

# PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT

## Report of the Executive Director

### Submitted to

## The Library Board of Trustees

May 25, 2017

### Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

The Library held a PCCLD Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on April 25. Forty-six volunteers also learned from Maria Kramer, Youth Services Manager, about the 2017 summer reading initiative.

### Read OUT LOUD!

On April 19-20, the library hosted 1,412 students to meet Amada Irma Pérez, author of *The Diary from Here to There*. Librarians and the author also visited schools in the area reaching another 4,137 students. Ms. Pérez is PCCLD's first Latina Read OUT LOUD author.

### Genealogy Paper by Charlene Simms

Charlene Simms (Genealogy and Special Collections Librarian) submitted a genealogy paper accepted for publication in Librarianship and Genealogy: Trends, Issues, Case Studies (Carol Smallwood, editor) to be published as an anthology by McFarland & Company in 2018.

### RAWLINGS LIBRARY

#### Special Collections & Museum Services

- April total attendance in the museum was 5,619. Year-to-date attendance is 17,450.
- 340 Document Delivery requests were answered in April. 412 items from the collection were counted used by customers in April. Colorado Weekly Chieftain had 595 views; Colorado Daily Chieftain had 1,450.
- InfoZone programs included 26 film screenings attended by 468 people. The First Friday Art Walk had fourteen participants; Haaff School visit had 72 participants; Earth Day Demonstration had 32 participants; and Health Equity Series had 12 participants.
- World War One Programs included Woodrow Wilson presentation to Pueblo Arts Academy with 600 attending and Swallows Academy with 90; Memorial Hall WWI event with 350; WWI Award System with 45; Shell Shock of War with 35; Facts & Fiction Talk with 30; and Jeff Chostner WWI Program with 28.
- Genealogy and Special Collections Programs included Southeastern Colorado Genealogical Society program with 20 attending; Research Session with two; Ancestry.com training for seven; Native American Drum Making program with Jim Trujillo with 32 people attending; and Finding Lineage with Noreen Riffe with two.
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) and Charlene Simms (Special Collections Librarian) hosted a training for the Packard Non-Profit Executive Director program on April 6 with 10 in attendance.
- Exhibits: The Lest We Forget WWI exhibit was on display in April. Department staff are preparing a water exhibit for May and June for the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and the branches.



*Amada Pérez answers questions from the audience during Read Out Loud.*

## Reference and Readers Advisory

### Displays, Docs & Special Projects

- April Displays: Baseball, National Humor Month, Mysteries, Read the Rainbow, Gardening, Staff Picks, Classic Rock, and Read-a-likes.
- Thad Stelter (Library Specialist) hosted another *Vinyl Destination* program in the Idea Factory where ten people shared their favorite records.
- Amy Martin (Reference & Readers Advisory Manager) hosted the first Coffee & Conversation Program with 11 participants and guest speaker Mary Rivera from Pueblo Step-Up Healthy Communities.

### Hispanic Resource Center

- Exhibits included *Animals in Art* by Ivy Cartier. *Sculptures by Wilber Arias-Leiva* Artist Wilber.
- The film, *Busco Novio Para Mi Mujer* had three in attendance this month.
- Bilingual stories on Monday mornings had twelve in attendance.
- Citizenship Classes, in partnership with UVAS, were provided on Mondays and Wednesdays. Attendance for this month was 184.
- Beginning English classes continue to be taught at Lucero and Advanced English is taught at Rawlings. Total attendance this month was 78.
- Beginning Spanish and Advanced Conversation Spanish classes on Saturdays had a total of 90 participants.

### Adult Literacy Program

- There are currently 49 active tutors and 73 active learners with 21 on the waiting list.
- ELL Class: Approximately twelve consistent learners attend. The work is primarily on grammar skills and pronunciation. The class will run through June and will resume in the fall.



### Computer Classes and Digital Training

- Tech Talk: Volunteer tech tutor sessions started April 11 and are available 3 hours per week to assist patrons with digital devices or basic computer instruction needs. Lori Kozel (E-Resource & Digital Collection Librarian) had 19 participants in the VA Nursing Home Tech Group on Thursday mornings.
- Lori Kozel offered eight computer classes with total attendance of 41.
- Lori Kozel created three new Super Senior classes: online buy & sell options, Google maps, and Digital photos.

### Idea Factory

- Total Idea Factory program attendance was 217. One-on-One Computer help was offered to four. Fourteen 3D print requests were completed. RepRap Libraro had 1,310 Thingaverse views and 90 Thingaverse downloads.
- American Sign Language Classes: Dale Buterbaugh continues to teach ASL on Saturday afternoons. Total attendance in April was 26.
- CoderZ Webinar and Trial: CoderZ is a cloud based STEM learning environment where students code virtual 3D robots.
- Robots of The World: Total participation in April was 62.

### Homebound

- Homebound had 39 active customers with 16 volunteers who worked twelve hours in April to deliver 41 circulated items.
- Kathy Kearney (Library Specialist) delivered PCCLD volunteer packets and Homebound Services information to SRDA Meals on Wheels director.

## Youth Services

- Minecraft EDU was attended by 86 people throughout the district. Giodone had 7 attendees, Barkman 30, Pueblo West 24, Lamb 7, and Barkman 18.
- SPELL (Supporting Parents in Early Literacy through Libraries) programs were offered reaching a total of 524.
- Growing Readers Together Grant this month reached 66 people.
- Total centralized district youth programming participation in April was 159.
- Kids Club attendance in April was 50.
- Pop-up and drop-in crafts total participation of 104 was recorded for the month.
- *Read Dog, Read!* had 15 participants in April.
- Storytimes had a total of 777 attendees.
- Pop-up tween program featured *Drop Everything and Read*. Youth Services tried something new this month, providing scary stories to be read in the Tween Hangout space with seven participants. Other tween programs included Thursday Hangouts with 35; Imagination Chapter with 26; and Growing STEAM Makers with 8.
- Teen programs included: Teen Tuesdays with 50 participants; Teen Advisory Board with 35; and Book Club with 41.
- This month, Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian), Natalie Gallegos (Youth Library Specialist) and Maria Kramer (Youth Services Manager) all presented at CLiC Pueblo on programming for tweens, picking the right storytime books and reading with engagement. Presentations were well-received, and several attendees have requested follow up meetings.
- Visits, Outreach and Tours had total attendance of 506 which included the following: Pueblo Academy of Arts Database Training on April 11 for 140; Carlile Elementary School visit on April 13 with 33; Southside Children's Center visit on April 18 for eight; Boy Scout Expo on April 22 with 95; CLiC Presentation on April 24 with 29; CLiC Presentation on April 25 with 41; Goodnight Elementary School visit on April 28 for 125; and Grayce Fest on April 28 with 35.

## BARKMAN LIBRARY

- Paula Pryich (Librarian) had 49 in attendance for Preschool Storytime and Stories on the Fly; 105 in attendance for outreach at Building Blocks, CSU-Pueblo and SPELL for preschool storytime visits; and 15 participants in the All Day Easter Egg creation program.
- Matthew Parlier (Library Specialist) had 25 in attendance for Time for Tots; 19 for Chess Hangout; and 42 attendees at outreach to Christ the King Pre-Kindergarten.
- Barkman Staff and Youth Services hosted programs included: 42 participants for the Barkman Reading Challenge in April; six attendees for the Book Discussion group hosted by Linda Pacheco (Customer Service Representative); 15 attendees for *The Doctor Returns* Dr. Who Program hosted by Paula Pryich; 30 attendees for Minecraft Madness Lock-in hosted by Cory Reimers (Customer Service Representative) and Matthew Parlier; 18 for the Minecraft Builder's Club hosted by Cory Reimers; 91 participants for Barkman's Weekly Trivia; 27 for the Crafty Needles Groups; ten for *Read Dog, Read!*; 98 attendees for Adult Coloring Program and Passive Programs; seven for *The Orphan Train* program presented by Jane Milne; seven for the children's *Nature* program hosted by Matthew Parlier; 60 for Goodnight Parent Night and a Preschool storytime outreach hosted by Alicia Griebel (Barkman Manager).

## GIODONE LIBRARY

- Hosted 63 different programming opportunities and outreach events for a total attendance of 1,275. Total program attendance increased compared to 1,041 for April 2016
- Increased circulation over last year by increasing the amount and frequency of displays, creating an inviting atmosphere, and collecting data on the results.
- In April for Poetry Month, Lorina Messenger (Giodone Library Specialist) created a Poetry Wall.



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- Lori Kern (Materials Handling Technician) made crochet chicks to hide around the library and had slips to fill out for kids to do a scavenger hunt throughout the month. She made crochet baskets with candy for the prize, the photo is from the drawing with 18 participants.
- The Giodone Library held weekly storytimes on Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m. and continued to offer storytimes to pre-school children on Fridays throughout the day with 54 attending.
- The Teen Advisory Board discussed a Solar Eclipse program in August and other volunteer opportunities with six participants.
- Minecraft Gaming Session was held on April 1 with seven participants led by Jeffrey Jaramillo (Customer Service Representative).
- 4H hosted Building STEM Makers with seven participants.
- After School Hangout had six visitors making a homemade Chia Pet led by Lorina Messenger.
- Tweens made sock bunnies and baskets with 13 participants.
- *Celebrate Nature*, a program provided by Youth Services for younger children had 13 participants.
- Origami Bunnies had 21 participants.
- Easter Egg Decorating had 18 participants
- Make an Easter Egg Basket had 16 participants.
- Giodone hosted an Easter Egg Hunt, and read the *Pete the Cat Easter* book. The program was well received especially for those eager to avoid the more crowded hunts available through parks with 32 participants.
- Fireside Crochet has continued to grow, and people are starting to bring their kids to learn thanks to DeLoria's wonderful teaching methods with 36 participants.
- *Welcome Back, Dr. Who* offered crafts to celebrate the new season of Dr. Who with 49 participants led by Paula Pryich (Librarian)
- Lorina Messenger led a Family Craft Time making Bunnies and Chicks with seven participants.
- Scrap Glass, an artist-led workshop that charges a materials fee, had two participants.
- *The Great War: America Prepares for War Over There, Over Here* was presented via webcast by the Librarian of the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library. This was Giodone's first webcast program with five attending.
- *Roselawn and WWI* was presented by Lucille Corsentino with 11 participants.
- Sewing 101 where Lorina Messenger taught customers how to use a sewing machine to make a drawstring bag had three participants.
- The Giodone Book Club & Tea, led by Deb Cherry (Customer Service Representative), discussed *Dollhouse* by Fiona Davis with eight participants.
- Couponeers, a group to help save money with coupons led by a volunteer, had one participant.
- Wordsmiths and Storytellers presented a Norwegian story to a group of twelve.
- Natural Remedies Coach, Lovely Murrell, hosted Green Clean, How to make natural cleaning products with 6 participants.
- Ordinary Investing for Extraordinary Results, hosted by Ron Phillips a financial advisor in Pueblo, offered a two-part class that was attended by seven each night.
- Paula Pryich visited Ascension Preschool as part of the SPELL program with 54 attending.
- Cesar Chavez brought their Kindergarten classes for a tour of the library and a special story time with 106 attending.
- Read OUT LOUD was presented by Kayci Barnett (Giodone Library Manager) to both 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders at North Mesa Elementary with 177 participants.
- The Avondale Satellite held eight programs with 145 attending.



## GREENHORN VALLEY LIBRARY

- Youth programs included Earth Day Celebration with one participant; two tween Growing STEAM Makers programs with 20 participants; four Kid's Literacy Hub programs with 18 participants; four Music and Movement Storytime programs with 51 participants; *Read Dog, Read!* with six participants; two teen Recycled Button Art programs with seven participants; Tai Chi with three participants; and three Tinker Lab STEM programs with five participants.
- Adult programs included Passive Program Book Displays with 19 participants; ASK Harwood Survey Looking Outward with 16 participants; Colorado City Business Expo with 52 participants; Maker Studio for Recycled Seed Paper with six participants; Play Pinochle held four times weekly had 95 participants; Tai Chi had one participant; Felted Dog Presents Spring Critters had 19 participants; Yarn Club had three participants, and three Yoga programs had 18 participants.
- The Beulah Satellite offered Shrinky Dink Friday with six participants; Growing STEAM Makers with four participants; and Recycled Button Art with two participants.
- Meeting Room use included: Chamber of Commerce, Girl Scouts, Pinochle Club, tutoring, GHV Kickers 4H Club, Rye Women's Club, District 70 Online, Valley Backpacks, Rye Fire Protection District, Bam Bam Firearms, Cuerno Verde Art Council, Greenhorn Valley Indivisible, US Law Shield of Colorado, Southern Colorado Spring Forest Qigong Practice Group, and Scrapbooking Club.

## LAMB LIBRARY

- This month Lamb welcomed 10,526 visitors to the library. The library was closed on Saturday, April 29 due to a power outage and fallen trees around the building in the last large snowstorm. In the month of April, Lamb had meeting room usage of 25 public reservations and events.
- Program attendance in March was 1,088 which included exhibits. Youth and teen programs had 541 participants, and adult programs had 21 attendees. Exhibit attendance was 526.
- In the month of April, Lamb had over 541 participants at youth programs. Storytime events on Wednesdays and Fridays continue to have strong attendance with an average of 23 participants per session. For the month, the library had 183 total participants for storytimes. Rachael Parlier (Library Specialist/Librarian in Training) has continued outreach to area schools and daycares by visiting Beulah Heights Elementary for a monthly storytime and three book talk sessions. In addition to Beulah Heights, Rachael visited the Paragon Learning Center and the Southside Daycare Center to provide storytimes and begin to talk about Summer Reading. In April, Lamb also began to see improving attendance in After School Hangout programs each Friday. The time for the after-school program was changed this month, and staff began to see an average of eight participants each week.
- In Adult programs, the Free Legal Clinic continues to have wait-listed customers each month with a maximum of eight participants for each session. The Cook the Book Club has begun to see increased attendance with six participants in April. The first Lincoln Center screening was offered in April with three attendees. The smaller attendance could have been due to the timing of the event right before Easter, and the smaller group allowed for a test of the setup and equipment used. With more marketing and a better timeslot, Lamb hopes to see improvements in this free program.
- The April exhibit was a large oil painting by Mankato Minnesota artist Juston Cline. Mr. Cline paints in a very abstract way that is, as he describes it, unrecognizable as resembling anything. The painting on display is titled *Awake*. Exhibit visitation was 526.

## LUCERO LIBRARY

- Catherine Shepherd (Children's Librarian) presented the following youth programs: Board Games for six; Recycled CD Art for seven; Afterthoughts for ten; Marbleized Easter Eggs for 20; Perler Beads for eight; Celebrate Earth Day for eight; Growing STEAM Makers for 20; Children's Nature Program for eight; Family Storytime for four; and two afternoon movies for 12. Passive



*After-School Nutrition program served 364*

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programs included an Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt with 45 participants and Decorate Flowers with 70 participants.

- Outreach was provided on April 11 with SPELL storytime at Bradford for 32; on April 12 to Eastside Daycare storytime for 15; on April 26 Bradford Read OUT LOUD visit with 197.
- Lucero's Afterschool Nutrition program reached 364 in April.
- Jerry Vigil (Library Specialist) presented Teacup Birdfeeders for nine participants.
- Leya Lucero-Carlsen (Library Specialist) presented Beginning English for 48 in April.
- Mark Salazar (Hardknox Gang Prevention and Intervention) reached 179 participants in April.
- Books a la Cart: Valarie Sanchez (Customer Service Representative) and Yvonne Harris (Materials Handling Technician) delivered 1,145 items.
- The Lucero Team meeting this month consisted of the following presentations or discussions.
  - Summer Reading
  - Cornerstone May 19 at 12:30 p.m.
  - Mural update
  - Security

### **PUEBLO WEST LIBRARY**

- The Community Display cases featured tea and teapots. On exhibit was Moobeam Schuren Jewelry.
- CINTAS conducted a fire alarm inspection on April 4.
- Due to a paving project April 24-30, parking was limited and meeting room access was not available for Sunday, April 30.
- Pueblo West Library held a total of 97 scheduled programs with a total of 1,044 participants.
  - Adult programs were attended by 521 customers attending 54 programs. Highlights included: Tiasha Roland Photograph Exhibit, Tai Chi Club, Pueblo Model Railroad Association on April 4 with 36 attending; Pueblo West Genealogy Club on April 8 with 20 attending; Pueblo West Writer's Group on April 17 with twelve attending; Society for Creative Anachronism: Beledi Belly Dance Lesson on April 19 with 20 attending; Mystery Book Club on April 20 with nine attending; Sew Happy Sling Totes on April 26 with ten attending; *Pueblo Soldier: The Wartime Correspondence of Earl Chostner* on April 27 with fifteen attending; and the Bonfils Blood Drive on April 28 with 31 participants.
  - Young Adult programs were attended by 143 customers attending 14 programs, including Teen Hangouts, Teen Advisory Board meetings and Teen Movie Nights with additional highlights of Laser Tag on April 7 with 24 attending; Sew Happy Teens Sling Totes on April 12 with eight attending; and DIY Photo Printing on April 13 with fourteen attending.
  - Children's programs were attended by 380 customers attending 29 programs. Highlights included: Read OUT LOUD class visit on April 6 for 76; Toddler Storytime on April 11 for 27; Family Storytime on April 20 for 21; Earth Day Activity—Clouds on April 22 for nine; SPELL at Children's Palace on April 25 for 20; Nature Program on April 29 for twelve; and Minecraft Lock-In on April 21 for 24.
- Tiasha Roland (Materials Handling Technician) displayed her photographic art show for the month of April in the exhibit space and provided a short talk and tour for co-workers at the April staff meeting.
- Study Room Usage had an estimated 507 users in April. Customers and staff seem to be responding well to the new sign-in process for using study rooms. Kim Dillon (Pueblo West Library Manager) is in communication with Alan Rocco (Facilities Superintendent) about the possibility of changing the locking mechanism on the study room doors to provide an automatic lock upon exiting, which would reduce the need for staff to physically have to lock each room.

### **FACILITIES**

- Completed 302 work orders
- Completed 55 custodial work orders
- Completed installing new Rawlings front doors
- Completed Pueblo West parking lot repairs and seal coat
- Submitted HVAC Request for Bids

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- Cleaned carpets at Pueblo West, Barkman, Lamb, and Rawlings
- Removed branches from Rawlings, Lamb and Barkman after snow storm
- Started mowing at all locations
- Started sprinkler systems at all locations
- Elevator emergency repair
- Started new custodial company services and new custodial supply procedures.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

### Terminations/Retirements:

- Marilyn Baillargeon, Operations
- Crystal Talley, Special Collections/InfoZone
- Tammi Moe, Special Collections/InfoZone

### New Hires, Promotions and Lateral Moves:

- Jeanette Cortez, promoted to Senior Accountant in Finance

### Recruiting / Open Positions in March

- Part-Time 20 hours/week- Human Resources Assistant - interviewing
- Part-Time 24 hours/week- Museum Services Coordinator - interviewing
- Full-Time Payroll Specialist – Loretta McDaniel selected for promotion to commence May 1. Loretta has been employed at PCCLD on a part-time basis assisting in the Human Resources office.
- GHV Branch Manager – Sarah McDonnell hired to start May 8. Sarah will join PCCLD from the Lamar Public Library, where she served as director.
- Network Administrator – Chris Harmes selected and will start May 15. Chris currently serves in a similar capacity for the Harrison School District 2 in Colorado Springs.
- Full-time Help Desk Technician – Chris Currey has been selected and starts May 8.
- Books in the Park (Seasonal) – Two candidates have been selected and will start at the end of May to support summer library activities at Minnequa and Fairmount Parks.

Volunteers contributed 1,955.28 hours valued at \$50,759.07 (estimated by Independent Sector's figure of \$25.96 per hour). Donna Levine was selected as Volunteer of the Month for April for her work at the Pueblo West Library. "Donna volunteers twice a week shelving DVDs, books, audiobooks or whatever is needed. Donna also shelf reads and places items in order. Donna has taken the initiative to shift collections and remove duplicates when the shelves become too crowded. After she finishes an area it looks great and everything is in perfect order! The patrons have noticed her good work. Donna has also gone above and beyond her regular volunteering to help with the *Sew Happy* sewing classes since January. Donna comes in weeks ahead to make the project with the librarian or she takes the project home to sew so she knows what will be taught. During the classes she helps answer questions, sorts out problems with the machines, and helps sewing students with steps they don't understand. Donna's sewing experience and help during the classes has been key to the success of Pueblo West's new sewing classes!"

## **TECHNICAL SERVICES AND COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

- 5,910 items were added to the collection in April and 3,568 items were withdrawn.
- Jill Deulen (Technical Services & Collection Development Director) is overseeing a team of staff who are providing guidance on redesign of PCCLD's online resources via the library website.
- Jill distributed 14 new circulating WiFi hotspots. These devices are available at Rawlings and Barkman Libraries for a one-week checkout. This is a pilot program.
- The last of the ILS demonstrations from vendors were completed. Daniel Gaghan (ILS Administrator) and Jill will be working now on an RFP for future ILS services.

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

- Yvonne Harris (Lucero Materials Handling Technician) attended "Dealing with Angry Patrons" webinar provided by Web Junction on April 1.
- Alicia Griebel (Barkman Library Manager) and Matthew Parlier (Barkman Library Specialist) attended: Young Adult Lit Conference on April 1.

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- Jane Carlsen (Executive Assistant) and Dave Hayden (Data Analyst) attended “Counting Opinions: Reading Club App” webinar on April 4.
- Sherri Baca (Chief Financial Officer) attended Special Districts Association Legislative Update on April 10.
- Sherri Baca (Chief Financial Officer) applied for and received the Colorado Government Finance Officers Association scholarship for the Government Finance Officers Association conference in May.
- Deb Cherry (Giodone Customer Service Representative) and Derrick Mason (Idea Factory Librarian) attended the CAL Adult Services Interest Group Meeting on April 13 via Google Hangout.
- Jane Carlsen (Executive Assistant) attended the online Data Users Group meeting held on April 13.
- Yvonne Harris (Lucero Materials Handling Technician) attended “Being Customer Focused: New and Emerging Trends in Customer Service” webinar provided by Web Junction on April 15.
- Andrew Bregar (Lamb Library Manager) attended “Coaching Managers to Welcome (and Accept) Employee Feedback” webinar on April 16.
- Thad Stelter (Reference & Readers Advisory Library Specialist) attended a Readers’ Advisory Workshop in Boulder hosted by CAL Adult Services Interest Group on April 18.
- Leya Lucero-Carlsen (Lucero Library Assistant) attended “Community Engagement: Serving Diverse Communities Where They Are” webinar provided by Web Junction on April 20.
- Megan Hedberg (Museum & Special Collections Coordinator) received a scholarship to attend the Colorado Wyoming Association of Museums Conference in Boulder April 20-22.
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager), Charlene Simms (Special Collections Librarian) and José Ortega (Museum Coordinator) attended the Borderlands History Symposium at El Pueblo Museum on April 21.
- Twenty-seven employees participated in the CLiC (Colorado Library Consortium) Spring Workshop in Pueblo on April 24 and 25.
- Jeanette Cortez (Senior Accountant) attended “Excel: Audit and Analytical Uses for Filters and Tables” as part of an online CPA self-study program on April 24.
- Amy Martin (Reference & Readers Advisory Manager) attended “Basics of Leadership: Keeping Employees Energized” online class provided by LearnSmart on April 27.

## THANK YOU MESSAGES

- Tymber Mary-McKenna Lynch wrote the following in the online suggestion box: “I love this thing. [ConnectED] Thank you so much for letting the D70 have a card for the library!!!!!!”
- Ilissa Shaul, a frequent patron who participated in the Youth Services Homeschool Show and Tell in March, wrote the following to Jacque Collins (Youth Services Library Specialist): “Thank you for your commitment and effort to promote homeschooling in our community. I have benefitted greatly from library programs as a homeschooled student since the first grade. I’ve developed many skills, expanded my knowledge and participated in numerous contests while having a blast and making treasured memories. So needless to say, my parents and I are extremely grateful for all that PCCLD and its staff through the years have contributed to my education. This being my senior year, the Homeschool Show and Tell event will serve in fulfilling a graduation requirement to complete a Senior Project. It also has given me a chance to put into practice the skill I have chosen to pursue as a career, which is Sign Language Interpreting. Again, I thank you for the opportunity!”
- Eleanor Hamm, Suicide and Crisis Intervention Consultant, sent the following letter regarding Ellie O’Keefe (Teen Librarian): “This is a letter of support on behalf of Ellie O’Keefe and the outstanding work she has been doing on the development of the Teen Resource Guide. I as the Director of the Pueblo Suicide Prevention Center it was during my term we published the ‘Youth Yellow Page.’ It was our hope it would be adapted to an online version maintained and accessible by the Library. We were unable to complete this before my retirement. Ellie is accomplishing the very thing we had hoped for in her new guide! It is remarkable the amount of time she has devoted to this endeavor. THIS IS NO SMALL TASK. What Suicide Prevention learned is that



volunteer committees cannot provide the amount of time needed to maintain this up-to-date material. I would like to commend the Library for allowing Ellie the flexibility to develop this resource. Ellie as the Teen Resource Librarian has at her fingertips access to teens that can assist her in: Naming of the Guide; Review reading appropriateness; Artwork needed for flyers and posters; Getting the word out to other teens. There are many other community leaders who agree this significant teen project's natural home is the Library District. In conclusion, my thanks to the Library District and to offer my ongoing support to Ellie and this important project."

- Linda Crawford presented a \$150 check to the Library Foundation with this letter to Gloria Madrill (Community Relations Administrative Assistant): "Enclosed is my check to be used as sponsorship for 'Poetry' and/or 'Bookmark' projects coming up at the Rawlings Library. Thank you to you and other staff members who make Pueblo's Libraries such outstanding institutions."
- Jeff Chostner sent this thank you note to Jon Walker: "Thank you and the library staff for all your help with the WWI presentation at Memorial Hall. I want to especially thank Maria Sanchez Tucker. The quality of this event would simply have not been there without her. She was superb and whatever success we had was due to her. Her attention to detail, and putting her heart into the project was unmatched. You have an outstanding employee—and I want you to know how much we all appreciate her!"
- Dr. Luis Velez, Chief of Police, wrote the following letter to Jon Walker: "The Pueblo Police Department (PPD) has been allowed to utilize this remarkable facility and we are very thankful for the opportunities that the library has provided. Additionally, the staff of the library has been extremely accommodating, in not only reserving the facility, but also setting up of the room, quickly resolving any technical issues that arise, and providing an overall pleasant experience. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge and thank Executive Assistant Jane Carlsen. Ms. Carlsen reserved the spaces for our use, months in advance of the event and she was extremely accommodating by coming in early to let us in and make sure that everything was set up correctly. Ms. Carlsen is always very pleasant and extremely professional and it was a pleasure to work with her. I would like to also thank other library support staff, including Charles (Hutchins) from the IT Department, who was equally as accommodating and his professionalism was appreciated. Thank you again for providing such amazing facilities for the community's use. We anticipate continuing to utilize the Rawlings Library facilities for future staff retreats because they are so perfect for our event. Your staff is accommodating, resourceful and extremely professional. Thank you!"
- Jeff Chostner, District Attorney, and J.C. "Mac" McCormack, Pueblo Air Museum, wrote the following to Jon Walker: "Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) served as the co-chair of the World War One planning committee in an exemplary manner. Her superb organizational and administrative skills coupled with her personal drive made the initial WWI event a great success . . . Maria kept multiple museums' staff and individual participants informed and driving toward the same goal. Primarily due to Maria's efforts the opening phase of Pueblo's recognition of the United States 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an Allied participant in the 'Great War' went off without a hitch. Mrs. Tucker was a pleasure to work with in this endeavor. She is a tremendous asset to your organization, and represented the Library well to the Pueblo Community. We cannot commend her highly enough."
- Monica Richards from Pueblo City Schools submitted the following Comment at the Rawlings Library: "Thank you for the 'Play Away' audio books that accompany so many novels for kids and teens. As a teacher with a WIDE range of student reading abilities, including students with special needs, the Play Aways are very motivating for my students and provide them with fluency practice that helps them improve their own reading rate. Please continue purchasing Play Aways."
- Jon Walker received the following note from Elizabeth Kelen Huber with the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC): "Thank you so much for your assistance in identifying panelists for the opening session of the Pueblo workshop. We had a great conversation and received positive feedback. You're the best!"
- Jackie Swanson (Adult Literacy Coordinator) celebrated the first ELL (English Language Learner) to pass her GED: "Great job Tutor Crystal and Learner Marissa! You are both wonderful! Thank you for working SO hard. Thanks to all of you helping to make a difference!!!"

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- Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) received the following letter from Sharon Morris, Director of Library Development at the Colorado State Library: “You are always doing so many creative things to impact people in your community. Thank you for sharing and modeling these important strategies for others.”
- Maria Kramer (Youth Services Manager) received the following note from Margie Froman from North Mesa Elementary School about the Read OUT LOUD program: “I was totally bowled over by the activity today. We, the kids and I, were equally excited about the whole afternoon. My kids so enjoyed the writing. I haven't seen them so excited like that in a while. Thanks so much for a quality program.”

Respectfully submitted,  
Jon Walker  
Executive Director