

# **PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT**

## **Report of the Executive Director – February**

### **Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees**

#### **March 28, 2024**

## **Executive Director**

**Mellon Foundation Grant**—Pueblo City-County Library District (PCCLD) has been awarded \$250,000 grant from The Internet Archive with The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support a digital memory lab. The grant award spans 60 months, starting April 2024 through March 2029. Our Local History & Genealogy department at PCCLD will host this grant which supports local outreach, public programming, and community collaborations. The grant will provide professional development for staff to attend the Community Webs National Symposium. We will be able to archive websites and social media streams and curate collections of digital materials through the Archive-It web-based platform. Materials collected will be preserved permanently through the Internet Archive.

**Smithsonian Holocaust Exhibit**—PCCLD is among 50 public and academic libraries that have been awarded to host a traveling exhibition *Americans and the Holocaust* offered through the ALA and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The exhibit “examines the motives, pressures and fears that shaped American’s responses to Nazism, war and genocide in Europe during the 1930’s and 1940’s” (source: ALA press release date 3/7/24). More than 150 libraries applied for the 50 spots. Our team is tremendously proud to bring this important museum exhibit to Pueblo County. The exhibit will be at PCCLD from February 5, 2026 through March 19, 2026—giving us time to prepare and plan outreach and library programs. The Rawlings Library Experiential Learning Department will host the exhibit with our Museum Services Administrator Alyssa Vargas-Lopez, M.A. directly leading the project.

**Voices for Libraries Advocacy Trip to Washington DC**—This was an immensely rewarding trip which provided an excellent opportunity to see our democratic system at work. The Colorado library delegation worked hard to meet with the Colorado elected Senators and Representatives. I had the opportunity to visit with the staff of Senators Bennett and Hickenlooper and to highlight the work that PCCLD is doing to provide excellent public library services for the Pueblo community. I was also able to share about the Patrick A. Lucero Library renovation and expansion project scheduled to kick-off later this year. PCCLD is submitting a request for congressionally directed spending through the Senators’ offices.



## **Barkman Library**

- **Programs**

Total Storytime Attendance: 12

Total Children/Tween/Teen Program Attendance: 9

Total Adult Program Attendance: 57

- **Outreach**

CSUP Pre-K Library Visit on: 41

Belmont Pre-K: 35

Pueblo Villa Retirement Home: 13

Building Blocks Daycare: 27

Jordan Residential Adult Care: 40

Head Start @ Christ the King: 68



## **Giodone Library**

### **PROGRAMS**

- Storytimes – 57
- Youth Programs – 111
- Adult Programs - 190
- Passive/Kits2Go Programs – 72

### **OUTREACH**

Avondale -51

McHarg Park – 6

Pueblo Community Resources - 48

**SPECIAL PROJECTS** - VITA Tax Preparation Assistance - 73

### **ADDITIONAL DATA**

- Volunteer hours 14.5 hours

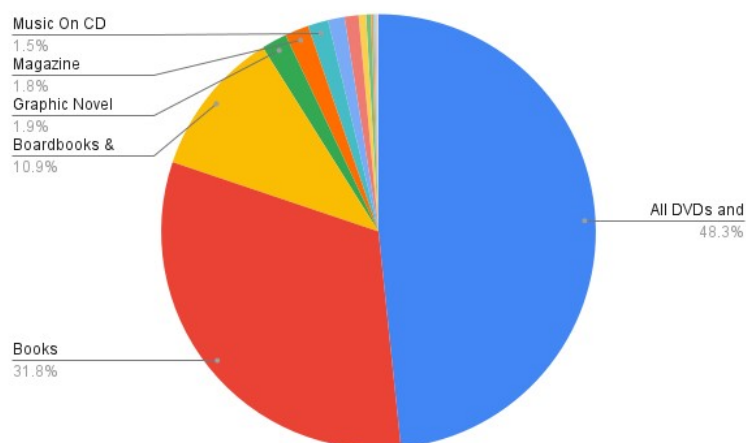
## **Greenhorn Valley Library**

### **Circulation Total Checkouts:**

- DVDs & BluRays 790
- Books 520
- Graphic Novels 31
- Magazines 29
- Music On CD 25
- Audiobooks 20
- Seed Packets 17
- Boardbooks & Picture Books 178
- Vox Read Along Books 9
- Hot Spots 6
- Greenhorn TeleKit 3
- ILL-BOOK 2
- Local Collection 2
- Laptop/Tablet 1
- Sports & Outdoor Equipment 1
- Grant Purchased Device

**TOTAL 1,634**

### **Circulation Total Check-ins: 1,757**



### **Total Library Visits:**

Week of:	Number of visits	Total
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	812	812
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	762	1,574
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	827	2,401
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	1,022	3,423

## **Program Attendance Total: 465**

Total

attendance	Title
	Books at Meals on Wheels Lunch
92	Outreach
74	GHV Homeschool Group
53	Guessing Jar
51	Family Friday
48	Yoga With Ashley
35	Kit2Go: DIY Tic-tac-toe To Go
25	Kit2Go: DIY Marble Maze
20	Happy Hookers Fabric Group
18	Greenhorn Valley Book Club
16	Introduction to Chakras
8	Video Games
8	Storytime
5	Chinese New Year Lantern Festival Day
3	Winter of Reading Mug & Make

## **Total Number of Digital Uses: 98**

### **CALL CENTER CALLS – 316 calls**

#### **OUTREACH**

- SRDA Meals on Wheels Lunch (92).

## **Lucero Library**

### **YOUTH PROGRAMMING**

- **Made @ Lucero Maker Programming** - 145 participants
- **D60 After School Snack Program** - 147 participants
- **Hardknox Afterschool Chess Program** - 342 participants
- **Hardknox individual Therapeutic Mentoring:** - 65 participants
- **Eva Baca Preschool Storytime:** 22 participants
- **Bradford Preschool Storytime:** 22 participants
- **Youth Makerspace Programs**
  - **Artist meet and greet for Mitchell Park Community Art Project:** 40 participants
  - **Week of Love**
    - Cookie Decorations: 40 participants
    - Painting with Rand Ford: 30 participants

- **Smooth Sounds of Clavon Sosthand:** 30 participants
- **Featured Event Unmask Africa:** 30 participants
  - An African themed event in the community room was the landscape for our friend Devon painted aboriginal themed designs. Youth were able to choose the design and colors they wore. The youth really enjoyed expressing themselves through face paint and learning about African culture. In addition to the face paint, we also had paper masks of African animals. The children enjoyed having two different faces. One represented the animal spirit of the person, and the face paint showed individualism, choice, creativity and freedom. The youth also got a small chewy candy from South Africa called a FIZZY (not “fizzy” at all). The youth really enjoyed this program.
- **Youth passive programs:**
  - Exploration table: 30 participants
  - Coloring table: 200 participants
  - Take and Make Kits: 170 participants
  - Game system (Xbox/Switch): 151 participants
  - Saturday movie matinee: 20 participants
- **After School Activities & Crafts:** 151 participants
 

Chris Rivera featured

  - Valentines Gift Bags
  - Bingo
  - Cookie decoration
  - African masks
  - Chocolate Dipping
  - Randy Ford Painting
  - Movie Time
  - Staff Day
  - **Featured Event:**
    - The Valentine bags were a huge success. We had the kids make bags for themselves, parents, or friends. They were able to fill them up with popcorn before they left. We had several kids make them for their moms and they were excited to give them. The cookie decorations that Jerry ordered had the kids decorate and eat their cookies. They used icing, candy and frosting to make the cookies. African masks organized by Jerry and Rena were great and the kids got their faces painted and were able to make masks that resembled animals from Africa. I also got my face painted as well. We had a chocolate dipping program where the kids dipped snacks inside of melted chocolate.

## **ADULT PROGRAMMING**

- **ESL Classes Total:** 20
- **Crafty Crew Total:** 103 participants
- **Featured Adult Program:**

### Crafty Crew Love Magnets

- Jessica Blaha hosted a lively class where patrons were inspired to make their own magnet by quotes about love from iconic Black History makers with a variety of craft supplies. "I just love it when you do classes that are open ended to create something unique and lovely."

### Special Projects and Highlights:

- **Spice Library-** 50 signed waivers/participants
- **February Checkout Challenge Basket-** 14 participants (encouraged 140 checkouts)
  - Patrons are encouraged to participate in a monthly drawing for a basket of self- love. Basket includes a cozy blanket, rose candle, tea sampler, coloring pencil set, coloring book, and bath bomb set.
- **Monthly Displays:**
  - Adult Winter of Reading Display
  - Teen's Interactive Display-Rena Bragazzi
  - Description: The intention was to provide resources to help younger patrons through the new changes of the winter. Winter can be a demanding time of the year for everyone. We provided resources for mental health such as anxiety and depression. We offered them to vent and share their thoughts on how they recover through stress. (10 written interaction by patrons)

### Outreach

- Books a la Cart: 1245
- Jordan's Residential Services Inc.: 40 participants
  - Jessica Blaha had a wonderful outreach opportunity with Brigitta Meyerhofer and Debbie Payne (Barkman) to visit the Jordan's Residential Services. Beforehand the clients informed us that they were counting down the days until the visit. Debbie and Jessica facilitated a button making activity with the clients. The clients truly loved making their own buttons, even the shy clients came to participate in the activity.
- **Risley's Family Night Open House Outreach:** 90 Participants
  - Jessica Blaha, Program and Outreach Specialist, and Estela Mungaray, Customer Service Representative represented the PCCLD and Lucero Library at the Risley International Academy of Innovation Middle School Family Night. We informed families of the afterschool programs we offer at Lucero Library. Students were able to engage in a wheel of prizes.

## **Lamb Library, Library @ the Y, Beulah Library**

### PROGRAMS

- Storytimes – 112 (LB) 163 (L@Y)
- Youth Programs – 87 (LB)
- Teen/Tween Programs – 38 (LB)
- Adult Programs - 170 (LB)
- Passive/Kits2Go Programs – 90/93 (LB) 225/10 (L@Y) 30 kits2go (Beulah)

## OUTREACH

Alva and Crystal attended Beulah Family Chili Night on February 29 and set up a table with literature, raffle giveaways, and books. 31 people visited our table and it helped make residents aware of the Beulah satellite branch and what we offer!



## SPECIAL PROJECTS (narrative)

Alva facilitated a school tour of the Lamb Branch for Beulah Heights Elementary, which was attended by 21 children and adults.

Crystal went to Beulah to visit with local businesses regarding outreach and partnership opportunities. Currently in discussions with Mountain State Park about a partnership with their summer camp and Beulah branch summer reading.

## DISPLAYS OR EXHIBITS

Andy Medina photography exhibit on art wall (272 for attendance),  
Displays for February centered on Black History Month and Valentine's Day.

## ADDITIONAL DATA (as applicable)

- Circulation - 9841 (LB) 1271 (L@Y) 286 (Beulah)
- Library Visits - 5803 (LB) 1600 (L@Y) 45 (Beulah)
- Digital Use - 1472 (LB) 258 (L@Y)
- Meeting Room Use - 26 (LB) Study Room - 19 (LB)
- Notary Appointments - 17 (LB)
- Curbsides - 1
- Volunteer hours - 20.25 (LB)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM STAFF DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, MEETINGS

All employees attended Staff Development Day  
Karen completed two trainings: banned books and slips, trips, falls.  
Desi worked on Leadership Academy Training  
Crystal continued her management training



# Pueblo West Library

## Community Display Cases

Pueblo West Women's League Membership Drive Display  
Black History Month Display

## Art Exhibits, Estimated Attendance 568

Amanda Powell Paintings

**Pueblo West Library held a total of 126 programs, outreach, club meetings, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 2543.**

Title	Date	Age group	Total attendance
Adult Craft Kit2Go	February	Adult	30
Mini Secret Valentines Craft	2/14/2024	Adult	3
Adult Craft Series Block Printing	2/28/2024	Adult	13
Amanda Powell Art Exhibit	February	Adult	568
Audiobook Craft and Color	2/14/2024	Adult	4
Bee My Valentine	2/3/2024	Adult	15
Capella Outreach	2/28/2024	Adult	14
Interactive Groups and Craft Clubs	Tuesdays	Adult	189
Coffee and Coloring	2/27/2004	Adult	2
Daylight Book Club	2/7/2024	Adult	10
Foreign Film Series	2/21/2024	Adult	5
History Round Table	2/7/2024	Adult	6
Mug and Make	2/21/2024	Adult	2
Mystery Book Club	2/15/2024	Adult	8
Open Game Night	Thursdays	Adult	15
PW Book Club	2/26/2024	Adult	9
PW Economic Development	February	Adult	13
PW Gardens Valentine's Day Carnival	2/8/2024	Adult	32
Physics 101	2/9/2024	Adult	23
Pueblo West Gardens	2/27/2024	Adult	12
Senior Movement & Stretch	M/W/F	Adult	149
SoCo Genealogical Society	2/10/2024	Adult	5
The Color Purple (1985)	2/23/2024	Adult	6
The Right to Read Screening	2/16/2024	Adult	1
VITA Tax Assistance	Fridays	Adult	203
Valentine's Day Outreach at Cappella	2/14/2024	Adult	32
Yarn Hoarders Anonymous	Saturdays	Adult	25
Yoga with Studio Share	M/T/Thurs/F	Adult	210
February Check Out Basket Drawing	February	Family	28
Open Maker Space	Mon/Wed	Family	2
TOTAL			1634



### Teen Programming

3rd Saturday Magic the Gathering	2/17/2024	Teen	2
Banned Book Club	2/12/2024	Teen	6
First Saturday MTG	2/3/2024	Teen	6
Anti-Valentine Lock-In	2/2/2024	Teen	6
PWHS Database Outreach	2/22/2024	Teen	7
Teen Hangout	Mon-Thurs	Teen	126
After School Fun	Thursdays	Tween	37
Laser Tag Lock In	2/9/2024	Tween	45
Tween Craft	2/21/2024	Tween	4
TOTAL			239

### Children's Programming

Baby Storytime	Thursdays	Juvenile	61
Pre School Story time	Thursdays	Juvenile	125
Children's Palace	2/20/2024	Juvenile	12
Jammy Storytime	Thursdays	Juvenile	53
Kinderkirk storytime	2/7/2024	Juvenile	52
Toddler Kit2GO	February	Juvenile	195
Toddler Storytime	Tuesdays	Juvenile	172
TOTAL			670

### Economic Development

PW contributed to the community's economic development by providing technology help to 12 customers and resume and application help to one customer.

### Outreach

- 2/22/24 Stacy provided a Database & Search Optimization Class at PWHS.
- 2/7/24 Stacy provided a Story Time outreach program to Kinderkirk SoCo Headstart.
- 2/8/24 & 2/27/24 Stacy & Maykala provided a craft outreach programs to Pueblo West Gardens Assisted Living.
- 2/14/24 & 2/28/24 Stacy & Heather provided a craft outreach programs to Cappella Assisted Living.

### Physics 101 & Cappella Outreach Programs



# **Tech Services**

## **DIRECTOR**

- Jill Kleven presented on Staff Development Day on the topic of the digital branch.
- Leadership Academy kicked off on February 1. Jill has met with her three mentees to discuss their projects. Alyssa Vargas Lopez will be working on an urban fiction collection. Ashley Swald is working on an early literacy partnership with Parkview and Desi Anderson is helping with the Lamb Library of Things.
- Jill met with staff from the Pueblo Zoo to discuss giving books away at the zoo through Books Ala Carte. We will begin giving books away at the weekly Storytimes this summer.
- Sherri Baca and Jill met with the Baker & Taylor rep, Jean Johnson. Discussions included the upcoming OCLC subscription and a possible DVD leasing program.
- The Technical Services team completed their first quarter walk around the blocks. Many have a good start on their annual goals.
- Issues continued with the exterior book drop door at Rawlings. Jill worked with Facilities to resolve the issue.

## **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

- Jill met with Peggy Bilger and Elizabeth Flores to discuss the urban fiction collection.
- Elizabeth has been focusing on ordering for the Rawlings nonfiction collection.
- Elizabeth placed an order for puppets as well as VOX books.
- Jill and Elizabeth did a walk-through of Lucero's collection with Alicia Griebel in preparation for the remodel.

## **DIGITAL RESOURCES**

- Danielle Cowles continues to work on the Rawlings E-series project. She is getting login information for apps and URLs for the iPads. This project should launch in April.
- Educate Station, Asian Life in America, and LGBTQ + Life through EBSCO are three new databases added to digital resources.

## **ILS & DEVICES**

- Theia Bravo has been working on the setting up access for the new library app launching in May.
- Theia shut down over 100 Verizon hotspots that were long overdue lost.
- A new volunteer Adina Vega started in the department and she is helping Theia with inventory reports.

## **CATALOGING**

- Peggy met with Jean Johnson and Jill to discuss updating Baker and Taylor profiles before the OCLC project begins.

# **Local History & Genealogy**

## **PROGRAMS**

TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE:

- Storytimes - Attendance: 31

- Adult Programs - Attendance: 406

## **OUTREACH**

- 2/14/24 - Maria Smyer presented to Rocky Mountain SER on Library English Classes. The Latino Chamber of Commerce and Servicios de la Raza organizations in attendance.
- 2/20/24 - Maria Smyer discussed English and Spanish classes and the Dia de los Ninos/Libros event.
- 2/20/24 - Blake Hatton and Aaron Ramirez attended the Center for American Values presentation by Keith Bishop, making contact with various Center for American Values affiliated people.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS**

- Alisha Cunzio: Department representative for film screening of Love Between the Covers (2/14, 22 in attendance) and for the Women Who Heal collaborative event with SOAR (2/24, 160 in attendance)
- Jasel Cantu: Meeting with Tim, book vendor, on acquiring Aguilar Collection for our collection; we purchased the collection - Feb. 17

## **ADDITIONAL DATA**

- **Circulation**  
WR Ref-books: 95  
REF-Maps: 04  
SC-Loan: 64 checked out, 105 in-house uses  
Microfilm used: 49  
Ask Us request completed: 4  
Article requests completed:  
Photo files used: 19  
Archival boxes used: 02

## **Digital Use and Collections**

### Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection

#### Colorado Weekly Chieftain:

Page views: 643  
Users: 154  
Sessions: 64

#### Colorado Daily Chieftain:

Page views: 6,422  
Users: 746  
Sessions: 466

Ancestry Library Edition All Databases Searches Run: 856

Ancestry Library Edition All Sessions Run: 11

Heritage Quest All Searches Run: 86

Heritage Quest All Sessions Run: 07

Fold3 Library Edition searches: 87

### Archives Space

Users: 118  
Sessions: 143  
Page views: 468

CONTENTdm items:

Users: 457  
New Users: 438  
Sessions: 587  
Page views: 4,600

Virtual Exhibits

Total Views: **148**  
Roaring '20s - 65  
Natural Framing - 20  
1921 Flood - 34  
Baseball -29

**Volunteer hours** HRC - 29; Archives - 6

## **Experiential Learning**

### **Makerspace Programs:**

- 2/2: Movie and Make: 3
- 2/03: Southern Colorado Fashion Hair and Makeup 101: 12
- 2/6 and 2/23: Open Ukulele Choir: 11,13
- 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28: Cooperative Drawing (4,4,4,4)
- 2/7: Art for all Ages: 8
- 2/9: Better with Age Makers: 6
- 2/24: Sharon Needle Felts: 7

### **Other Library Staff Programs in Makerspace**

Tea and Makes x 2

### **Community Member Programs in Makerspace**

ACES Art Program  
Cooperative Drawing  
Pueblo Arts Alliance Thursday and Friday  
Southern Colorado Fashion  
Rebecca Robles  
Homeschool Science Group (Wednesday mornings)

### **Museum Programs:**

- 2/15/24 - Adult Winter Reading: Steamy Screen Printing saw five attendees. Participants learned how to decorate totes using silk screens while listening to audiobooks.
- 2/16/24 - Better with Age - Screen Print Iconic Black Artists and Authors saw 7 attendees who decorated totes with the faces of black artists and authors.

- 2/28/24 CSU Pueblo Mug and Make saw at least 50 students, faculty, and staff who decorated mugs and/or learned about resources.

### **Program Support:**

- Adult Services Programming Committee Planning

### **Exhibits:**

- The Bias Inside us: 2/12-3/05
- NAACP Exhibit: 2/15- Current

### **Concierge Services and Meeting Rooms:**

There were 170 meeting room reservations in February, up 23 from last month. This is impressive considering February is a short month! The meeting room coordinators are booking out through the summer already.

- **Phone Calls**

- ✓ 1441 calls, up 442 from last month
- ✓ 1494 calls, up 53 from last month

Giodone – 364

Greenhorn Valley – 316

Library @Y – 303

Rawlings – 511

645 – Transfer calls

73 - Hang-ups or wrong numbers

## **User Services**

### **PROGRAMS**

#### **Youth Programs**

- Storytime- Family: 126, Toddler: 219, Baby: 81
- Tween- 70
- Teen - 72
- Family/All Ages- 403
- Homeschool - 23
- Kits2Go - Black History Month: 110



## **OUTREACH**

### **Youth Services 53**

McClelland High School Fair - 15  
Minnequa Elementary Storytimes (3) - 105  
St. Therese Preschool (2) - 22  
Head Start (4) - 100  
Wiggles and Wonder Playschool- 34  
Buell Children's Museum Partner "Wild" Storytime- 30  
Columbian Preschool Library Visit - 181

### **Adult Programs**

Computer Classes - 57  
1:1 Tech Appointments - 33  
Thad's Programs & Outreach - 52  
Kathy's programs-52  
Winter of Reading - 168

### **Adult Services**

Step-Up Pueblo -15  
WOR PCC Mug and Make- 8  
WOR CSU Pueblo Mug and Make-80  
Library to You circulations-326  
Helping Hands Outreach to Veterans- 279  
Kathy's other outreach – 135

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS**

Jacque Carter, Sara Schwartz, and Ann Boyden did a presentation for staff day, "Program Promotion". It focused on effective displays to increase circulations, using flyers to increase program attendance, and maintaining a welcoming desk for maximum customer service. 25 staff attended.

Adult Services kicked off a new volunteer program called Digital Drop in to serve patrons a couple of times a month who might need support with our Digital Library Apps.

## **ADDITIONAL DATA**

**Imagination Library:** 3143 enrollments (97 new and 51 graduated)

**Notary Appts.-24**

**Adult Literacy and Career Online High School - 36**

## **Facilities**

### **Work Order Statistics**

- 277 Work Orders completed.
- 50 custodial work orders completed.

### **Rawlings**

- Repaired book drop.
- Upgraded water filters for café.

- Upgraded Manager of Community Relations office.
- Sealed elevator glass windows.
- Hung bulletin boards in the entrance of the library.
- Installed movable panels in the Ryals Event Room.
- Worked on punch list items.

#### **Barkman**

- Help with renovation.

#### **Giodone**

- Cleaned up grounds.
- Worked on lighting upgrade.

#### **Pueblo West**

- Installed restroom door openers.
- Replaced exit signs.

#### **Other duties/projects**

- Carpet installed at Books Again bookstore.
- Supported staff day.

## **Volunteer Hours**

### **Volunteer Services Monthly Report – FEBRARY 2024**

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of December

<b>ADULTS</b>	<b>TEENS</b>	<b>BOOKS AGAIN</b>	<b>BOD TRUSTEES</b>
145.00	28.75	958.50	20.00

<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	1,152.25
<b>VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	\$34,509.89

\*(Estimated by Independent Sector's figure of \$31.80/hour for each volunteer hour contribute)

Respectfully submitted,  
 Sherri Baca  
 Executive Director