Summer Leadership Institute 2015 Projects

Anne Alger

I will be heading up The Big Read 2016 for the Missoula area. As leader of this month-long community read-fest, I will be developing community-wide programs which encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. As a leader, I will manage several staff members on varied committees.

KellyAnne Terry

My project will be the 2016 Offline Conference. The conference is in Lewistown on Feb 5-6, 2016. I will be conference organizer and I am planning to focus on what Small and Medium Libraries need or want in terms of technology. Also, I will look at the future of technology in libraries and what is the best way to serve our communities through technology.

Pam Henley

Creating a mentor program to support new librarians and library directors. I will seek input from recent new library directors to help determine needs. Current directors and experienced librarians will need to be recruited to act as mentors. The Public Library Division of MLA will be approached as a possible partner in managing this. Development of a New Director Boot Camp will offer more opportunity for collaboration as well.

Megan Glidden & Kelsie Rubich

Happiness Project

Our idea is to come up with a program, training manual or best practices that libraries around the state can use to increase the happiness at their library.

Kelly Reisig

The Sidney-Richland County Public Library is in a period of growth and tremendous opportunity. It is key that stakeholders throughout Richland County have a voice in upcoming library changes, programming additions and overall vision. My project is to use a multi-tiered approach to connect with our community members. Surveys and secondary source materials will provide quantitative data. Qualitative data will be obtained through discussions held in small focus groups with specific organizations, associations, and businesses. Social media platforms will also be utilized. The information will then be compiled and utilized in future strategic planning by library team members and the board of trustees.

Della Dubbe

Create and open a branch library at the Airport Campus of Helena College. Work with instructors to complement writing instruction on this campus and set up at least 2 hours a week to serve students on site.

Carly Delsigne

Reorganizing the library space for patrons and staff--especially incorporating a (new to us) circulation counter.

Jonna Underwood

I'm most interested in collaborating with the county's three school libraries in an effort to share library resources for students during the summer months.

Renee Jesness

My project involves creating a professional learning community with my k-5 teacher librarian colleagues so that we can decide on some common grade level curriculum, projects, and assessments.

Lauren McMullen

Getting Beyond Wired: From Communication to Collaboration  
Montana librarians, staff and trustees need more community connections to better keep up with what’s going on in libraries around the state, share ideas and resources, and solve problems together. Currently the Wired list serve is used for these purposes, and this tool has served well in the era of email. However, librarians could really benefit from new communications tools that allow for many kinds of interaction, participation, and collaboration. This project seeks to develop stronger relationships between Montana libraries through an improved communications structure – hopefully under the auspices of MLA - that eventually might include online forums, an interactive web presence, integrated social networks, and a searchable knowledge base.   
The scope of this particular project is to develop an online forum where conversations can be archived and serve as a knowledge base for everyone; collaboration at its best and most convenient. The leadership challenges in this project are: 1) to assemble a project team that will commit to the effort, and 2) to get buy-in and participation from the Montana library community; specifically getting them to move away from “Wired”.

Sandra Larson

Revitalize our friends of the library.

Cody Allen

I'm starting as the new Teen TECH Lab Librarian, so my project is going to be to give the TECH Lab a career-oriented approach for teens, so that not only will they be doing fun and interesting stuff with technology, but they will see how they can apply that knowledge in real life or make a career out of it.

Mark Wetherington

My project is to use the Centennial of the Bitterroot Public Library (1916-2016) as an opportunity to celebrate the library's service to the community and highlight the resources, programs, materials and services we provide. I would like to accomplish this in novel and engaging ways that include collaborations with community partners, encouraging staff to plan and execute celebratory programs or create promotional items, and just generally bring the energy of the library to the community.

Margaret Stell

I have scheduled to do the Montana Maker Kit through the Statewide Library Resources Division.

Cara Orban and I have worked out that our library will have the kit September - December.

Jo Flick

Use this group as an adhoc advisory panel to help with creating a set of self-paced tutorials for new public library directors in Montana. I’ll include links to other resources outside of Montana, but focus on the need-to-know basics for a new director that are Montana-specific. This will involve navigating through the current CE system that gives credit only for 30 minute or longer formal learning sessions and figuring out how to accredit self-paced short tutorials so librarians can earn CE credit.