



# WLA News

Information from the Wisconsin Library Association  
Winter 2019

## WLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2019

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**Skip Mosshamer**, WLTF Rep.

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## President's Message

*By Scott Vrieze, 2019 WLA Board President*

Greetings all,

As we near the end of 2019, I would like to reflect on my WLA presidency. A year ago, I would not have predicted all the adventures we would be on together but I found it immensely gratifying. As Plumer Lovelace would say, I think we've "moved the needle" forward on several significant projects, which makes me feel 2019 was successful.

Among the significant developments this year was the Leadership Development Initiative's milestone of reaching a level of participation to make it financially sustainable. It is my belief that this program exemplifies the Association's commitment to professional development, and especially to the growth and development of those in or about-to-be-in leadership positions. Combined with a plan to relaunch a Mentorship Program in 2020, these two pieces will help develop a leadership pipeline that will benefit the library community for years to come.

Another exciting area is the continued success of the "Be a Member, Get a Member" campaign, which resulted in 139 new memberships this year. Credit for that success goes to all of you who helped make the case for the value of your professional association to your friends and colleagues.

The highlight of the year for me was the Fall WLA Conference. I am proud of the efforts of this community to live up to values of including all people in our libraries' services and especially in our professional activities. I think the result was a conference that focused on inclusion and a commitment to diversity in a very profound way, so we were engaging in a dialogue and not just retreating into our own truisms. I found my own views and biases challenged, but in a healthy way that opened up, rather than shut down, continued conversation. The positive spirit at the conference assured the planning committee that we had created a conference that embodied our ideals with an opportunity for sharing and conversation. Thank you all for making it so vibrant.

I would be remiss if I didn't also acknowledge my own significant life changes. In July, I began work as the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library Services Agency in the Twin Cities. Much of the experience and skill I bring to my new role is a result of the opportunities given me in the Wisconsin library community. First as a city public Library Director, then as Director of Learning



Resources at WITC (Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College), and lastly as Library Director at UW-Stout, those paid experiences helped shape the work I do now. I also want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as President –Elect /VP, and then as President of WLA. I can't begin to acknowledge what that opportunity has allowed me to learn, the friends I have made and the rewarding work I was allowed to have a hand in. I hope that my work this year has helped make the association and the Wisconsin library community stronger.

With the brief exception of two years in Hudson, Wisconsin, I have resided in Minnesota all my life. In a very palpable sense, my move to working in Minnesota is a homecoming. At the same time, I will miss the profound connections I have made in the Wisconsin library community and am grateful for how you have shaped me. Each year I attend a WLA conference, I am aware that these are my people. Those connections, both professionally and personally, still sustain me and I thank all of you for that. It was bittersweet to leave a Wisconsin Library Association conference for the last time in October, and I want you all to know how grateful I am to have had the privilege to work with all of you.

All my best,  
Scott Vrieze  
2019 Wisconsin Library Association President

## Wisconsin Library Association

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## OUT WITH THE OLD...

*Jill Fuller, 2019 WLA Newsletter Editor:*

I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to serve as the WLA Newsletter Editor in 2019. I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you and hearing your stories. Thank you for a great year!

## ...IN WITH THE NEW!

*Colleen Hallfrisch, 2020 WLA Newsletter Editor:*

Hello, everyone! My name is Colleen Hallfrisch and I am the new editor of the WLA Newsletter in 2020.



I currently work at UW-Oshkosh as the Metadata Librarian. I started this position in October of this year. Before this position, I worked at the Beaver Dam Community Library as the Technology and Public Services Librarian. Becoming a librarian has been my dream since I was in eighth grade. I am passionate about helping people in the community and love learning about what other libraries are accomplishing. In my spare time, I enjoy running every day, reading and spending time outdoors. I love to go camping, hiking and backpacking as well. I am very excited to continue the legacy of the WLA newsletter through meeting new people and sharing about library initiatives around the state. You can contact me at [hallfrischc@uwosh.edu](mailto:hallfrischc@uwosh.edu).

# Director's Message

*By Plumer Lovelace, Executive Director of WLA*



As we count down the days before another year becomes history, it is my honor to share a brief status report on our favorite association. Starting in 2018, we committed to making membership growth a major priority each year going forward. Recognizing the impact of future retirements and natural population shifts, resources will continue to be devoted to this area each year. The "Be A Member, Get A Member" campaign has proven to be an effective marketing tool and resulted in 139 new members this year. We plan to continue this theme in 2020 with a slight twist...please stay tuned. At the writing of this article, total WLA membership is at 1,443.

WLA continues to be unique in offering a wide range of professional development opportunities to Wisconsin library professionals. Registration totals for live events this year were: WAPL: 260; WAAL: 132; SSCS: 64; LDI: 36; and WLA: 628. Based on evaluations, program quality remains high. Increasing the number of non-member attendance at our live events has been a focus for two years now. Non-member contact lists have been created to help with

that effort. Use of these lists have had excellent results. Each of the conferences and one-day workshops provide a wonderful opportunity for a new member to experience the association's culture firsthand. Lastly, none of these events would have been possible without the dedication and creativity of dozens of volunteers. The WLA office and board are thankful for the support from our amazing volunteers.

This August, financial summaries were presented at the 2019 Annual WLA Membership meeting (see below).

Other noteworthy activities that have contributed to the overall health of the association in 2019 include: 1) WAAL revision of the Policy & Procedures manual, 2) Leadership Committee's draft design for a new mentor program, 3) Nomination Committee's new focus on volunteer acquisition and alignment, 4) the creation of a new Inclusive Services Special Interest Group, 5) continued interest from legislators for Libraries Transform posters and 6) successful use of video streaming to extend the reach of the 2019 WLA Conference programing.

My hope is that all of you feel as much pride as I do for our state association. I offer each of you my sincere gratitude for your continued confidence and support. As we conclude the 128th year of our history, I wish each of you a safe and healthy transition to 2020.

### WLA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

*August 31, 2019*

Net Assets	
<i>Fund Balance</i>	\$162,896.58
<i>Increase to Net Assets</i>	\$62,360.74
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	\$225,257.32

### WLA FOUNDATION, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

*August 31, 2019*

Net Assets	
<i>Fund Balance</i>	\$311,358.26
<i>Increase to Net Assets</i>	\$22,118.52
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	\$333,476.78

# Celebrating Stories: A WLA Conference Wrap-up

*By Leah Langby, WLA Conference Committee Chair*

The Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference was an exciting one. More than 625 attendees had the chance to hear outstanding speakers and sessions, learn from the poster sessions, congratulate award winners and participate in fun activities in the exhibit hall and elsewhere. Everywhere you looked, folks were connecting with each other. It was an extraordinary opportunity to Celebrate Every Story. The fantastic Conference Committee members were EVERYWHERE, making sure things went smoothly and taking care of business. What a team!

We also had the opportunity to examine and discuss race in ways that were challenging and important. If you were unaware of the issues related to cultural appropriation related to the Kalahari and were surprised to hear about it from our keynote and preconference speaker Ijeoma Oluo, you might want to check out the [Cultural Appropriation FAQs](#) created before the conference. Even if you were unable to attend the preconference, you can take a look at the visual notes created by Stephanie Steigerwalt (below) to get an idea of what we covered.

This year we were able to make three sessions and the keynote available as recordings for everyone, whether you were able to attend or not:

- [Keynote speaker Ijeoma Oluo](#) (So You Want to Talk About Race)—the speech starts at about 17:30.
- [Putting Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion into Action](#): Forming a Staff-Led EDI Committee at Waukesha Public Library
- [Get Ready for 2020! Voter Education & Registration Assistance Program \(VERAP\)](#)
- [Defusing Tense Situations and Setting Effective Limits](#)

Also please check out the handouts for the sessions ([available here](#)) and the [Resource List about First Nations](#) put together in conjunction with the Land Acknowledgement. Thanks to everyone who made this year's conference memorable, practical, inspiring, challenging and fun!



Photo credit: Steve Platteter



Photo credit: Steve Platteter



Photo credit: Anne Hamland



Photo credit: Chad Sell



Photo credit: Steve Platteter

## WAPL Call for Proposals

*By Eva Kozerski and Angie Bodzislav, WAPL Conference Committee*



**Now is the time to look past obstacles and focus on possibilities...**

We're looking for library staff who believe in infinite possibilities! The Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Annual Conference Programming Committee seeks program proposals for the next [public library conference](#) to be

held April 29 – May 1, 2020 at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Conference Center in Oshkosh.

With a theme of Infinite Possibilities, the goal of this year's conference is that attendees will leave believing there are infinite possibilities when they are given guidance, encouragement and wisdom. Rather than focusing on impossibilities and weaknesses, we want this conference to be all about possibilities, strengths and strategies to make the most of our work as library staff. We want you to think big picture, but we also want to hear practical and effective strategies, ideas and projects from your corner of the library world that at one time were only "possibilities."

Proposals for presentations, panels, workshops and business meetings are welcome. Please use the [Program Proposal Form](#) to submit a program. Submission deadline is **December 31, 2019**. Acceptance or rejection notifications will take place no later than February 14, 2020.

Please contact the programming committee with any questions!

[Angie Bodzislav](#)

**Spoooner Memorial Library**

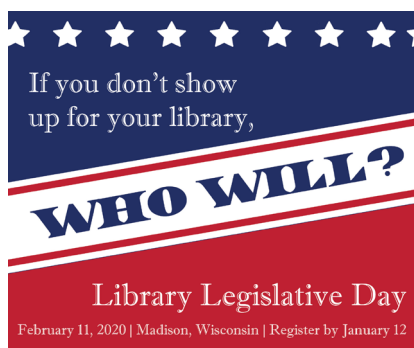
[Eva Kozerski](#)

**Black Creek Village Library**

[Kaushalya Iyengar](#)

**Waukesha Public Library**

# Library Legislative Day



## Registration Open for Library Legislative Day

A one-day event in Madison, Library Legislative Day is an opportunity to join your colleagues and visit with legislators to share how essential libraries are to our communities. You can now register online.

**Tuesday, February 11, 2020**  
**Madison Concourse Hotel**  
**8:30 am – 3:30 pm**

*Legislative Day Agenda  
(Subject to change)*

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration  
& Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM: Briefing  
Session

11:00 AM – Noon: Morning  
Appointments\* (two half-hour  
slots)

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM: Lunch (on  
your own)

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM: Afternoon  
Appointments\* (four half-hour  
slots)

\*As always, the appointments will  
be scheduled for attendees by the  
Legislative Day Committee.

[Click Here For  
Registration Details](#)

## Poster Session Winners at the WLA Conference

*By Pamela O'Donnell, WLA Conference Committee*

At the WLA conference in October, the conference planning committee organized a poster session for students and library professionals as a visual way to “Celebrate Every Story.” The poster session was held on Thursday, October 10, with twenty posters presented. Awards were given for Best Content and Best Visual Display in both Professional and Student categories (pictured below).



### Best Poster Content (Professional Division)

*Curating Stories: Library Resources,  
Information Literacy and Public  
Engagement*

Laura Godden, Academic Librarian and  
Archivist, UW-La Crosse Murphy Library  
Special Collections and Area Research  
Center (ARC)



### Best Visual Design (Professional Division)

*Chippewa Valley Technical College  
and Open RN*

Vince Mussehl, Director of Library Services,  
and Kim Ernstmeyer, Open RN Project  
Director, Chippewa Valley Technical  
College, Eau Claire



### Best Poster Content (Student Division)

*Preservation, Collaboration, and  
Visualization: How a Book Becomes  
an Experience*

Morgan Witte, UW-Madison iSchool and  
Anne Moser (pictured), Senior Special  
Librarian, UW-Madison, Wisconsin Water  
Library Education Coordinator, Wisconsin  
Sea Grant, UW-Madison Center (ARC)



### Best Visual Design (Student Division)

*Connecting Students with New  
Experiences through Backpack Kits*

Katelyn Sabelko, Stephanie Zalewski, and  
Greta Zimmerman, UW-Madison iSchool  
and Edgewood College

# Reaching Out to Public Librarians

*By Carol Hassler, Wisconsin State Law Library*

Public libraries have a long tradition of providing access to information to people in crisis. Librarians throughout Wisconsin are asked legal research questions every day but answering these can be difficult. Librarians need to be careful not to provide legal advice, and budgets don't often support legal books and databases.

More than half of the Wisconsin State Law Library's research requests originate from members of the public who need information on a wide range of topics. In the past few years, State Law Library staff have trained librarians on techniques for researching and responding to questions about the law. Librarians Jaime Healy-Plotkin and Carol Hassler focused on providing a framework for evaluating research sources online and in print, and practical techniques for working with users who are researching a legal issue.

Last spring, Jaime offered a [free webinar](#) through the University of Wisconsin's iSchool on helping people with legal research. In August, Jaime and Carol spoke to librarians from the South Central Library System and offered a longer session on legal research strategies and reference techniques, followed by a tour of the David T. Prosser Jr. State Law Library's space and collections. Carol presented a second webinar with the South Central Library System this fall, which offered the same guidance to public librarians. This webinar was recorded and will soon be available for free viewing to librarians throughout the state.

Professional conferences also provided opportunities to speak to other librarians who work closely with the public. Jaime and Carol provided legal research tips during presentations at the Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians (WAAL) and Wisconsin Library

Association (WLA) annual conferences.

Self-represented litigants often need more information than front-line staff can provide. Our public service desk flyer is an ongoing initiative which benefits any public service desk. This simple half sheet flyer was created to help refer individuals who need legal help to the Wisconsin State Law Library's services and collection. Librarians at the Wisconsin State Law Library help by providing access to legal information and assisting litigants with locating organizations that provide legal services. The handout can be printed in [black and white](#) or [color](#), and can be cut in half for easy distribution at public service desks, such as public library desks. Find it on the library's [publications page](#).

Librarians can be at the front lines of the legal system. By reaching out to and training librarians who work with the public, we can increase access to legal information throughout the state.



# Division & Section Updates

## AWSL

*(Association of Wisconsin Special Librarians)*

Jaime Healy-Plotkin presented to attorneys, public defenders and state agency legal staff at the Criminal Defense Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on November 7, 2019 on the benefits of using the Wisconsin State Law Library. She gave a tutorial on legal reference assistance, showcased the library's website and pointed to the services available to patrons at the special library as part of the Wisconsin State Law Library's continual effort to engage its patron base.

On November 8, 2019, the Wisconsin State Law Library hosted the bi-monthly meeting of the Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND), an advisory council to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ensuring all state citizens have access to library and information services. At this meeting, Jaime Healy-Plotkin, cataloger and member of COLAND, gave a tour of the special library to the members and Department of Public Instruction staff, after a discussion of library and information trends including discontinuing overdue fines at public libraries and a recent embargo on ebook access for a publisher.

*By Jaime Healy-Plotkin, Wisconsin State Law Library*

## RASS

*(Reference & Adult Services Section)*

RASS will be starting a newsletter with information about continuing education, resources and events. If you'd like to receive this newsletter, you can sign up here: <https://eepurl.com/gKKE7H>

RASS will also be hosting a webinar on a topic that most interests our members. You can submit ideas for the first webinar here: <https://forms.gle/cew5qsBcs8xKfkoG6>

*By Barbara Alvarez, North Shore Library*

## Student SIG

*(Special Interest Group)*

With a new year comes new leadership. Laura Killingsworth, Katelyn Sabelko and Greta Zimmermann, all second-year LIS graduate students, are the co-chairs of the SIG for the 2019-2020 school year. They are thrilled to share that the WLA Student SIG has grown to around 70 members. Carrying on the excellent work of co-chairs before them, the current leadership continues to encourage SIG members to engage in professional conferences, events and activities.

This has been a busy year for graduate student participation in LIS conferences. In 2019, our members attended and presented posters at both the WAAL and WLA conferences. At both conferences, our members took home prizes for their excellent work. At the WAAL conference, three of our members were awarded conference scholarships. In the spring of 2020, members of our SIG will present at both WAAL and WAPL. We look forward to seeing our fellow WLA members at these conferences.

The WLA Student SIG has a busy event schedule for the 2019-2020 school year. Prior to the 2019 WLA Conference, we held a conference preparation meeting; after the conference, we met to share our experiences and what we learned. Looking forward to 2020, the SIG will have a presence at Library Legislative Day in February. We hope to see many familiar faces in Madison! We will also be hosting our annual Meet & Greet with LIS professionals in March. This is a great opportunity for UW-Madison iSchool students and local LIS professionals to network and chat about librarianship over the lunch hour.

If you would like to get involved with these events or support the WLA Student SIG, please contact Katelyn Sabelko at [sabelko@wisc.edu](mailto:sabelko@wisc.edu).

*By Katelyn Sabelko, MLIS Student at the iSchool*

## WAAL

*(Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians)*

Over the past few years, the WAAL Leadership has been updating the policies and procedures manual which guide the actions and activities of the organization. One of the reasons the board looked at this is because the positions and responsibilities

were written for an organization of a much different size than the current one. Thus, the manual is in the process of being changed to reflect the current organization and modernize it for its future. The biggest changes concern committee structures and positional responsibilities of the WAAL leadership. After January 1, you will get information regarding what those changes are, how they affect the organization and the reasons for the changes. I encourage members to reach out to the leadership with their feedback after the full documentation is released so we can accurately represent the membership's desires in our organization's guiding document.

*By Eric Jennings, McIntyre Library, UW-Eau Claire*

## YSS

*(Youth Services Section)*

The work YSS has done throughout the year would not be possible without our passionate, hard-working board members, the leaders on our subcommittees who continue to make them successful and most importantly, our amazing, enthusiastic YSS members who show up to events and inspire the leadership to always do more.

This year, YSS:

- Held meet-ups in Central Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin and Northwest Wisconsin
- Hosted YSS socials at both WAPL and WLA
- Released 12 Months of Coding into the world
- Brought Miranda Paul to WLA for the YSS Luncheon Speaker
- Fielded a full, competitive ballot for WLA elections in 2020.
- Published 225 posts on the YSS Shout Out Blog
- Awarded the Burr Worzalla Award to Chad Sell for The Cardboard Kingdom

As we look forward to 2020, I promise more great things are on their way: opportunities for professional development, leadership and fun. If you are passionate about library services for children, teens, and their families and caregivers, or if you're looking to connect and learn with library staff serving youth across the state, YSS has a place for you and we would love to get you involved. Email us at [yssection@gmail.com](mailto:yssection@gmail.com) to learn more.

*By Katie Kiekhaefer, Whitefish Bay Public Library*

## MANITOWOC TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT

By Julia Lee,  
Manitowoc Public Library



In October, Manitowoc Public Library hosted our first-ever Trunk or Treat event! For those who might not know, the premise of a trunk or treat program is to provide a family trick-or-treat experience in a safe, public environment. We started by contacting local organizations in town, such as the Police, Fire Department, Head Start, volunteer organizations, etc. We also reached out to Scouts and 4-H contacts. I was hoping for 10 organizations to participate our first year – we had 27!

We held Trunk or Treat in our library parking lot on a Tuesday evening. We normally hold a Family Activity Night with solid participation numbers, so we held it as one of our Family Activity Night programs. Though the weather was unseasonably cold, more than 1,000 people attended. All the organizations are interested in participating next year – we just need to use a bigger parking lot! Clean-up was a breeze – all the cars pulled out of the lot and drove away.

For those looking for ways to get connected, this was a fantastic community building event! As the event got closer, our Facebook page blew up and organizations were suddenly reaching out to us instead of the other way around.

## Shorewood Public Library Receives Extraordinary Bequest

By Rachel Collins,  
Shorewood Public Library Director

Shorewood Public Library has announced that Larry and Elaine (Hafemeister) Lange have made a significant bequest to the Library to ensure it will continue to flourish for generations to come. Their bequest of \$5.5 million will help the Library achieve its mission to help people learn, connect and explore by supporting future initiatives and enhancing current library services.

The Langes were longtime Shorewood residents and avid patrons of the Library. Their gift is the largest bequest in the Library's history.

"We are humbled and honored that the Langes thought of the Shorewood Public Library for their lasting legacy," said Library Director Rachel Collins. "They understood the positive impact the Library makes in our community and wanted to ensure that positive impact for future generations."

The Lange bequest will enable the Library to realize goals outlined in its Strategic Plan 2019-2024, including facility enhancements that foster community connections and create a welcoming and comfortable environment, as well as special programming opportunities. A portion of the gift will also be set aside for a future major Library building project.

The Library chose to partner with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to manage the Langes' bequest by establishing three separate, philanthropic funds that support distinct Library activities. The Foundation will provide investment and administrative services for the funds.

"We are proud to have a role in this incredible story of personal generosity," said Ellen Gilligan, Foundation president and CEO. "We



are committed to making sure the Langes' gift remains a source of inspiration and provides growing resources for the Shorewood Public Library that they loved."

Collins added, "The success of our Library as a community asset is due principally to strong ongoing Village financial support, and with donations such as this, other contributions we've received and the ongoing fundraising efforts of the Friends of the Shorewood Public Library, our ability to serve the community is greatly enhanced."

Larry and Elaine Lange were both professional engineers and lived on North Sheffield Avenue in Shorewood for many years. They were dedicated library users, regularly checking out books and volunteering as tutors in the Library's long-running English Language Learner sessions. Elaine's sister, Beverly Hafemeister of Cincinnati, said Elaine strongly believed in the Library as an institution "where everyone could learn (and) move forward in life." Elaine passed away in January 2018, followed by Larry in July 2018.

"The Library Board will be forever grateful to the Langes for this gift that will enrich Library services and the learning opportunities available to Library patrons of all ages," said Alex Handelsman, president of the Shorewood Library Board of Trustees.



## CVTC Sees First Library Science Graduates

by Vince Mussehl, Chippewa Valley Technical College

Chippewa Valley Technical College's new online Library and Information Services associate degree program saw its first cohort of student graduates this year. More than 60 students have participated in the program, which allows students to choose a specialization in public or school libraries. Many of this year's graduates worked in libraries during their time as students, while others have

used the program as a gateway to their dream jobs in libraries. The program is a great opportunity for people who are interested in exploring a career in libraries without committing to a bachelor's or master's degree.

For more information visit [www.cvtc.edu/academics/programs/library-information-services](http://www.cvtc.edu/academics/programs/library-information-services).

## INTRODUCING: THE EVERBRIGHT

By Jeanette Rydberg, Thomas St. Angelo Public Library, Cumberland, WI

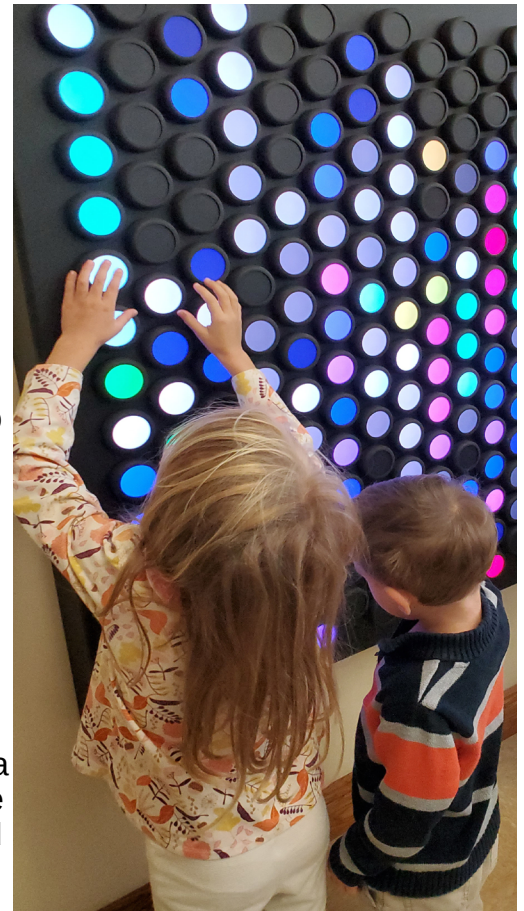
Thomas St. Angelo Public Library (TSAPL) in Cumberland proudly announces the arrival and installation of the Everbright. (Think Lite Brite meets today's technology). After little less than a year of promoting, hoping and dreaming, the 4'x8' board of 479 dials is available for play! The board is advertised as "art making art" as individuals turn each dial left or right to the color of their choice. Dots of color turn into rows, letters or patterns right before your eyes. TSAPL has enjoyed seeing patrons from 18 months to 88 years playing individually and collaboratively. An "Everbright Thanks for Giving Celebration" took place to honor the donors who made our dream possible. Without these generous believers, we could not have accomplished this goal. But this is just the beginning. The Everbright is a tool to utilize all our library resources. There is a plan in place to coordinate this marvelous device with monthly themes throughout the library.

We began with November for Native American Heritage Month. Our display case included locally and regionally made jewelry and

moccasins on loan from members of the local St. Croix band of Ojibwe. We also had a display of books about Native American beading. Copies were made of Ojibwe bead patterns to create a color-by-number activity with colored pencils on hand. Laminated Ojibwe bead patterns were set next to the Everbright as the first monthly "Everbright Challenge." A basket of large plastic beads were available for babies to sort by color, and preschoolers had cards with bead patterns to string the beads.

The Everbright includes a tablet that allows creations to be saved and displayed again on the board. A 5-year-old was the first to emulate a bead pattern on the board. It has now been saved for all to view over and over again. We have a calendar so groups can reserve a time slot to work together and create designs.

We invite everyone to our library to try the next challenge. Come ready to play!



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#### COORDINATOR

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Get the full experience of being a WLA member... volunteer!

Becoming a volunteer allows library professionals to develop leadership skills, create professional development opportunities, expand career networks and learn more about your Association. It also plays an important role in advancing the mission of the Association and benefiting libraries throughout the state. If you are interested in volunteering, send your message to [wla@wisconsinlibraries.org](mailto:wla@wisconsinlibraries.org); include in the subject line, "WLA Volunteer." Thanks for your continued support.

## YOU'RE NEWSWORTHY!



Submit news, ideas, updates, and stories for the 2020 Spring WLA Newsletter to editor Colleen

Hallfrisch at [hallfrischc@uwosh.edu](mailto:hallfrischc@uwosh.edu) by February 1, 2020.



# Board Games With Community Leaders

*By Mark A. Zimmerman, Milwaukee Public Library, Center Street Branch*

The Center Street Branch of Milwaukee Public Library was buzzing with activity during the fourth edition of its Board Games with Community Leaders event on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

Local leaders and MPL personnel that attended the event included:

LaTonya Johnson (*Wisconsin State Senator, District 6*), Kalan Haywood, Sr. (*Founder and President of Haywood Group, LLC*), Russell W. Stamper (*Milwaukee Alderman, District 15*), Tamara Johnson (*Executive Director of Malaika Early Learning Center*), Mark Briggs (*Club Manager of the Daniels-Mardak Boys & Girls Club*), Joan Johnson (*MPL Deputy Library Director*), Hermoine Bell-Henderson (*MPL Coordinator of Business, Technology, & Periodicals*), Danielle McClendon-Williams (*Legislative Assistant to District 16 Wisconsin State Representative Kalan Haywood, Jr.*), Frank Cumberbatch (*Vice President of Engagement for Bader Philanthropies, Inc.*), Dr. Tammy Mays (*MPL Branch Manager, Center Street Branch*), Alan Her (*MPL Branch Library Services,*

*Center Street Branch*), Paul Wellington, (*MPL Branch Library Services Assistant, East Branch*) and Mark Zimmerman, (*MPL Librarian Associate, Center Street Branch*).

Also making a guest appearance was Browser, the MPL Mascot. Browser shared positive energy and games of checkers, Life, Jenga, Uno, Hedbanz, Candy Land, Sorry!, Pit, Chutes and Ladders, Battleship and Connect Four with patrons of all ages as laughter belled throughout the library.

Classic games and new games came to life as individuals from different generations spent time basking in each other's company. The positivity was contagious as the group got larger and more gamers joined in the festivities, culminating in a sizeable crowd of smiling participants by the event's end. Milwaukee Public Library and Center Street Branch thanks everyone who came out to support our event and join in the fun. We look forward to our next installment of Board Games with Community Leaders and hope to see you there!