this year.

Presentation to Rocky Mountain High School Family Studies and Child Development class: Amy provided a presentation to 35 students at RMHS on April 22. She focused on early childhood education as a career, with toddler storytime as a lens to her work in the area.

Teen Services Librarian Jenny Thurman helped students at Fort Collins High School celebrate **Teen Read Week**, April 1-5 by providing a table for making bookmarks, grabbing a candy, and chatting about Library services. Over 40 students dropped by Jenny’s table.

Jenny also escorted six teens to the annual **Colorado Teen Literature Conference** at the Auraria Campus in Denver on April 13. The Library District paid for each teen’s registration, meals, transportation, and one book by one of the two keynote speakers. Teens could connect to other teen readers and writers, and to learn from and ask questions of published young adult authors.

Council Tree Library Assistant and Green Team Member Meg Schiel attended the **Envirovation** conference, sponsored by Fort Collins Climatewise, on April 25. The invite-only conference at the Drake Center featured information about sustainability efforts, vendors, exhibits, and networking opportunities.



HARMONY LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Ken Draves

Children's Services reported by Jennifer Zachman:

- **Makerspace at Bacon Elementary:** Jennifer Zachman (Harmony) and Leah Weatherman (Outreach) collaborated with Assistant Principal Cale Whicker and Media Specialist Becky Larsen from Bacon Elementary to offer a pilot quarterly makerspace activity for students in grades K-5. Bacon was considering its own permanent makerspace and was interested in seeing and learning through example what such a space could offer its students. Makerspace lessons we shared included sessions on digital citizenship, 3D printing, Ozobot robot computer coding, green screen technology, and Quiver, an augmented reality experience. This pilot program concluded in April. *Results: Bacon has decided to dedicate 45 minutes a week to makerspace activities in each class next year; they will look at identifying a permanent space in their building for the activities. The Library is repeating pilot program lessons we developed in sessions for the homeschooling community as we're able.*
- **Good Earth Art** weekly art series in April for preschool children and their caregivers was offered in partnership with staff from Who Gives a Scrap, a local creative reuse center. Participants created Earth-friendly art through music, dance, and hands-on projects. The program was well-received, and we look forward to partnering again in the future.
- **Mentoring at Webber Middle School:** Jennifer Zachman and Miranda West are mentors for the Webber Middle School Gifted and Talented 8th grade independent projects this semester. Some of the students' projects include onsite shadowing in their fields of interest, creative writing contests, and the 40-Book Challenge. We met in April with students to continue relationship-building and conversations about projects, review products/drafts, assist students in crafting title/descriptions of their projects for the showcase program, and discuss how they'll present their projects in May.

Nonprofit Services reported by Sarah Scobey:

- **Serving on the Shared Services advisory committee**
Shared Services Pilot Program for Nonprofits in Northern Colorado, will be anchored by United Way of Larimer County.

The United Way of Larimer County is launching a beta test program to bring to Northern Colorado a Shared Services concept to support Northern Colorado nonprofits. The idea would be to have a shared backroom resource that provides services like human resources, facilities, IT, purchasing, accounting/financial, database management, etc. to nonprofits at a lower cost than they could do on their own. Shared backroom services are flourishing in Alaska with over 100 nonprofits participating. Hospices in Colorado are also using this model and are seeing increased efficiencies.

United Way of Larimer County will first be focusing on finance/accounting and HR. The long term vision is to create something that is a permanent resource to Northern Colorado nonprofits. The intent behind a Shared Services Concept is that it allows nonprofits to focus more time and resources on their mission.

- **Working with the Executive Director of the Geller Center** (www.gellercenter.org) to explore developing a co-working space for nonprofits. The May 22, FoCo Nonprofit Networking Group meeting will be a brainstorming session for nonprofits to develop a wish list for a nonprofit co-working center. The session will be facilitated by me, Marley Dunnberg, ED of the Geller Center

and by Darrick Hildman, Program Director of the Geller Center, Darrick is also a trained facilitator.

OLD TOWN LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Eileen McCluskey

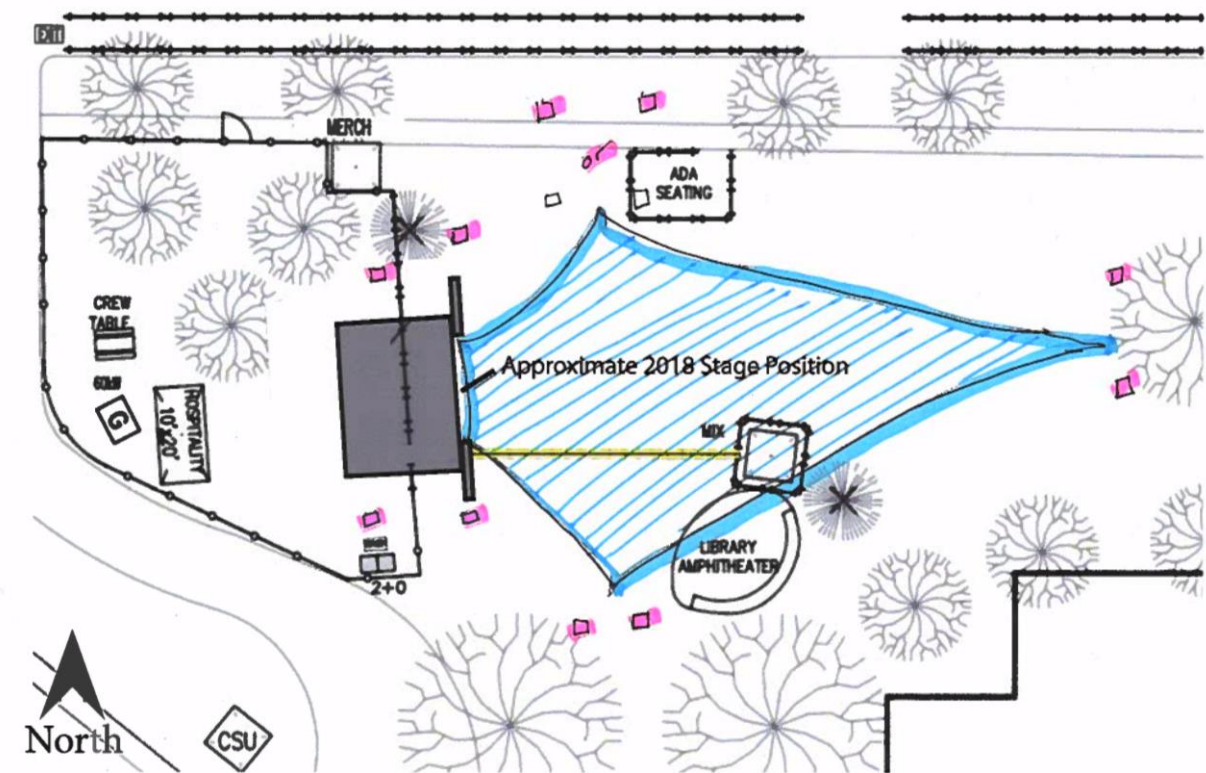
- Karla and Monique gave tours and storytimes to 50 Putnam first graders. With the help of circulation, all left with brand new library cards.
- Monique attended a USCIS Naturalization Teacher Seminar. She hosted her first naturalization study group earlier this month and had one participant who passed the test!
- Erin L's LEGO Build Club focused on the great outdoors and there were 38 attendees. Children always finish up the program by writing a description or story about their LEGO build and these notes highlight the students' creativity. Examples of items children built included sand dunes in Alamosa and sand sled, exploring the new world island, flying cat, pizza-delivery robot, forest house with a fishing pond
- The eighth annual One Book Colorado- A Book for Every Four-Year-Old was celebrated throughout the district for two weeks in April. In addition to giving out 1,500 copies of "Penguinaut" by Marcie Colleen in English and Spanish, a special celebration was held. Senator Joann Ginal and Commissioner John Kefalas read the book in English and Spanish and the kids received a free copy of the book and learned more about space and penguins.
- Vicky visited the PSD Teen Parent program twice in April. She shared information on Every Child Ready to Read practices of talking, singing, reading, writing and playing and the importance of parental involvement as their child's first and most important teacher.
- Nicole collaborated with art teacher Ryan Grindel from Polaris to create a pop-up art gallery space using the microfiche cabinets on the 2nd floor. The students created recycled book sculptures and installed them on the back-side and top of the cabinets. We are grateful for the creativity and inspired art we have on loan and the Polaris team shared their gratitude for the opportunity to showcase the students' work. We plan to change this gallery out every few months with new pieces.

Eileen's Activities

- Conducted four walk-throughs with architects to solicit design bids for the OT lobby space.
- Continue to work through issues related to the installation of musical sculptures on the library plaza in front of the OTL entrance. Met with Polly from the City to conduct a decibel test, reviewed options for instruments and met with Brent Carmack, Associate Director of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, to discuss his experience with the instruments.
- Met with Pam Brewer, Development Director of Homeward Alliance to discuss shared goals and partnership opportunities. Pam was so grateful to hear about the positive impacts the extended warming center hours at the Murphy Center were having on Old Town library operations. We are sad to see the extended hours end on May 1st and will advocate with our City partners for continued funding next winter.
- Met with Julie Wenzel from the City's Neighborhood Services department to plan June 29 Library Park Tree Festival partnership. We hope to have Forest Bathing in Library Park!
- Continued work on facilities maintenance issues at OTL, streamlining incident reporting and community-led programming options.

- A large sun shade is coming to Library Park, compliments of the Bohemian Foundation! Brett Rindt, Music Program Events Manager at the Bohemian Foundation contacted David and Eileen about the feasibility of erecting a sunshade in Library Park for the 2019 Bohemian Nights at New West Fest this summer. Due to hot temperatures, a sun shade would help provide relief for attendees in the mid-day and afternoon at Library Park Stage. It will be similar to the sun shade installation on Mountain Avenue. While the sun shade would be an annual installation during the August festival, Bohemian has been given permission by the Library District and the City to install permanent ground anchors in designated spots on the north side of the library in Library Park to facilitate ongoing use of the sun shade during the festival. An MOU is in process to solidify the agreement.
- A new AV/Sound system has been installed and we are so grateful for Mark's work to accomplish this long-standing goal to provide consistent service excellence though a professional and positive meeting room experience for the community.

Site overview of sun shade in Library Park.



<p>Drawing Section: Site Overview</p> <p>LO</p> <p>Client: Bohemian Nights Project: Library Park Drawn By: GuildWorks Date: 11-21-2018</p>	<p>Site Plan</p> <p>Notes:</p> <p>Proposed 2019 Sunshade</p> <p>Proposed Ground anchors</p>	<p>GuildWorks</p> <p><i>Architects of the Air</i></p> <p>503.850.6622</p> <p>13522 SE Pheasant Ct, Portland, OR 97222</p>
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