I had the distinct honor of being selected to participate in a project of the Coalition to Advance Learning in Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LAMs) these past 9 months. The project was titled Collective Wisdom: Libraries, Archives and Museums Conference Exchange.

The experience brought 18 qualified LAM professionals together to explore cross-sector practices and culture, and share insights and emerging recommendations with the field about potential partnerships and collaborations to advance cross-sector learning. To form our insights, we attended three national conferences: American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo; American Library Association Annual 2016; Society of American Archivists Archives*Records 2016.

The project goal was to strengthen the connections across LAMs for continuing education and professional development (CE/PD) and help break down barriers between sectors. We worked together both virtually and at the three conferences to pool our collective experiences and insights from the variety of organizations we represent. We shared our learning with the field through a variety of social media (@LAMcw) and other communication channels.

This was a phenomenal learning experience. I found that although there are many differences between the sectors, there are even more similarities. We can accomplish great things if we can coalesce around the similarities and work together.

Here are some ideas to start the revolution in your area:

- Seek out your cohorts in the other fields and see what you can work on together. Funders are increasingly looking at funding partnerships.

- Attend other sector conferences. It forces you out of your comfort zone and you can come up with some great new innovative ideas.

- Look to other sectors’ CE/PD opportunities. There just might be something that can help you. It may not even be within the LAM fields. Fields like record management can also be very helpful.

Funding for conference travel expenses was provided for 12 of the cohort members through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries and Museums. The Collective Wisdom Project will be publishing a white paper as well as other documents detailing our experiences in January 2017.
December brings the excitement of the holidays which segues into the contemplation of the year that is coming to a close as well as the hopes and dreams for the upcoming year. I don’t make New Year’s resolutions anymore but I do like to think about what I hope the next year will bring.

As I reflect on 2016, it was a good year for the State Library. We once again offered our annual continuing education events, the Spring Workshop, Summer Class, and Summer Summit. We tried a new format for our Spring Workshop which was successful. The speaker that got the best feedback was Officer Fuller from the Bismarck Police Department, who shared some tips on staying safe at work. This was such a hit at the Spring Workshop that we replicated it at the Association of Small and Rural Libraries Conference, with assistance from Beth at Fargo Public Library and the Fargo Police Department.

The State Library continues to build and expand on its relationship and partnership with NDLA, which benefits all of ND Library Land. The State Library, in partnership with NDLA and the North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC), sponsored the first “Local Legislative Day”. Fashioned after the American Library Association’s National Library Legislative Day, state and federal legislators were invited to the State Library to interact with librarians and library supporters and to hear about library issues. NDLA President, Wendy Wendt, gave a wonderful speech about the ND library landscape and the challenges faced by ND libraries. I reviewed some library stats and shared some successes of ND libraries of all types. The State Library staff donated the delectable treats for the event and really went above and beyond.

The NDLCC and the State Library awarded $250,000 in Renovation and Repair Grants. We received $319,000 in requests. The grants were for a wide variety of projects and the monies will have a huge impact on the libraries that received them.

We wished Training Coordinator Steve Axtman a fond farewell and a long and happy retirement. We also bid a fond farewell to Library Development Specialist and Cataloger, Sarah Matusz, as she left North Dakota for a warmer climate. We welcomed Trevor Martinson to the Library Development team. Tech Services Librarian Jessica Robinson took over the cataloging for State Agencies that had previously been done by Sarah. We also welcomed full time Library Associate Beverly Franz to Statewide Cataloging. Several temp staff members joined our team as well in InterLibrary Loan, Tech Services, and Statewide Cataloging. We also added another baby to our library family: Liam Byram joined the world in October.

We thanked longtime NDLCC members Ray Siver and Ilene Larson for their service to the Council, as well as outgoing NDLA President Wendy Wendt. We welcomed Jason Matthews and Carmen Redding to the Council as members-at-large and Lesley Allen as the NDLA President.

The State Library once again held the Summer Reading Celebration, the Summer Reading Bingo program and other outreach activities at the capitol. We held a very successful Pokémon event, with coverage by two TV stations and two radio stations. There was even a story in the San Francisco Chronicle about the event! In addition, the State Library held March Madness Book Battle on our Facebook page and a coloring contest via Facebook, Twitter or in-person submissions. We continue to expand and improve our outreach activities.

We adopted a new logo, mission and vision statement in 2016, along with a new strategic plan. We really believe that our mission statement sums it up best: making connections, building communities, impacting lives.

In 2017, we look forward to serving the ND library community in new and traditional ways. We hope to further expand our outreach activities and increase our partnership with NDLA as well as other agencies and organizations. We also plan to launch a new and improved website to better serve our community.

I wish each of you a very healthy, happy and blessed New Year. I look forward to connecting with you in 2017.
North Dakota students of all ages can get tutoring help from TutorND, a free service that provides live help from professional tutors in a range of subjects, including math, science, social studies, and writing. Connect with a tutor Sunday through Thursday, 3-10 PM Central Time, using a device with an Internet connection. TutorND features GeoIP recognition, which means there is no login when accessing from any North Dakota location. If you are not in North Dakota, you can still connect to TutorND by using your ND State Library card or by asking your local library for the remote access login.

Every tutor is screened, certified, and background checked. Student and tutor work one-to-one in a safe, secure, online classroom in real time, using an interactive whiteboard, file sharing, and instant messaging to work through the problems. Sessions are monitored for quality control and no personal information is exchanged between tutor and student. Parents and teachers can be assured that students will experience a safe learning environment.

You will also find a 24/7 Skills Center, which includes resources for study, test prep, and career. There are practice quizzes for many standardized tests like the ACT, GED, TOEFL, and the ASVAB. TutorND also has a writing drop-off service where, within 24 hours, you will get detailed feedback and suggestions on how to improve your essay, resume, or cover letter.

If you have any questions about connecting to TutorND, contact the North Dakota State Library at statelib@nd.gov or 1-800-472-2104.
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING – GET WHAT YOU NEED!

Did you know your library can use state contracts to purchase goods and services? Cooperative purchasing is a FREE service and an effective tool you can use to leverage time and cost efficiencies.

**State Contract #22 – Computer Equipment, Peripherals & Related Services**

This contract offers computer equipment, including desktops, laptops, tablets, servers, storage, and related peripherals from several companies, including Apple, Dell, HP and Microsoft. There is detailed information on the OMB website and if you have any further questions, please contact Tricia Opp at topp@nd.gov or 701-328-1721.

**State Contract #131 – Copiers, Printers & Related Devices**

This contract offers equipment, service and supplies for a variety of devices. The device groups include convenience copiers, production copiers, wide format devices, printers, digital duplicators and scanners. There are comprehensive financial options available including purchase, operational lease, capital lease and cancelable rental. Some contractors also offer a cost-per-copy option. Contractors include Canon USA, Hewlett-Packard Company, Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA, Ricoh Americas Corporation, Sharp Electronics Corporation and Xerox Corporation. If you have any questions, please contact Chad Keech at ckeech@nd.gov or 701-328-2767.

You can find more information about all the state contracts on the OMB website at https://www.nd.gov/omb/agency/procurement/state-contracts. If you have any questions, please contact the State Procurement Office at 701-328-2740 or infospo@nd.gov.
I was excited to be invited to my first Librarian for the Day visit to a school library. The librarian, Sarah, was very organized and had a list of items she wanted to discuss and review. We talked about weeding and collection development, especially in the reference area. We discussed weeding her out-of-date reference collection, updating a few things and creating a “ready reference” collection. We discussed signage needs for various parts of the collection. We also discussed the organization of the collection. Sarah will be pulling out her “92” collection and creating a biography section at the end of non-fiction. She will also move her ND collection from the middle to the end of non-fiction.

Once she’s weeded, there will be a small shelving unit that is opened up and can be used for all kinds of book displays. We discussed ways to get the school involved in creating the displays, such as suggestions from the football team during homecoming week, the book club participants, books to movies, and using monthly celebrations such as National Diabetes Month.

Sarah is lucky enough to have a workroom in her high school library and we spent some time looking at materials in there and discussing if they should be added to the collection, remain in the back room or be discarded.

After a yummy lunch at the local American Legion, we headed over to Lincoln Elementary. We talked about weeding and cleaning out a storage area in the elementary library. Sarah shared the prior week’s library skills lesson for the 3rd grade class and we planned a follow up lesson. I haven’t planned a library skills lesson in eons and it was a lot of fun. Sarah let me present the lesson with her. We gave groups of kids 10 non-fiction books to put in order and then had the students shelve them. It was a great lesson and the kids caught on pretty quickly.

I reacquainted Sarah with Novelist and some of the ways that it can be utilized to assist with Reader’s Advisory. I even got to check out a few items to students. I really enjoyed my first school Librarian for the Day visit and look forward to other visits. Unfortunately, due to weather, visits to Zeeland and Strasburg schools have to be rescheduled.

Each Librarian for the Day visit is different and that’s one of the reasons I thoroughly enjoy them. If you’d like to schedule a visit, please contact Cheryl Pollert at cjpollert@nd.gov. We will begin scheduling visits once we are through the first part of the Legislative session, which will begin on January 3.
The Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) has launched the 2017 Teen Video Challenge, a national video competition for teens to get involved with reading and their public library’s summer reading program. Teens across the country are invited to create 30 to 90 second videos with their interpretation of the 2017 teen slogan, Build a Better World in combination with reading and libraries. This is an opportunity for teens to showcase their creativity and have their ideas heard before a national audience.

The winning video from each participating state will be named one of the CSLP 2017 Teen Videos to promote summer reading nationwide. Winners will be announced in Spring 2017.

For more details, please visit http://bit.ly/2eDMIVf
For the last several months, we have been writing about various standards that we believe our libraries may actually be in compliance with. We hope that you have found the articles to be informative and helpful. At this time, we have completed the topics identified by NDSL staff as needing to be addressed. If you’d like to see us address another area of the standards, please contact your Library Development Specialist or me.

The standards will be effective July 1, 2017, and libraries will need to be in compliance in order to apply for Library Vision grants and any other ND Library Coordinating Council grants. We are tweaking the wording of questions on the Public Library Annual Report so that we can better assess libraries compliance with the standards. Public libraries will complete the annual report in March.

If you have questions or need assistance with the standards, please contact your Library Development Specialist. They are happy to assist you with your efforts to come into compliance with the standards.
These webinars are free, live, and interactive. You will connect to audio using a headset or speakers. If you do not have a microphone, you can use chat to ask questions.

Measure Your Impact: Getting Started with Outcome-Based Evaluation (Infopeople)
Thursday, December 15, 2016, 2:00-3:00 PM CT

Do you want to learn how to measure the effects your library’s programs, resources, and services have on your users? Would you like to discover various ways to measure outcomes in your library? Join Linda Hofschire, Director of the Colorado State Library’s Library Research Service, in this webinar, where you’ll learn practical tips for getting started with outcome-based evaluation.

How Much Does It Cost to Do Good? Conversations on Nonprofit Overhead, Part 2 (GuideStar)
Monday, December 19, 2016, 1:00-2:00 PM CT

More than ever before, the people on the front lines of social change are in agreement: we need to evolve the conversation about nonprofit overhead. The good news is that the evolution has already begun. Forward looking people from across the nonprofit sector have realized the importance of moving beyond overhead ratios. But how do we get to a critical mass? How can we better educate donors that there is a cost to social change?

Leadership and Mentorship for Rural Librarians (Association for Rural and Small Libraries)
Monday, December 19, 2016, 1:30-2:30 PM CT

Join Idaho Commission for Libraries and Association of Rural and Small Libraries for a conversation about issues faced by libraries in rural areas.

Under the Microscope: Science at the Library (Nebraska Library Commission)
Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 2:00-3:00 PM CT

Valley Public Library was awarded one of the Nebraska Library Commission Youth Grants for Excellence for two microscope kits that would be made available for circulation and would be used in programming for youth and families. The presentation will include background information on our science station that led to the idea for the kits. Descriptions of projects and programs that have been successful will be presented along with potential for future programming and outreach.

DISCLAIMER: The ND State Library highlights third-party webinars as a way to alert the library community to training opportunities. By doing so, we are not endorsing the content, nor promoting any specific product.
SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

GREAT STORIES CLUB  DEADLINE: DECEMBER 30
The Great Stories Club gives underserved youth facing significant challenges the opportunity to read, reflect, and share ideas on topics that resonate with them. Libraries that are selected to participate will receive 11 copies of three theme-related books to use in reading and discussion groups of 6-10 young adults; a variety of programming support materials; and online or in-person training. All types of U.S. libraries located within or working in partnership with an organization that serves at-risk youth are eligible to apply. The theme is “Nature vs. Nurture: Origins of Teen Violence and Suicide,” which includes school shootings, bullying, and teen suicide.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2f8Pv9l

YALSA TEEN TECH WEEK GRANTS  DEADLINE: JANUARY 1
This grant is designed to encourage outstanding Teen Tech Week activities (March 5-11). The activity must be geared toward teens in your community who are underserved or marginalized. Innovative proposals that help teens gain skills in using digital media, whether to help with school work, explore personal interests, or prepare for careers are encouraged. The $1,000 grant can be used to purchase digital media, enhance the library’s collection, or support a particular program activity.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/21OQGig

INNOVATIVE READING GRANT  DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1
The AASL Innovative Reading Grant supports the planning and implementation of a unique and innovative program for children which motivates and encourages reading, especially with struggling readers. Applicants must be a member of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) in order to apply for this $2,500 grant.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/1fCLinC

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GRANTS (NEA)  DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1
Current members of the National Education Association are eligible for grant funds that may be used for resource materials, supplies, equipment, transportation, technology, or scholars-in-residence. Funding preference will be given to projects that incorporate school farming, aquaponics, global learning, and/or the NEA Foundation’s online courses. Grants are available in $2,000 and $5,000 amounts.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/188orCH

AWESOME FOUNDATION  DEADLINE: ONGOING
The Cass-Clay Chapter of the Awesome Foundation awards a $1,000 grant each month to those who can demonstrate and deliver great projects to make the Cass-Clay area an even more awesome place to live. The grant cycle ends on the 15th of every month, with an award made the 15th of the following month.

Find out more and apply at: http://bit.ly/2g3yBcZ

If you have applied for a grant you found in The Flickertale and received it, please let us know!
North Dakota Library Tidbits

• Griggs County Public Library received $900 worth of books and prizes from their book fair. These will be used for the Summer Reading Program.

• Brianne Kaufmann is the new library director at Mohall Public Library.

• Carrington City Library received a $1500 grant from the Carrington Community Endowment Fund for the Summer Reading Program and summer help.

• Julie Herbel is the new library director at the New Town City Library.

• Stanley Elementary School Library received a grant from James Patterson and Scholastic Reading Club. This money will be spent to buy multiple copies of books to use for lunchtime book club for students in grades 4-6.

• Harvey Public Library raised over $1500 in a raffle ticket sales campaign. This money will go toward the roof replacement cost.

• Carrington City Library received a $500 donation from the “Night Out in Carrington” dinner and dance proceeds for use in the children’s section.

• James River Valley Library held a “How to Begin Your Genealogy” class taught by Barb Gilliss Caine.

• The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library hosted a Pinterest Party that had a holiday craft theme. At the event people made paper ornaments out of old books. This was a free event for adults and children with supplies provided.

• Valley City Barnes County Public Library started a Gifts Kids Can Make program. Kids will be making potholders, chalkboard placemats, sandpaper printed towels, and homemade candy.

• Casselton Public Library held a wreath class taught by Country Creations.

• Mohall Public Library held a ribbon cutting and an open house for the newly remodeled library.

• Heart of America Library has a mitten tree up and will be taking donations of mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats to donate to schools.

• Hazen Public Library held a Cans for Books Food Drive. For every 2 non-perishable food items, patrons will receive a book.

• Rolette City Library hosted a table with free books, drawings, and candy canes at the mall’s Santa Day.

• Jefferson Elementary Library (Valley City) earned close to $1,600 from a Book Fair. This money will be used to create a MakerSpace and for the purchase of new books.

• Bottineau County Imagination Library has partnered with the Dairy Queen in Bottineau by providing a box by the Dairy Queen’s till for people to donate their change.

• Valley City Barnes County Public Library participated in International Game Day on November 19.

• Max Community Library hosted a Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage, open enrollment.
A New Teen Center
Submitted by Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library

The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library celebrated its grand opening of their new teen center. The grand opening included free posters for each attendee and light refreshments. To see a time lapse of the project, check out: https://youtu.be/ey08NNRswUU

A Waggin’ Good Story Time
Submitted by Walhalla Public Library

Brenda the Librarian read “The Night I Followed the Dog” and she also brought along one of her two dogs, Maggie. She also talked a lot about dogs, raising a dog, what they eat, and how wonderful they are as pets.
Digital Delights

We know that all you want for Christmas are photos of state elected officials. Here you go straight from 1985. Governor George Sinner, Jane Sinner, Art Link, Grace Link, Christine Murray Kauk, Barbara Olson, Allen Olson, and William Guy in front of Christmas tree in the Governor’s residence, Bismarck, N.D.


Please submit library news and Flickertale “subscribe” or “unsubscribe” requests to ndslpa@nd.gov.

The Flickertale is a monthly publication of the North Dakota State Library. A Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

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