

# Newsletter

## Volume 53, Issue 2



## March/April 2024

As president of NMLA, I wish to provide you with a few updates.

The 2024 Annual NMLA Conference will be held in Carlsbad, New Mexico on Thursday, October 24-Friday, October 25, 2024, with the pre-conference on Wednesday, October 23. A call for proposals will be coming soon.

NMLA will be holding a free mini conference in April 2024. The theme of the mini conference is Professional Wellness. To best meet the needs of as many people as possible this will be held online. See the webpage for updates.

Library Legislative Day held on Friday, January 26, 2024, was successful. Librarians and library supporters throughout the state gathered at the capitol. NMLA had a table with information about libraries in the rotunda and library leaders were recognized on the floor of both the House and the Senate. The governor signed the GO Bond bill HB 308 on March 6, 2024. Next step for the library GO bond is going before the voters in November.

Mr. Jeffrey Teague will be starting as NMLA's Administrator on May 1, 2024. Mr. Teague will be returning to New Mexico from Maine where he had been working at the Fogler Library, University of Maine. In addition to working for NMLA, he will be working for the Albuquerque Public Library System.

Ruben F. Aragón, NMLA President  
Library Director, New Mexico Highlands University

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Ready

Set

Library!

**NATIONAL  
LIBRARY WEEK**

**April 7-13, 2024**

ALA  
American Library Association



### Celebration Days During National Library Week

National Library Week 2024 will be celebrated Sunday, April 7th through Saturday, April 13th. Days of note during that week are:

**Monday, April 8:** Right to Read Day is a National Day of Action in support of the right to read. The State of America's Libraries Report is released, including Top Ten Most Challenged Books of 2023.

**Tuesday, April 9:** National Library Workers Day, a day for everyone to recognize the valuable contributions made by library workers.

**Wednesday, April 10:** National Library Outreach Day, a day the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.

**Thursday, April 11:** Take Action for Libraries Day, a day to rally advocates to urge members of Congress to protect the freedom to read.

# THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LIBRARY

at the New Mexico State Capital



Did you know that the state capitol has a staffed library? Did you know that the library is open year-round?

The Legislative Research Library is located on the 4th floor of the state capitol, and is part of the Legislative Council Service, the non-partisan bill drafting and research division of the state legislature. Library staff provide assistance in finding materials and answering reference questions received in person, by phone, or by email.

The Research Library is not just a legislative library—it's also part public, part law, and part academic libraries. Our print collection includes legislative bill books, House and Senate Journals, Laws of New Mexico, and bill indices and locators. It also has a collection of New Mexico history titles, fiction and non-fiction books written by legislators, state agency reports submitted to the legislature, and biographical information about legislators back to statehood.

The library subscribes to current and historic news databases as well as legal research and financial news databases. The library also houses current and historic Legislative Council Service publications such as the LCS Highlights, the Legislative Handbook, and the Piecemeal Amendment of the Constitution of New Mexico.

While most of the patrons we serve are legislators, legislative staff, and state agency staff, the library is also open to the public and responds to questions from the general public, both in state and out of state. We can assist the public with basic website navigation of the legislature's website, including where to find legislation from prior sessions by number or search, how to locate session or interim committee meeting public comment links, or where to find information about a relative who served in the legislature. We can also provide instruction on how to search NMOneSource.com, the official state website where laws are published. We can also refer public patrons to legal resources available from the state courts and state bar association websites and to information from state agency websites.

## More Information:

[https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislative\\_Library](https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislative_Library)

Joanne Montague, Senior Legislative Librarian, NM Legislative Council Service Research Library,  
[joanne.vandestreek@nmlegis.gov](mailto:joanne.vandestreek@nmlegis.gov).



# Archives & Archivists Special Interest Group

The Archives & Archivists SIG provides a home for those who identify as archivists or who are assigned archival and records management tasks in their work. By archivists, we include anyone who self-identifies as an archivist, librarian, records manager, curator, clerk, etc.

The Archives & Archivists SIG works to collectively organize archivists; create networking opportunities; inspire collaborative projects; and create more archival-specific training. We meet on Zoom every other month and offer professional development activities, such as webcasting courses on general archival knowledge and best practices.

The SIG viewed a webcast of the Society of American Archivists course Metadata Overview for Archivists on February 23, 2024, which was followed by a discussion about the webinar by SIG members.

Upcoming events include:

- The next regular meeting will be on March 20, 2024, 3pm-4pm, via Zoom.
- ArchivesSpace Part II training with Portia Vescio (UNM CSWR), April 12, 10am via Zoom.
- June 7 live webinar via Zoom, Building Cultural Equity with Native Nations, with Jaclyn Roessel.

Please visit our website at <https://nmlasigs.org/archives/> or contact either Abbie Weiser ([AbWeiser@salud.unm.edu](mailto:AbWeiser@salud.unm.edu)) or Ada Negraru ([ada.negraru@dca.nm.gov](mailto:ada.negraru@dca.nm.gov)) for more information and to join our listserv.

# Kathleen Knoth Retires from UNM Taos



## The UNM-Taos Library Director, Kathleen Knoth,

has been a keeper of the card catalog; liberator of the Library of Congress cataloging system; creator of a safe space; champion of special events, GO Bonds, and fundraisers; and gatekeeper of all things literary for 40 years—29 of those years with UNM-Taos.

It is with mixed emotions that we share the news of the retirement of our esteemed Library Director, Kathleen Knoth. After an incredible 29-year journey, Kathleen has decided to embark on a new chapter in her life beginning April 1, 2024. Her dedication and commitment since founding the UNM-Taos library in 1995 has been unparalleled, shaping it into a hub of knowledge and support for our students, staff, faculty, and the Taos community. Kathleen has provided leadership for New Mexico libraries during her tenure, informed the larger community about the value of funding the statewide libraries through the General Obligation Bond, built a strong community of supporters for the UNM-Taos library, and helped initiate positive relationships with our acequias and land grants through the establishment of the archives. Just to name a few important highlights in her prolific career.



**“I started the college library in 1995 when we were the Taos Education Center on Civic Plaza Drive.**

I was given a desk, a bookshelf and a computer and asked to start supporting our students’ needs. It was an incredibly exciting challenge and has been as exciting and challenging for the past 29 years. I can only hope that I leave UNM-Taos having served the students, staff and faculty well, having built positive relationships with the community, and having had a positive impact,” Knoth expressed.

With a career spanning 40 years in libraries, Kathleen leaves behind a legacy of commitment, passion, and positive impact. We extend our deepest gratitude for her invaluable contributions to the library and our college community.

*Submitted by Dave Mansfield, Dr. Randi Archuleta and Dr. Mary Gutierrez*

# BRENT WATSON RETIRES

## After 30 years of Cataloging at NMSL

After 30 years of service to the New Mexico State Library Brent Watson will retire at the end of March. Brent has seen so much: from coworkers and governors -- the Don Gaspar building and the move to the current building -- from Office of Cultural Affairs to Department of Cultural Affairs -- from Dynix Marquis to SirsiDynix Symphony -- from AACR2 to RDA -- from an OCLC M300 workstation to any old PC with a browser.

Brent's employment with the State Library began with a 6-month internship in 1993. The internship was sponsored by the New Mexico Commission for the Blind. Brent learned the ropes in Talking Books, Reference, Southwest Room and Development. [See the New Mexican article for more details.](#) He was then hired to work in Talking Books and then Books-By-Mail.

In 1996 Susan Sheldon, Program Manager for Cataloging, hired Brent as cataloger. After Susan left in 1998 the cataloging Program Manager was Patricia Hewitt. In 2023 Joseph Angelo was promoted as Librarian Supervisor for cataloging.



Over the years Brent has worked with many NMSL catalogers: Katherine Higgins, Ellie Voutselas, Faith Yoman, Brigitte Schimek, Aubrey Iglesias, Joseph Angelo, Margaret Van Dyk and Sarah Obenauf and bureau chiefs including Harold "Bogie" Bogart, Gary Harris, and Bradley Carrington.

Throughout his career Brent was a proud union member. At NMSL Brent was in the original group that picked AFSCME for representation. Brent served as union steward and organized many "Lunch & Learn" sessions. Brent has been such a longtime member of ALA that dues are no longer required! In 2001 Brent was named for a Governor's Award as one of the Outstanding Women of New Mexico. These people are chosen as role models for women and girls and selected by a panel of judges. Brent was acknowledged for a lifetime accomplishments.

[For more memories please read this Hitchhiker post.](#)

**NMLA is Happy to Present**

**Two special Meet and Greet with  
ALA Presidential Candidates  
Sam Helmick and Raymond Pun**



**Sam Helmick**



**Raymond Pun**

**March 25th @ Noon on Zoom**

**Sam Helmick**

**Meeting ID: 833 6089 8459**

**Passcode: 239605**

**March 26th @ Noon on Zoom**

**Raymond Pun**

**Meeting ID: 899 8522 0577**

**Passcode: 754604**

# NMLA History Highlight



Source: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/14526689/ada-evlyn-shuler>

## Evlyn Shuler 1884-1972

Dr. J.J. Shuler, a surgeon for the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroad, served as the first medical doctor in Raton, New Mexico. He served as mayor of Raton from 1899-1902 and 1910-1919.

As mayor, Dr. Shuler obtained land from the A.T.& SF for a public library and obtained a grant from the Carnegie Foundation to build New Mexico's third Carnegie Library in 1912.

His daughter Evlyn began working in the library from the time it opened. She attended Colorado College for two and a half years and attended a short course in librarianship in 1915. On her return, she became Assistant Librarian. When the Librarian left to be married in 1917, she was appointed as Librarian. She served in that capacity until 1952.

In December 1923 she was one of the four librarians who founded the New Mexico Library Association.

She was NMLA's first President in 1924. She also served as President in 1948.

She was the leader of a faction in NMLA which opposed the state certification law in 1963.



## NMLA Executive Board

**President – Ruben Aragón**  
president@nmla.org

**Vice-President – Nadia Orozco-Sahi**  
vicepresident@nmla.org

**Secretary – Sarah Obenauf**  
secretary@nmla.org

**Treasurer – Kelli Murphy**  
treasurer@nmla.org

**Member at Large – Julia Kelso**  
librarydirector@vglibrary.org

**Member at Large - Bridget O'Leary-Storer**  
boleary@cnm.edu

**Member at Large – Rachel Patton**  
rpatton@manzanodayschool.org

**Member at Large – Ellen Bosman**  
ebosman@nmsu.edu

**ALA/APA Councilor – Cassandra Osterloh**  
cassandra.osterloh@dca.nm.gov

## NMLA Committee Chairs

**Awards Committee -**  
**Julia Kelso**  
librarydirector@vglibrary.org

**Archivist - Jonna Paden,**  
archivist@nmla.org

**Bylaws - Nadia Orozco-Sahi**  
nadians.letslibrary@gmail.com

**Communications - Robyn Gleasner,**  
newsletter@nmla.org

**Conference Site - Jason Shoup**  
jshoup@rrnm.gov

**Education - Vacant**

**Fundraising - Julia Kelso**  
librarydirector@vglibrary.org

**Intellectual Freedom - Deirdre Caparoso**  
dcaparoso@salud.unm.edu

**Legislation - Cynthia Shetter**  
shetterc@loslunasnm.gov

**Legislation - Joe Sabatini**  
jsabatini423@gmail.com

**Local Arrangements - Melanie Templet**  
mtemplet@sandiaprep.org

**Membership - April Kent**  
membership\_chair@nmla.org

**Nominations & Elections - Kate Alderate**  
Kate.Alderete@dca.nm.gov

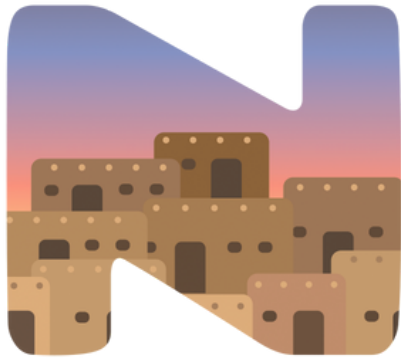
## Representatives & Delegates

**ASL - Vacant**

**MPLA - Erin Wahl**  
ewahl@nmsu.edu

**NMLF Chair - Kat Gullahorn**  
kgullahorn@gmail.com

**State Librarian - Eli Guinnee**  
eli.guinnee@dca.nm.gov



**CELEBRATING  
100 YEARS:  
1923-2023**

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