

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Director's Report

July - August 2018

State Budget/State Aid:

State Aid Budget, FY2018-19: We received an increase and the total amount for state aid will be \$12,067,700. The per capita direct state aid \$.39689 and indirect \$.39689. Cooperatives will receive \$.39689 for direct aid. The first 50% will be paid after review of your application report and final 50% after July 1st, 2019. The Annual Report will be open 10/1/18 and will close on 2/1/2019.

Cooperative Services:

Programming: As we finish the summer reading season, we are pleased to report that the programs booked through MMLC received very positive reviews. We booked a total of 622 programs for this fiscal year, with another 25 already booked for next fiscal year. Irene led the Programming Team in a fruitful discussion of this years' programming season and performers. The highly anticipated Performers Showcase is scheduled for September 18th, and we look forward to another successful event.

MMLC Advocacy:

The summer months have been fairly quiet with mid-term elections and campaigning activities taking precedence over legislative action. The MLA Advocacy page includes accomplishments over the past year: <https://www.milibraries.org/advocacy-efforts>. In addition, the monthly newsletter includes advocacy updates: <https://mla.memberclicks.net/advocacy-update>

Cooperative Directors Association:

Cooperative Directors Association (CDA): The CDA met in August as guests of the White Pine Library Cooperative in Saginaw. We received reports from our Collaborating Partners.

- The Penal Fines Task Force is making progress on a toolkit that will educate libraries on the history and importance of penal fines to libraries. They can also be used to inform others of the importance of penal fines to libraries.
- Come visit the CDA table at the MLA conference this fall.

CDA Webinars: In July, the CDA enlisted Anne Seurnyck to conduct a webinar on the 'Top 5 Policies'. It is available at: <https://mml.ploud.net/workshops-webinars/webinars> We are seeking new webinar ideas for the fall. Please send me any that you think would benefit libraries in the state.

Collaborating Partners – CDA, LM, MiALA, MLA, and MCLS:

Registration continues for the fall workshop Removing Barriers: a Library Accessibility Workshop scheduled on Friday, November 9, 2018 at the Grand Valley State University Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids. Link including information and agenda: <http://mmlc.info/events/removing-barriers-a-library-accessibility-workshop/>

Collaborating Organizations:

Michigan Library Association (MLA): Gail Madziar provided the following report for MLA:

- National Insurance Services (NIS) has completed the current applications for health care coverage and has contacted a number of companies for proposals for the MLA group health/Rx, dental and vision insurance consortium.
- Library Personal Property Tax reimbursements should not be affected by PA 247 and 248 of 2018. The acts make changes to the Local Community Stabilization Authority Act (LSCA Act) and the calculation of PPT reimbursements. They were enacted to excess PPT funding that was collected in the first few years and benefitted some libraries as a "bonus". The funds will now go to fund fire protection in some communities.

- MLA partnered with WCMU public television station at Central Michigan University during their annual fund drive that raised \$12,000 for 119 area libraries to spend on children's books and early literacy material.
- A new webinar, 'How to Attract, Cultivate and Wow Sponsors', will be offered on November 7, 2018 at 1 p.m. Registration opens soon.
- MLA Annual Conference is October 17-19, 2018 at the Suburban Collection Showcase in Novi.

Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS): Randy Dykhuis made the following report:

- The RIDES Study is available at: <https://www.mcls.org/rides/presentations> RIDES fees for FY18-19 will remain the same and a new bid process will be conducted in 2020 under the new MCLS Director.
- The search for a new Executive Director is underway.
- The consulting services provided by staff have been received very well with considerable positive feedback.

Library of Michigan (LM): Randy Riley made the following report:

- MeL database contracts have been announced with several changes to the suite of products. Reports related to the process and announcements are found at: https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,2351,7-160-18668_39174---,00.html
- LM and MCLS are working to hire two engagement librarians to work with MEL. One will focus on K-12 and the other on public libraries.
- Seventy-one libraries received LSTA small grants and two libraries (Grand Rapids Public Library and Niles District Library) received larger grants.

MMLC Administration:

- I am working with Bryon Sitler to schedule Meet the Candidate sessions in anticipation of the coming election. It is a very good opportunity to educate potential Michigan legislators about libraries and library issues.
- Bay County Library System, in cooperation with MMLC, is hosting Dr. Steve Albrecht presenting about library security on Monday, October 8, 2018. The event will be held at the State Theater in Bay City. Registration is available at: <http://mmlc.info/events/library-security-workshop-with-dr-steve-albrecht/>
- Our well-appreciated MMROC listserv was sunsetted recently when UM-Flint changed their campus network policies. We are indebted to UMF for the many years of access we were afforded for this service. After consultation with members, it has been determined that direct emails and a potential Facebook page are the preferred modes of communication.
- It was my pleasure to meet with new board members: Mary Herr, Bay County Library System; Sandy Drake, Capital Area District Libraries; Janie Lupo, Goodland Township Library; and Jill Sadt, Mott Community College Library. We discussed many aspects of cooperative operations and their roles on the MMLC Board. Welcome to all!
- I was also pleased to meet with Miriam Andrus, new Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Director, and welcome her to MMLC membership and Advisory Council.
- We are working with other cooperative directors and library to directors to plan a small and rural libraries conference in the spring of 2019. The hope is that a medium length 1 ½ day conference will be a good addition to the conference schedule in the off year of the larger LM Loleta Fyan Small and Rural Libraries Conference.

Denise Hooks
MMLC Director