

PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
Report of the Executive Director
Submitted to
The Library Board of Trustees
June 23, 2015

SUMMER READING

Summer reading activities are off to a great start. Early registrations for both the adult and juvenile programs are ahead of last year's impressive results. The juvenile participation is 36% ahead of 2014, while the adult registrations also are significantly above the same period in 2014.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Library employees, Trustees, Friends of the Library, and Library Foundation Directors attended two planning retreats on May 4 and May 8 to brainstorm about future PCCLD planning. Abby Koehler (Strategic Planner/Systems Librarian) facilitated these retreats and also oversaw creation of important reports related to community demographics and professional trends in libraries. The Trustees made plans for a special work session on June 9 regarding the new PCCLD strategic plan. The new strategic plan remains on target for completion by mid-year.

DISCOVER TECH: ENGINEERS MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE – ALA EXHIBIT

PCCLD is one of eight libraries nationwide selected to feature the *Discover Tech: Engineers Make a World of Difference* traveling exhibition in 2016. The exhibit is part of the STAR Library Education Network led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Exhibit partners include the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute and the Afterschool Alliance. *Discover Tech* is supported through a grant from the National Science Foundation. Maria Tucker (Special Collections and Museum Services Manager) coordinated PCCLD's efforts to obtain this exhibit.

OUTSTANDING WOMEN AWARDS ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

The 25th Anniversary of the Outstanding Women Awards was held May 1 at the Rawlings Library. There were a total of 195 attendees at the luncheon. In connection with this anniversary celebration, a book featuring the bios of all past honorees will be published later this year. Midori Clark (Director of Community Relations, Development & Strategic Initiatives) organized this effort.

MOST IMPROVED READER

Each year PCCLD sponsors a recognition honor for students identified as most improved readers. These students receive the Most Improved Reader Award, and 765 students were honored this year. Several staff visited school assemblies throughout the county to present the awards and talk about summer reading.

ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

A total of 857 entries were submitted for the annual Poetry Contest, an increase of 25 entries over 2014. Additionally, 206 people attended the awards ceremony held on May 6 at the Rawlings Library.

COLORS OF THE SOUTHWEST

PCCLD's Hispanic Resource Center (HRC) is working in partnership with the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center on their special summer exhibit entitled *Colors of the Southwest*. PCCLD has catalogs of the full exhibit available at each library location. PCCLD has Buell Children's Museum passes for checkout by families. The HRC also is sponsoring special artist lectures related to the exhibit. The Arts Center is lending some pieces from the exhibit for display in the Rawlings Library's HRC Gallery. The HRC also will have on display the complementary works of local artists Lynn Chapman and Bob Swearingen. Maria Smyer (Hispanic Resources Center Coordinator) is organizing PCCLD's efforts on this project.

COLORADO ROCK ART

PCCLD has been offered a donation of archival materials from the Colorado Rock Art Society. The collection relates to archaeological rock art in southeastern Colorado. The collection currently is housed at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, and the group would like the collection to be in southern Colorado. They are willing to make a monetary donation to assist with the maintenance of the collection. Maria Tucker is working on this project on behalf of PCCLD.

EPIC

PCCLD partnered with the Pueblo chapter of EPIC (Executives Partnering to Invest in Children) to help collect gently-used children's books for distribution to local families. PCCLD locations served as drop-off points for book donations. EPIC-Pueblo is working to improve school readiness in Pueblo with the goal of ensuring every child enters Kindergarten ready to learn with a vocabulary of at least 3,000 words.

RAWLINGS LIBRARY

Special Collections & Museum Services

- Attendance in the InfoZone was 3,795 for the month. Year-to-date attendance is 21,935 compared with 20,562 for the same period one year ago.
- 171 Document Delivery requests were answered in May, and 811 items from the collection were counted used by customers.
- Digitization work for the month includes digitizing about fifty items for the local heroes display, twelve items for a Southeastern Colorado Heritage Center, ten items for *The Pueblo Chieftain* digitization project, 75 images from school yearbooks, 68 items for the 1911 Trinidad High School yearbook, 277 items for the Pueblo's Historic Levee collection, fifty images for Drop City exhibit for the La Veta Regional Library District, Courthouse historic project, along with additional work on oral histories.
- Work also was done on files for the Southern Colorado Watercolor Society, the Monday Evening Club, historic Pueblo cemeteries, and Bel-Nor Republican Women Records.
- A genealogy workshop on May 18 had three attending; *Portal of Light* book signing on May 28 with fifty attending; and presentation by Dr. Ronald Gibbs on the American Revolution on May 19 with fifteen attending.
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) participated in the Bridging Borders Fellowship grant program with ten in attendance.
- *BAM! It's a Picture Book!*, a traveling exhibit from the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature was installed for Read Out Loud. It will be on exhibit through July 26. The exhibit opening was held on May 2 with 138 attending.
- "Celebrate Mom!" programs were held on May 7-8 with 77 attending.
- On May 9, the InfoZone hosted "Tears of a Warrior" with fifty attending.
- "The Road to Drop City and Beyond" with Dr. Timothy Miller was held on May 21 with 85 attending.
- The InfoZone featured twelve films in May with 141 attending.
- Columbian Elementary toured the InfoZone on May 20 with 89 attending.
- Curated and digitized local heroes exhibits for all branches.
- The Drop City exhibit sponsored by PCCLD was featured at the La Veta Regional Library and had 314 visitors. The exhibit was also shown at the Greenhorn Valley Library in May. The exhibit is a partnership between PCCLD and the Pueblo Archaeological and Historical Society. It will be at the Museum of Friends in Walsenburg during June.

Reference /& Readers Advisory

- In May, Reference & Readers Advisory scheduled 72 events with total attendance of 2,027.

Idea Factory

- In May, eight 3-D print requests were completed, and 1,105 people used Idea Factory technology.
- Twenty-two programs were held in the Idea Factory during May with 204 people attending the programs.
- David Hartkop (Technology Trainer) presented five Microsoft technology classes in May for a total of 20 people and six Idea Factory programs for 56 people.

Hispanic Resource Center

- 36 programs, classes and presentations were offered by Maria Smyer (Hispanic Resource Coordinator) and the Hispanic Resource Center that touched 1,793 customers.
- *Landscapes, Scenicscapes and Such* an exhibit by artists Terry Cates and Steve Mason is on display in the HRC gallery through May 25.
- UVAS received a grant from the Southern Colorado Community Foundation in support of its citizenship classes. PCCLD partners with UVAS to offer citizenship classes locally in the HRC.
- Spanish language classes in May had fifteen participants.
- Maria Smyer offered a bilingual story time on May 4, and ten people participated.
- The HRC hosted a booth at the Cinco de Mayo Festival on May 5 at the El Pueblo History Museum. Over 300 books were distributed to attendees.
- On May 6, the HRC hosted the Latino Chamber of Commerce Coffee Break at Rawlings Library for 45 people. Daniel Gaghan (ILS Administrator) presented online library business resources, and Maria Smyer talked about the HRC.
- Maria Smyer was the featured speaker at the League of Women Voters meeting on May 3. Fifty people were in attendance.

Adult Literacy

- PCCLD's expanded English Language Learner classes had 119 students participating in May.
- Adult Literacy and ESL Tutor Orientation was held on May 18 with two attendees.
- During May, eleven volunteers provided 84.75 hours of tutoring and contributed a total of 129.5 volunteer hours to the Adult Literacy Program. There are currently fourteen active students in the program. Two students from the wait list were matched with tutors in May. Four students were tested this month and added with three students currently on the wait list for a tutor.
- Speak English! Conversation Club had eight attendees in May.

Homebound Services

- Homebound Services added two new customers in May.
- Homebound had 52 circulations with thirteen volunteers delivering material to 31 customers.

Youth Services

- Barkman, Lamb, and Rawlings held MinecraftEDU lock-in programs. Barkman had thirty participants, Lamb seventeen, and Rawlings 21.
- Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) continues work on the Supporting Parents in Early Literacy through Libraries (SPELL) project. She is offering special storytimes based on the SPELL curriculum including early literacy tips for parents.
- PCCLD worked in collaboration with School District 60 on the Battle of the Books competition. The program is based on team trivia contest testing gradeschool age students' knowledge of specific books. It was hosted this year at the Rawlings Library with library employees assisting with judging and logistics. The event held on May 5 had 125 participants.

- May included a flurry of summer reading promotion and final program preparation, including *Storytime with a BANG!* kits, reading prizes and promotional materials, and hiring temporary staff for Books in the Park. Ellie O’Keefe (Teen Services Librarian) has developed Tween and Teen programs for the entire district, and Janina Goodwin (Rawlings Manager) has hired performers for the duration of Summer Reading. Janina worked to finalize Reading Record, the tool used to collect and organize all summer reading participants for all ages, including adult.
- Youth Services staff promoted Summer Reading through school and organization visits, including Goodnight Elementary, Heroes Academy, Columbian Elementary, McClelland School, Irving Elementary, Carlile Elementary, St. Therese, Morton Elementary, and Heritage Elementary. Organization visits included Buell Children’s Museum Children’s Playhouse, CSU-Pueblo Nursing Department, the Pueblo Early Childhood Council, Denver ComicCon, and AMR Safety Jam. Tours included Columbian Elementary School on May 20 with 89, Fowler on May 8 with 50, and Heritage Elementary on May 22 with 76.
- FREE Comic Book Day was held on May 2. Barkman had 137 participants, Giodone forty, Greenhorn Valley 45, Lamb 83, Lucero sixty, Pueblo West seventy, and Rawlings 276.
- *May the 4th Be With You* is the unofficial “Star Wars” holiday. Barkman had nineteen participants, Giodone 38, Greenhorn Valley 21, Lamb 24, Lucero thirteen, Pueblo West eleven, and Rawlings fifty.
- Teen events included a Movie Night on May 5 with two participants, Teen Advisory Board meeting on May 12 with seven, Teen Study Help on May 19 with eight, and Teen Games Galore on May 26 with three.
- *Read Dog, Read!* was held on May 8 and May 22 with a total of 98 participants.
- The Preschool Dance Party was held on May 16 with nine participants.
- *Lego Mania* was held on May 9 and 23 with a total of 78 participants. This is a totally open program, giving kids and adults the opportunity to just build to their heart’s content. All locations now have a small batch of Legos so this program can continue to grow.



BARKMAN LIBRARY

- Alicia Griebel (Library Manager) participated as a judge in Battle of the Books on May 5, visited Belmont Elementary School to announce the Summer Reading Club, participated in an information booth at Belmont Family Literacy Night, and provided an adult outreach visit to Villa Pueblo to speak with 34 adults about the library and its programs.
- Paula Pryich (Librarian) visited students at Belmont Elementary School and CSU-Pueblo to provide storytimes.
- Seventeen attended the “Celebrate Mom” family program.
- Paula Pryich visited students at Fountain, Franklin, Haaff, and Belmont Elementary schools to promote the Summer Reading Club.
- Friday afternoon movies at Barkman had a total of 64 attendees.
- Linda Pacheco (Customer Service Representative) helped host the monthly Book Discussion group that had seven participants.

Executive Director Report June 23, 2015 – 5

- Cory Reimers (Customer Service Representative) worked with Youth Services to host the Minecraft program. There were 30 attendees.
- Barkman's Programs in collaboration with Youth Services this month included:
 - 137 Comics given away for Free Comic Book Day.
 - Eight children attending the Read Dog program.
 - Nineteen attending *May the 4th Be With You*.

GIODONE LIBRARY

- Kayci Barnett (Library Manager) and Lorina Messenger (Library Specialist) visited North Mesa, South Mesa, Avondale, and Vineland Elementary Schools to discuss the Summer Reading Club.
- Paula Prych (Librarian) provided a school tour and storytime at the library for North Mesa Preschool students on May 14.
- Kayci and Paula presented Most Improved Reader Awards at South Mesa and Avondale Elementary Schools.
- Kayci helped at the Safety Jam event on May 30.
- The local Girl Scouts donated a bench and flower pots to the Giodone Library for their community beautification project on May 14.
- Giodone staff are making preparations in conjunction with the upcoming impact of the nearby event, Bands in the Backyard. This includes working with the event producer on security and special preparations to ensure library parking remains available to library users during the event, which is scheduled to take place June 18-21.



GREENHORN VALLEY LIBRARY

- Storytimes in May were renamed *Garden of Stories*. Four Preschool Storytimes had thirty attendees and four toddler programs had 43 attendees.
- *Read Dog, Read* programs in May had eight attendees.
- *May Day Baskets* program had 25 participants.
- Three teens will be volunteering at Greenhorn Valley during Summer Reading.
- *Passport Kids* was held on May 8 with 23 participants with its focus on Mexico and Cinco de Mayo.
- *Mother's Day Crafts* were offered on May 9 with seven participants.
- *Lego Mania* was held on May 15 with 22 participants. This month's challenge was to build a spring creation around the theme, "Grow."
- Two matinee movies were offered in May with twelve attending.
- *Family Game Night* was offered on May 23 with eleven participants.
- Centralized programs from Youth Services included Free Comic Book Day with 45 participants and *May the 4th Be With You* with 21 participants.



Executive Director Report

June 23, 2015 – 6

- *Our Amazing Sun* solar gaze with telescopes was held on May 30 with 36 participants. The Southern Colorado Astronomical Society brought three specialized solar telescopes and NASA glasses for participants to use.



- Adult programming included four Yoga classes attended by 47; Yarn Club on May 11 with eight participants; and Make Your Own Terrarium on May 22 with thirteen participants.
- The H.W. Houston Art Gallery Exhibit featured photos from the Drop City Exhibit that was previously displayed in the InfoZone. A special screening of the Drop City Documentary Film was offered on May 16 with three attending.
- Due to the heavy rains this month, the *Couch to 5K* group only ran twice. The core group of six continues to provide support and motivation to each other through the *Couch to 5K* Facebook page, and three participants will be participating in the Hardscrabble Trail Run on June 7.
- Amy provided a tour and activities for Rye Elementary's 4th grade field trip to the Greenhorn Valley Library on May 19 with 48 participating.
- The Greenhorn Valley Library hosted the volunteer luncheon for participants in this year's Greenhorn Valley Chamber of Commerce Community Clean-Up.
- Summer Reading Club promotions included Beulah School of Natural Sciences, Rye High School, Rye Elementary, and Craver Middle School.
- The Beulah Satellite offered *May Day Baskets* on May 1 for twelve; *Passport Kids* on May 8 for fifteen; and *Lego Mania* on May 15 for seven.
- The Community Events room featured yoga classes, D70 online instruction and testing for students, Pueblo County 4-H, Cuerno Verde Arts Council, Girl Scouts, Greenhorn Valley Chamber of Commerce, Life Leadership, and Sangre de Cristo Hospice.

LAMB LIBRARY

- The gate count at Lamb in May was 30,757. This is a 37% increase over May 2014. This is yet another all-time high.
- Lamb staff worked hard to get into local schools to promote Summer Reading and managed to beat last year's number reaching 3,207.
- Free Comic Book Day was a big hit with 83 children and adults receiving a free comic and making superhero crafts.
- *May the 4th be With You* had 24 attending. Kids and grown-ups loved playing Star Wars Bingo and making light-saber jewelry.
- Bad Kitty's Birthday event was the brainchild of Cathy Shepherd (Librarian), and 25 kids loved the games, crafts and most of all the cake.
- As usual, the Minecraft Lock-in was booked to capacity (17) with a huge waiting list. They are hoping to allow kids who have laptops to bring them to enable increased attendance.
- Maria Kramer (Lamb Library Manager) helped crew a booth at Safety Jam where they registered 375 children and teens and 47 adults for Summer Reading.

LUCERO LIBRARY

- Library staff worked with Chad Jefferies, Charles Taylor and Daniel Anderson with the Pueblo Police Department. Pueblo Police continue a daily presence at Lucero as part of PCCLD's effort

Executive Director Report

June 23, 2015 – 7

to ensure a safe environment. Diann Logie (Managing Librarian) is working with the District Attorney's office and others in the community interested in ensuring safe and appropriate operation of the Lucero Library. We are posting No Loitering signs at the library due to continuing reports of gang activity near the library.

- Catherine Shepherd (Children's Librarian) provided the following programs: Free Comic Book Day, Celebrate Mother's Day, Star Wars Event, Perler bead craft, and Bad Kitty's birthday with total attendance of 207. She visited East Side Child Care to present a storytime and Summer Reading information. She provided Summer Reading information at Bradford Elementary, Baca Elementary, East Side Child Care, and at Safeway.
- Valarie Sanchez (Lucero Customer Service Rep) and Sean Webb (Lucero Materials Handler) delivered 1,680 books to various locations for Books a la Cart.
- The Lucero Exhibit featured art by customers around the Summer Reading theme, *Every Hero has a Story.*"

PUEBLO WEST LIBRARY

- May saw a flurry of activity with Summer Reading Program registrations and school visits.
- Black and white photography of classic cars as well as some poetry by Elisha Vinson are on display in the Vectra Art Gallery through June 30.
- The following programs were offered in May:
 - Pueblo West Writers group continues to be active with eighteen people attending the meeting on May 5.
 - Knitting group met four times with a total of 24 participants.
 - Mah Jongg group met four times with a total of 29 participants.
 - Jerry Burgess taught four computer classes in May with a total of sixteen participants.
 - AARP held a Driving Smart class for eighteen on May 19.
 - The Poet Spiel gave a reading from his new book on May 28 for eighteen attendees.
- Pueblo West has been actively recruiting both teen and adult volunteers. Six new teen volunteers and the new adult volunteers include three Pueblo West residents and library patrons: Donna Levine, Gloria Weber, and Eva Schultz. The adult volunteers will help with weeding and shelving. There were fifty volunteer hours in May.

FACILITIES

- Installed outlet at Pueblo West for heat tape circuit at north entrance.
- Started lawn service.
- Installed a rain sensor for the sprinkler system at Rawlings.
- Had chiller leak checked by Johnson Control and found a leak to be repaired.
- Repaired roof leaks at Rawlings, Pueblo West, and Barkman.
- Worked on outside grounds at Giodone.
- Replaced hot water heater at Barkman.
- Treated Lamb for bugs.
- Completed 490 work orders.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- The employment changes in May include three new hires, six promotions, and two terminations (one resignation and one retirement).
- Other changes include Rachel Bolt increasing hours at the Pueblo West Library as Library Specialist and Michelle Myzia transferring from the Pueblo West Library to Technical Services as Receiving Clerk.
- Recruiting / Open Positions:
 - Idea Factory Librarian
 - Lamb Library Manager
 - Materials Handling Technician (multiple locations)
 - Customer Service Representative at Pueblo West

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Finished remodel work in the InfoZone Theater.
- Installed Minecraft on branch computers to support expansion of this program.
- Began effort to clean up and reorganize network wiring closets.

TECHNICAL SERVICES & COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

- 5,698 items were added to the collection in May, and 6,028 items were withdrawn.
- Jill Deulen (Technical Services & Collection Development Director) continued to visit locations to discuss individual collections. She visited Youth Services, Greenhorn Valley, and Lucero in May.
- Jill is working to resolve a backlog of cataloging and ordering for Special Collections.
- Peggy Bilger (Technical Services Specialist) and Jill talked with Brodart and Baker & Taylor to discuss cataloging changes to our current profiles.
- Lynda.com is now up and running on the website. It is a new training database available for the public.
- Jill, Rich Poll and Theia Bravo (Collection Development Librarians) met with Fritz Schanz from OverDrive.
- Daniel Gaghan (ILS Administrator) has been training with Abby Koehler (Strategic Planner/Systems Librarian) regularly. He also is participating in online training from SIRSI. He plans to complete his first BiblioCommons upgrade in early June.
- ILL is continuing to track items lent that are not picked up by customers to see what the impact of postage and staff time are.

GIFTS & GRANTS

- The following donations were received for the Summer Reading program:
 - Menchie's Yogurt donated \$625.
 - Optimist Club of Pueblo donated \$700.
 - Rocky Mountain Eye Center, Inc. donated \$350.
 - Appelebee's provided coupons valued at \$29,601.
 - HARP Authority provided an in-kind contribution valued at \$20.
 - Humphries Archery provided an in-kind contribution valued at \$30.
 - The Nature & Raptor Center provided an in-kind contribution valued at \$55.
 - The Pueblo Ice Arena provided coupons valued at \$12,000.
 - The Pueblo Zoo provided coupons valued at \$48,000.
- Scott Gregor donated \$200 for the Children's Puppet Project in memory of Jennifer Gregor.
- The Pueblo Zoo provided an in-kind gift valued at \$5,038
- Don Banner donated \$1,000 for the business collection
- The following contributions were received for the Libraries for Life Capital Campaign:
 - Alice Hill sent a \$139 pledge payment.
 - William Lucero made a \$100 pledge payment.
 - Jeff Chostner made a \$1,000 pledge payment.
 - Rotary Club of Pueblo #43 made a \$1,000 pledge payment.
- The following contributions were received for the Pueblo Library Foundation Endowment:
 - Michael Voute donated \$10,000.
 - Ruth Blake donated \$20.
 - Margie Mastrini donated \$100.
- James F. Hausman donated \$24,814 for the Lucero Library Maker Space.
- Tommy G. Productions provided an in-kind gift valued at \$204.
- The following people made in-kind donations to Special Collections:
 - Bob Blazich
 - George Williams
 - Doris Ask
 - Anna Marie Ballou
- Kathy Wolyn provided an in-kind gift for Teen Central.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Maria Smyer (Hispanic Resource Coordinator) attended Reforma’s Mini-Conference at the Denver Public Library on May 1.
- Ellie O’Keefe (Teen Librarian) attended the Pueblo Youth Employment Council on May 1.
- Carol Rooney (Reference & Readers Advisory Manager) and Maria Smyer (Hispanic Resource Coordinator) participated in a webinar about services to immigrants in libraries on May 6.
- Lorina Messenger (Giodone Library Specialist) attended genealogy training with the LDS Church on May 7 and 12.
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) presented at “Dodging the Memory Hole II: An Action Assembly” in Charlotte, North Carolina, May 11-12.
- Lorina Messenger (Giodone Library Specialist) attended “Beyond Book Displays” by Nancy Dowd and Kate Lawrence on May 11.
- Alicia Griebel (Barkman Library Manager) attended “Recipe for Leadership Success” webinar led by Catherine Hakala-Ausperk on May 13.
- Natalie Gallegos (YS Library Specialist) attended a webinar on May 13.
- Thirty-two staff attended the final follow-up OZ training, “Exchanging Feedback” presented by Midori Clark on May 14.
- Kayci Barnett (Giodone Library Manager) and Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) attended “Readers Advisory Programming for Kids” by Novelist on May 14.
- Ellie O’Keefe (Teen Librarian) attended a “Teen Services Programming” webinar on May 14.
- Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) attended Pueblo Early Childhood Council on May 18.
- Six members of the Technical Services team visited the Pikes Peak Library District Technical Services Department on May 19 to investigate more about Electronic Data Invoicing and Ingram, a potential new vendor.
- Nine staff from throughout the district attended “Every Child Ready to Read” training at Rawlings on May 20.
- Eighteen staff attended an all-day MSEC Legal Issues for Supervisors training session at the Pueblo West Library on May 21.
- Ellie O’Keefe (Teen Librarian) attended the YALSA “Navigating the Ties of Teen Behavior” webinar on May 21, and Lorina Messenger (Giodone Library Specialist) attend on May 22.
- Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) attended the Pop-Up Storytime webinar on May 21.
- Maria Kramer (Lamb Library Manager) presented at the Denver Comic Con on May 23-24.
- Kayci Barnett (Giodone Library Manager) and Kirsten Dees (Early Literacy Librarian) attended “Effective and Fun STEM & STEAM Programs for 3-4 Year Olds” on May 27.
- Al Perea (Facilities Specialist) attended “Understanding Super Heat and Sub-cooling” on May 27.
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) attended the Western Roundup of Regional Archivists Conference in Denver on May 27-30.
- Sarah Meador (Lucero Library Specialist) attended “Hacking Fashion and e-Textiles” and a storytime workshop which included a discussion on Makerspaces.
- Diann Logie (Lucero Library Manager) attended the East Side Neighborhood Association Meeting.

THANK YOU MESSAGES

- Midori Clark (Community Relations Director) received a number of thank you notes following the Outstanding Women Awards 25th Anniversary Celebration held on May 1.
 - Mary Hodges wrote: “A resounding thank you to you and the other staff members who made the Outstanding Women Awards luncheon such a memorable event! I am totally impressed by the contributions of over 500 women to our community—and how wonderful that over 100 honorees could attend Friday’s luncheon. Thank you for all you do.”
 - Donna Seilheimer wrote: “Thank you for putting together the 25th Anniversary recognition for Women’s History. It was a great event and you and your staff are appreciated for your time and efforts.”

Executive Director Report
June 23, 2015 – 10

- Dr. Mary Ann Roldan wrote: “Thank you for the lovely 25th anniversary luncheon of outstanding women. It was fun to connect with old and new friends. Best wishes and appreciate all you do.”
- Paulette Stuart wrote: “I just wanted to send a little note to tell you how much I enjoyed the Women’s Celebration last Friday. I know everyone there appreciated your efforts. Thank you for recognizing Joanne (Dodds) and Kerry (Kramer) too! It meant a lot to them. The history of such gatherings really is important, and it was a great way to let everyone know. You do such good projects and programs and always put in so much effort, both you and your staff . . .”
- Dorothy O’Dowd wrote: “Thank you so much for the wonderful honor of Outstanding Woman Award. I am humbled and delighted. It is my pleasure to serve my community and to be honored for something so gratifying makes our work ever so much more gratifying. I am sorry I could not attend the lovely luncheon. I heard it was marvelous. Thank you.”
- Sandra wrote: “Thank you so much for the lovely luncheon on May 1! It was so nice and very much appreciated.”
- Margaret Benz wrote: “I want to take this moment to thank you, your staff and the Outstanding Women Awards Committee for hosting a very entertaining luncheon on May 1. Also, thank you for the beautiful bowl presented to one and all! It was a very thoughtful gift. As you know, I wish you, your staff and committee continued success in honoring all the outstanding ladies of Pueblo! Bravo!”
- Joanne Dodds wrote: “I had every intention of writing you right after the lovely luncheon to express my appreciation for letting me participate in the program; however, we left a few days later for Mexico and good intentions were forgotten . . . It also gave me time to reflect on the luncheon. Of all the programs I introduced at the library, from author visitors to scary stories, my two favorite programs were the Most Improved Reader Awards and the Representative Women. I was so pleased to hear and reflect on how ‘representative’ women are different than most of the women that are traditionally honored. As a historian, I believe that the Representative Pueblo Women records are a unique and valuable resource. Thank you for continuing work on making a worthwhile event continue. It was an honor to be a part of the celebration.”
- The following note was addressed to Midori Clark (Community Relations Director): “Thank you very much for sponsoring our ‘Women of Pueblo, Ladies of Many Hats, Part 2’ program. Your allowing us to use the Ryals Room and writing articles in the newsletter and flyers to promote the program is very much appreciated.”
- Jon Walker received the following e-mail from Theresa Kosak: “I have been a long standing patron of the Rawlings Library; I live close by and frequent the library several times a week. I wanted to express my deepest appreciation for the Youth Services Department. Over the years they have provided exceptional customer service and extreme friendliness. Recently I was involved in a car accident and needed pictures printed. I had several staff members assist and even helped me when it was close to closing. I feel as if I have a ‘personal office staff.’ It also makes one feel great when you are recognized and acknowledged upon entering the department. I don’t want to mention names as I would be remiss in forgetting anyone. I want to extend my deepest appreciation of the Library and its staff! Great service, knowledgeable staff, and friendly; what a great service the Library offers to Pueblo. Thank you.”
- Maria Tucker (Special Collections & Museum Services Manager) received a thank you note from Larry Alvarado that read: “Thank you for always supporting our veterans. Keep up the good work.”
- Diann Logie (Lucero Library Manager) received a thank you note from Larry Alvarado: “Thank you so much for all you do for our veterans. Keep up the good work.”
- Janina Goodwin (Youth Services Manager) received a packet of thank you notes written by students from Heroes Academy together with this note from their teacher, Mrs. Schweitzer: “Thank you for arranging the bus for our students to attend the presentation by Jarrett Krosoczka. Our children were inspired by this wonderful author!” Below are a few samples from the handwritten thank you letters:

Executive Director Report
June 23, 2015 – 11

- “Thank you for the bus scholarship that enabled our class to attend the author’s presentation. I liked that Jarrett never gave up. I liked his studio because he had an art room and a writing room.”
- “...I loved the part when Jarrett Krosoczka sketched a picture for us. I liked the movies about his books that he wrote.”
- “...I learned Jarrett Krosoczka was a writer and an illustrator. The school let him write in the school paper.”
- “...It was cool when we saw all kind of things the author drew. I like when he went to his old school and saw his lunch lady then he drew the lunch lady book.”
- “...I learned to never give up even if you get rejected many, many times.”
- “...When Jarrett was eight he started his own story called Owl Can Not Fly. Jarrett was getting used to writing and drawing a story. He grew up to be an author. I think he is a good author. I think you are thinking the same way.”
- “...I learned that it takes a long time to write a story and find out what the pictures are going to be. I learned that it takes a lot of practice.”
- “...I liked the Platypus Police Squad. We watched a movie about the lunch lady book. We got a big typewriter and it made newspaper.”
- “...I learned that it takes many, many days to write a book. I liked when we got to look around the library.”
- “...I liked when I got to see what his childhood was like. I learned how to make newspaper in the InfoZone.”

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Walker
Executive Director