



January/ February 2022

Message from the President

One of my colleagues describes running a library for the last two years as equivalent to white water rafting: every time we think we have a handle on our “new normal” and are floating on calm waters, we round a bend and find ourselves tossed into a new set of uncharted rapids. I am hopeful that, with this new year, we have entered the last set of pandemic rapids and that beyond them is an extended run of calm water. Despite the incredible challenges, libraries have proven their worth during the past two years. While many services struggled to pivot to a virtual format, libraries were already masters of the online user experience.

There are many hopeful things on the horizon for 2022. This year’s legislative session is looking very promising for libraries of all types. And Kate Alderete has begun working on the October conference to be held at Marriott Pyramid North in Albuquerque October 26 to 28. Stay tuned for the theme and an invitation to submit program proposals!

Dean Smith, NMLA President, president@nmla.org

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New Friends, New Adventures

NMSU Technical Services Department Welcomes New Acquisitions Personnel

Stephanie Hibner grew up in Alamogordo, New Mexico and graduated from Alamogordo High School before earning her bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts from New Mexico State University. After living in New York City for a year and attending Make-Up Designory, Stephanie started a family and moved back to New Mexico where her husband earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of New Mexico. She worked as a paralegal in Las Cruces for the last several years but has switched paths and joined the library staff at NMSU. She is thinking of growing her career and becoming a librarian by getting a Master of Arts in Library and Information Science. This is her first library job, and she is very excited about being back on NMSU's campus. She loves that libraries bring a large variety of entertainment and information to anyone that walks in the doors. When she's not working Stephanie enjoys traveling, reading, and doing large jigsaw puzzles. She has been married to her husband for ten years and has two school age children and two overly affectionate bulldogs.



Doña Ana Community College Welcomes New Director of Library Services

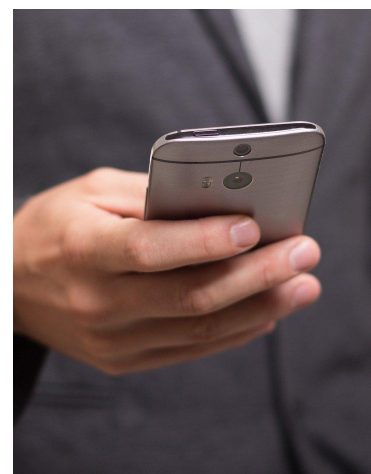
Doña Ana Community College has hired Terese Desimio, as its new Director of Library Services. Terese had been serving as the Interim Director for most of 2021, has public, academic, and special library experience, and holds a Master of Library and Information Science from Kent State University.



New Opportunities from NMLA Education Committee

The Education Committee wants to let you know that there are still continuing education grants of up to \$200 available for this year. For application information and application form, please visit the [Scholarships and Grants page](#). For a list of library positions, please visit hitchhiker.nmstatelibrary.org/category/jobs

Submitted by Glenn Koelling, education@unm.edu



The New Mexico Library Foundation Update

www.newmexicolibraryfoundation.org

The New Mexico Library Foundation (NMLA) Funds library programs, technologies, collection development, and librarian education. Since 1992, we've awarded over \$200K in grants ensuring libraries can continue programming and development efforts even if they struggle to provide basic services to their communities. This support cannot happen without the generosity of library advocates. Thanks to contributions from library-heroes, like yourself, we have continued to support New Mexico's libraries despite the pandemic. When you donate to the NMLF, you will make a positive impact in communities across our state. 100% of donations are applied to grants that go directly to libraries.



Contribute

Click the support NMLF button on our website to make a secure one-time contribution or to set up a monthly donation. You can also donate to NMLF through the **AmazonSmile** program. Sign up at smile.amazon.com and designate that .95% of each purchase goes to the New Mexico Library Foundation. It's a tiny percentage but it accumulates and ultimately makes a tangible impact.

Sign up

While you're visiting the website, please [join our mailing list](#). Once you sign up, we'll keep you informed via our e-newsletter. If you would rather receive printed communication, please indicate your preference when you enter your information. Your information is stored securely and will never be shared with anyone. As always, you may send us a direct email or letter in lieu of the web form.

Get Involved

The NMLF Board of Trustees is an all-volunteer board of librarians and library advocates dedicated to supporting libraries throughout NM. Our Trustees bring a wealth and diversity of personal and professional experiences to the board. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us through our website.

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New Mexico Librarians named ALA Emerging Leaders

This year New Mexico has two local librarians who have been named emerging leaders as part of the American Library Association's 2022 cohort of 49 participants nationwide: Rachel Patton, a librarian at Manzano Day School, and Nadia Mira Orozco-Sahi, a library information specialist with the University of New Mexico.

The Emerging Leaders (EL) program, as described in their press release, is "designed to enable library staff and information workers to participate in project planning work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers." In addition to attending and participating in the ALA LibLearnX conference in January and the ALA 2022 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June, participants will spend their year working on a project with other members of the cohort to be showcased in a poster session at the Annual Conference. "Commenting on the EL program, [co-chair of the program] Christina Fuller-Gregory stated 'We are thrilled to welcome the 2022 class of Emerging Leaders. These dynamic individuals can expect to engage in an Emerging Leaders program that has been reset, refreshed, and renewed to meet the growing needs of library leaders in a post-pandemic world.'"

Rachel Patton (she/her) is a third-generation educator and lifelong fan of libraries. She has been teaching for more than a decade and completed her MA in Education at New Mexico State University. Rachel became the teacher librarian at Manzano Day School in 2018, supporting 470 students, faculty, and families in accessing information and resources they need, sharing their knowledge, and connecting through story. In 2021, Rachel graduated from Rutgers University with a Masters of Information focused on school librarianship. Her professional passions include curating a relevant & representative collection, inquiry-based learning, and news/media/information literacy. Rachel can be counted on to have at least three books with her at all times and she serves as a round 2 judge for the Cybils (Young Adult Fiction). Though born in Taos,



Rachel has developed a deep appreciation and respect for New Mexico's cultural and historical convergences. She and her husband have three energetic children and they all love to travel and explore.

Nadia Mira Orozco-Sahi (she/they), worked for several years with Barnes & Noble before transitioning to libraries in 2019, completing Masters in Library and Information Sciences with the University of Denver in 2021. As a queer person of color, and first-generation American, she has personal experience with how difficult it can be to find meaningful and



thoughtful representation in narratives, and it is one of their passions to amplify and empower the voices of historically oppressed and marginalized communities. In addition to working for the UNM libraries, Nadia is a book reviewer for the ALA Over the Rainbow Committee, the queer magazine Freshfruit, and Kirkus Reviews. When she's not reading, she's spending time with her wife and daughter, and preparing for their expected twins. You can see what they're currently reading on Goodreads, /nadiamsahi.

Serving All of Santa Fe's Community Members: Bridging the Gap Between Public Libraries and Prison Libraries

In 2019, The Santa Fe Public Library (SFPL) and the Library at The Penitentiary of New Mexico (PNM) began teaming up to address the gap between incarceration and reentry. Librarians from both the public library and the prison library sought ways to make sure the partnership was mutually beneficial to both communities. This partnership includes creative programs for promoting public library resources for inmates reentering their communities, public library support for literacy and art among the inmate population, prison library recommendations for reentry, and early literacy support for families.

Acknowledging that library mission statements can include incarcerated communities, SFPL Librarians, Michele Reich and Jessica Gulliford, were asked by PNM library to revive the Fathers As Readers (FAR) program. In the FAR program children are encouraged to read and build a special closeness with their father or grandfather through literature. In this program librarians teach fathers how to read to their children by selecting an age-appropriate title to practice reading that is of interest for their child. When confident about their storytelling, the fathers record the story and then both the recording and book are mailed to their children.



PNM book club participants for the NEA Big Read 2021.
Photo courtesy of Roseanna Andrade.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Reich and Gulliford could no longer enter the PNM facilities and the FAR program was put on pause. As virtual programming and Zoom meetings became part of our daily lives, SFPL invited PNM to take part in the 2021 NEA Big

Read. Books of the selected Big Read title, *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea, were donated to the PNM library and a virtual book club was formed via Zoom with librarians at SFPL.

Roseanna Andrade, the PNM librarian, led our group which included six SFPL librarians and six PNM participants. However diverse their backgrounds, finding common ground in Urrea's book was not difficult for the PNM participants or librarians. Our discussions were incredibly thought provoking and all of the participants were engaged and enthusiastic to share their thoughts on the chapters. Not only did PNM participants enjoy reading and the conversation, participants could feel a sense of connection with their outside community, especially knowing that all of the City of Santa Fe was reading the same book at the same time during the 2021 NEA Big Read. That first virtual book club was such a success we continued our meetings with reading and discussing *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

The pilot program for Fathers As Readers was finally given the go-ahead in the Fall and Winter of 2021. On November 16th, 2021 we began our first of 7 virtual bi-weekly sessions working with fathers residing at the Penitentiary of New

Mexico. [Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library](#) (FOTSPL) funded the program in order to purchase CDs to record on and the packaging to send the recording and books. Children's books for a variety of ages were also donated by [FOTSPL](#) from their Education Resource Center and fathers were able to select the perfect title to read and engage with their child. In the Zoom sessions we read our stories aloud together, Gulliford and Reich modeled reading to a child by reading a children's book to the group as well. Librarians and fathers critiqued the readings and found areas that needed improvement, be it pacing, finding the different character's voices, pronunciation, engaging with the child by noticing themes or interesting imagery in the illustrations and other areas that will make the reading experience that much better for their child.

The FAR program had a special visit from [KOB News](#) just before the final recording session. Father's were

filmed practicing their storytelling and interviewed about what this program has meant for them and their family. In addition to their child receiving a book and recording of their father reading the children's book, their families were able to witness the fathers on the news and see just how much work they have put into staying connected with their loved ones and encouraging their children to read. FAR allows families to continue important bonding experiences and the more intensely parents are involved in their children's education the more those children are likely to thrive. The fathers' gifts of reading to their children made it just in time for the Christmas holiday.



Level II Minimum Restrictive Unit Art Exhibit at the Satin I Reichman Main Library Gallery, 2019.
Photo courtesy of Roseanna Andrade.

In April and May of 2022 the Main branch of Santa Fe Public Library will have its second show of artwork made by artists at the Penitentiary of New Mexico. The first gallery exhibit of work was created by artists from Level II Minimum Restrictive Unit and was showcased in June and July of 2019. During this exhibit, the PNM library displayed photos of the work being shown at the SFPL gallery in order for the PNM community to see their work being promoted for the Santa Fe community to view outside of PNM facilities. Beginning this April, the work shown at the Main branch of SFPL will be created by artists at Level VI Maximum Security Unit. In this partnership, participating individuals can feel supported by and invested in their outside community through the arts.

By bridging the gap between Santa Fe Public Library and the Library at Penitentiary of New Mexico, the partnership has created programming that supports and uplifts Santa Fe, New Mexico's community members that often are forgotten. Those at PNM who take part in the libraries' collaborative programs will find that they have people and services that care about their individual growth as they work on reentry and becoming stronger community members. Our goals for this partnership are not unlike the Santa Fe Public Library mission. Here at the Santa Fe Public Library, we are always interested in forming and strengthening community partnerships, as well as bringing new cultural experiences to our community.

The mission of the Santa Fe Public Library is to inform, enrich and educate the members of the community by creating and promoting access to a diversity of ideas and information, and by supporting lifelong learning and reading. To that end, bridging the worlds between the incarcerated and the larger Santa Fe Community is a natural extension of our institutional mission.

These programs would not be possible without the support from [Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library](#).

For more information on the partnership between Penitentiary of New Mexico Library and Santa Fe Public Library contact

[Jessica Gulliford](#), Librarian at Santa Fe Public Library

[Roseanna Andrade](#), Librarian at Penitentiary of New Mexico Library

[Dr. Michele Reich](#), Former Librarian for Santa Fe Public Library and Current Volunteer at Penitentiary of New Mexico



History Series at Bloomfield Public Library

At Bloomfield Public Library we have started a History Series program. Professor Dwight Pitcaithley will be presenting his research and two books on Thursday, February 17th at 6pm.

On Thursday, March 10th at 6pm, Kathy Flynn will have a presentation on New Deal Project in New Mexico from the 1930's. A display on the Art of the New Deal will be on Display at the Bloomfield Cultural Center from February through April of 2022.

The Bloomfield Public Library Bookclub is currently reading Tony Hillerman's "The Dark Wind." They began reading this selection after Anne Hillerman's presentation on her award winning novel, "Stargazer" in November 2021 sparked renewed interest in her father's work as well as her own. During her presentation, Hillerman also talked about Tony Hillerman's recent biography and a television series based on his stories. Anne Hillerman's presentation was just what the library needed to get people interested in programming again.

Submitted by Corey Bard, Director of Bloomfield Center, Fitness, and Library,
cbard@bloomfieldnm.gov

BOOK TALK
with Dwight T. Pitcaithley

Thursday,
February 17, 2022
at 6:00pm
Bloomfield
Multi-Cultural Center
Event Room

DESCRIPTION OF TALK:
Pitcaithley will explore the causes of the Civil War through the official records left by Congress, state legislatures, and state secession conventions. He has identified over 8,000 official and published pages that document the secession of the southern states in 1860 and 1861.

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND SECESSION
A DOCUMENTARY ANTHOLOGY OF SLAVERY AND WHITE SUPREMACY
Edited by DWIGHT T. PITCAITHLEY

TENNESSEE SECEDES
DOCUMENTARY HISTORY
DWIGHT T. PITCAITHLEY

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY: Dr. Dwight T. Pitcaithley spent thirty years with the National Park Service, the last decade as its chief historian. From 2005 to 2019, he taught history at New Mexico State University. He is the author/editor of the U.S. Constitution and Secession: A Documentary Anthology of Slavery and White Supremacy and Tennessee Secedes: A Documentary History.

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2022 Legislature Promises Opportunity for Increased Statewide Library Funding

The New Mexico Library Association will hold its annual

Library Legislative Day on Friday, January 28, 2022.

Additional information will be in upcoming Legislative Bulletins.

The NMLA Legislation Committee is giving its highest priority to the placement of a \$19 million General Obligation Bond Issue for libraries on the November 2022 statewide election ballot. The Committee was able to advocate for the \$19 million amount at the Legislative Finance Committee's Capital Outlay Subcommittee hearing on October 27th. Our advocacy was strengthened by providing the Committee with a study of the impact of library bond funding since 2002, prepared by the EveryLibrary Institute. A \$19 million library G.O. Bond would be double the disappointing \$9.5 million authorized in 2020, and a 50 percent increase over the \$12.75 million received in 2018.

2022 Capital Outlay Framework for General Obligation Bond Capacity

In the LFC FY 22-23 Budget Recommendation (v.3, p. 177), the 2022 Capital Outlay Framework for General Obligation Bond Capacity chart provides:

- **\$6 million for public school libraries** “for equipment and supplemental library resource acquisitions, including print, non-print and electronic resources at public school libraries statewide.” This has been distributed both with a minimum per school amount and a per student allocation determined by the Capital Outlay Bureau of the Public Education Department.
- **\$6 million for public libraries** “for equipment, library furniture, fixtures and supplemental library resource acquisitions, including print, non-print and electronic resources, collaborative library resources and information technology projects, and the purchase and installation of broadband internet equipment and infrastructure at nontribal public libraries statewide.” This has been distributed on both a minimum per library amount and a per capita basis to New Mexico public libraries by the New Mexico State Library.
- **\$6 million for academic libraries** for “supplemental library resource acquisitions, including books, equipment, electronic resources and collaborative library resources and information technology projects, for academic libraries statewide.” This has been distributed on a formula basis by the Higher Education Department to all academic and tribal academic libraries in the state.
- **\$1 million for tribal libraries** “for equipment, library furniture, fixtures and supplemental library resource acquisitions, including print, non-print and electronic resources, collaborative library resources and information technology projects, and the purchase and installation of broadband internet equipment and infrastructure at tribal public libraries statewide.” This has been distributed on both a minimum per library amount and a per capita basis by the New Mexico State Library.

In addition to the G.O. Bond Issue, the Legislation Committee will be advocating several other substantial library funding items.

Both the Legislative Finance Committee budget and the Department of Finance and Administration budget proposals for the New Mexico State Library include a possible increase in funding for the state

grants-in-aid program and the restoration of several positions which had been canceled in the past. There is also \$50,000 for the State Library to conduct the New Mexico History Day competition.

Currently, the Rural Library Endowment Fund has a principal of \$3 million. The LFC is recommending a non-recurring appropriation from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of \$10 million. Senator Jerry Ortiz y Pino may seek additional funding for the Endowment. Both the LFC and the DFA budgets recommend appropriating \$159,000 from the Endowment to distribute to public and tribal libraries serving populations under 3,000.

We will continue to support funding for library broadband capacity improvements.

It is likely that there will be bills appropriating money for tribal library construction, internet access and staffing in response to the needs identified in the Yazzie/Martinez court decision, similar to the bills offered by Representative Derrick Lente in the past three sessions.

Capital Outlay Requests

With the significant growth in state revenues from gas and oil and from federal pandemic relief funding, there will be substantial resources for local library project capital outlay requests. These and other developments will be reported in the Legislative Bulletins.

Submitted by Joe Sabati, NMLA Legislative Committee

Rediscover NMLA with our SIGs and Committees!

Was one of your New Year's Resolutions to get more involved with NMLA? If so, consider joining one of the numerous special interest groups (SIGs) or committees we have! NMLA offers 12 different SIGs members can join, including two new SIGs: Archives and Archivists and Public Library Directors. Joining SIGs is a great way to network, meet fellow librarians in your field throughout New Mexico, and discover professional development opportunities. To learn more about our SIGs, click [here](#). The easiest way to join a SIG and learn about their ongoing activities is to email the current SIG leader, which can be found [here](#).

NMLA also has ten different committees members can join. One example is the Conference Committee, which works with the NMLA Vice President as they create the annual conference (choosing program proposals, promoting the conference, working with the conference site- you name it!). There are many other committees you can join to make your voice heard not only in NMLA, but throughout New Mexico libraries. To learn more about our committees, click [here](#). If you're interested in joining one, email the NMLA President at president@nmla.org, stating the committee you would like to join and why.

Other perks of your NMLA membership include access to our Listserv, which includes notifications of upcoming webinars, New Mexico job openings, and topics keeping you up-to-date with the library field across the United States; discounted registration prices for our annual conference; and scholarship and continuing education grant opportunities.

If you're interested in joining or renewing your membership, or wanting to learn about more ways to get involved, email Membership Chair Anna Frantz at membership_chair@nmla.org.

*Anna Frantz
NMLA Membership Chair*



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