Ramsey County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 13, 2017
4560 North Victoria Street
Shoreview, MN – 6:30 PM

I. Call to Order

II. Public Comment (6:30-6:35)

III. Consent Agenda (6:35-6:40)
   A. Approval of Agenda (1)
   B. Approval of November 15, 2017 Minutes (2)
   C. Director’s Report (3)
   D. Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries Report (4)

IV. Action Items (6:40-7:15)
   A. Award Library Gold Cards (5)
   B. Accept LSTA Grant (6)
   C. Internet Access Policy (7)

V. Discussion Items (7:15-8:00)
   A. Library Board Self Evaluation (8)
   B. Caféine Update (9)
   C. Shoreview Branch Update/Tour (10)
   D. Other

VI. Next Meeting – January 17, 2018, RCL-Shoreview, 4560 North Victoria Street, 6:30 p.m.

VII. Adjournment (8:00)

Scheduled Upcoming Meetings

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Library Board
Craig Klausing, Chair
Janice Rapheal, Vice Chair
John Hakes, Secretary
Marisol Chiclana-Ayala
Paula Mielke
Kim Vanderwall

Library Director
Jill Boldenow

Administrative Office
4560 North Victoria St.
Shoreview, MN 55126
Phone: (651) 486-2200
www.rclreads.org
LIBRARY BOARD PRESENT:
Marisol Chiclana-Ayala, John Hakes, Craig Klausing, Paula Mielke, Janice Rapheal, Kim Vanderwall

STAFF PRESENT:
Jill Boldenow, Library Director; Lynn Wyman, Deputy Director; Mary Larson, Library Board Coordinator; Jeff Eide, Senior Library Manager; Carrie Watts, Library Manager; Chuck Wettergren, Digital Services Manager; Marcus Lowry, Teen Services Coordinator; Amy Boese, Teen Librarian

OTHERS PRESENT:
Les Sipkema, Shoreview Resident; Bryan Olson, Falcon Heights Resident

CALL TO ORDER:
Klausing called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Program Room of the Ramsey County Library in Roseville, 2180 Hamline Avenue North.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Les Sipkema, Shoreview resident, spoke about noise at Maplewood, technology concerns, and the retention pond and naming rights at the new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview.

Bryan Olson, Falcon Heights resident, shared his concerns about Legacy-funded programs, programs recorded by the local cable station, recording of public taxation hearings, and the Library’s noise policy.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:
Vanderwall made a motion to approve the agenda for November 15, 2017 and the minutes of October 18, 2017, as presented. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF PAULA HARRIS:
Vanderwall made a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding the Retirement of Paula Harris, and to authorize the Library Board Chair to sign the document. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

REVISED NAMING RIGHTS AGREEMENT:
Eileen Boder was a Ramsey County librarian for 33 years. At the time of her death in April 2015, she was serving as Branch Manager of the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview and helped develop the preliminary plans for the new library. Memorials from Eileen’s family, friends, colleagues and neighbors totaled the $5,000 needed for naming rights for a small study room in the new library in Shoreview. Naming rights were subsequently granted to Eileen’s son, Chris Boder, by the Library Board in January 2017.

In total, naming rights were granted to four groups for four available study rooms identified in the original library plans. However, in the final library construction, there are now three study rooms and one comfort room. Chris Boder agrees that the Comfort Room would be an appropriate room to designate in memory of Eileen Boder.

If approved by the Library Board, one of the small study rooms that opens into the Children’s Area will be named as follows:

Comfort Room in Memory of Eileen Boder
For her 33 years of dedicated service as a Ramsey County librarian and Shoreview Branch Manager
Vanderwall made a motion to revise the naming rights agreement with Chris Boder for a small Study Room in the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview in memory of Eileen Boder to the Comfort Room in memory of Eileen Boder, and to authorize the Library Board Chair to sign the agreement. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

**Important Dates:**
November 23—All Ramsey County Libraries closed
November 24—Library Administration and Technical Services closed
November 27—Ramsey County Board of Commissioners budget hearing, Shoreview Library at 6:30 pm
December 24 & 25—All Ramsey County Libraries closed
January 1, 2018—All Ramsey County Libraries closed

**Voting at libraries:**
Residents took advantage of early voting opportunities at White Bear Lake and Shoreview libraries from October 31 through November 6. Shoreview Library was, by far, the busiest early voting site in Ramsey County, with 2,110 people casting votes; 275 people voted at White Bear Lake Library. Maplewood Library had eight people on Election Day voting for school board seats and an operating levy renewal for White Bear Lake Area Schools.

**Grants received:**
Ramsey County Library will expand Pop-Up Library sites and services in 2018 thanks to a $40,846 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant administered by State Library Services at the Minnesota Department of Education. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides LSTA funds to Minnesota through the Grants to States Program. The Pop-Up Library goals are to address inequities and barriers, build community relationships, and expand lifelong learning for new patrons.

Ramsey County Library received a grant of $600 from the Greater White Bear Lake Community Foundation to support *Park Rx Kits* at White Bear Lake Library. Library Manager Therese Sonnek obtained free Minnesota State Park passes through a partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. With the grant, Therese will augment the passes with related books, maps, and materials to promote healthy outdoor activities. The items, packaged in kits, will circulate from White Bear Lake Library beginning in December.

**Confronting racism programs:**
The Library and Do Good Roseville hosted *Confronting Racism Minnesota Style* on November 2, with 180 engaged attendees. Alicia Sojourner of YWCA Minneapolis led this workshop, which provides tools to respond to implicit and explicit racism. Maplewood Library hosts *Confronting Racism Minnesota Style: for Youth*, on December 7, at 7:00 p.m.

**Mounds View Library welcomes Marcus Lowry as branch manager:**
Marcus Lowry begins working as Mounds View Library Manager on November 20. (Mounds View’s former library manager recently relocated overseas.) Marcus has been a leader in teen services at Ramsey County Library and in the larger library community. He is excited to deepen relationships with the Mounds View community and Library staff.

**MELSA launches MN Writes MN Reads:**
Ramsey County Library and all MELSA member libraries have launched *MN Writes MN Reads* for our patrons. This suite of free online tools enables local authors—from indie to mainstream—to create ebooks and share them with readers across the state and potentially across the country. This project is supported by MELSA with funding from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. We anticipate that libraries statewide will offer and promote this platform to build a strong Minnesota collection. Learn more at [www.rclreads.org/mnwrites](http://www.rclreads.org/mnwrites).
FRIENDS OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARIES REPORT:
The following businesses, organizations, and individuals helped fund the Summer Reading Program for children and teens at all the Ramsey County Library branches by sponsoring the 8th Annual Book It 5K Walk/Run that took place on September 16, 2017:

Gold Sponsors
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
- The Aplikowski Family

Silver Sponsors
- Falcon Heights/Lauderdale Lions Club
- Jaci Meyer Agency, State Farm
- Richard and Mary Fowler

Bronze Sponsors
- Maguire Agency
- Kim Bennet Agency, American Family Insurance
- Frank Harris
- John W. Harris
- Pam Harris

Annual Author Luncheon:
More than 125 people attended the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries annual Author Luncheon held at the North Oaks Golf Club on Saturday, October 14, 2017. The program featured celebrated mystery writer Erin Hart and her husband, Irish musician and author Paddy O’Brien sharing stories about the archeological discoveries and life experiences that have inspired the authors’ books, *The Road from Castlebarnagh* and *The Book of Killowen*. People and places from the past came alive through projected images while Paddy regaled guests with his childhood tales of rural Ireland and Erin spun the story of her latest mystery novel inspired by a true discovery, a 9th-century book of Psalms preserved in an Irish bog. The event kicked off with a social hour while *Paddy played button accordion tunes* and the authors stayed after the program to chat with guests and sign books. We are grateful to our sponsors for this event, Mary and Dick Fowler.

Pop Up Used Book Sale:
The Pop Up Used Book Sale held from October 26-28, 2017 at the Shoreview Branch was well attended and netted close to $3,500. The Friends are grateful to Carol Jackson, Shoreview Branch Manager, and all of the staff at the Shoreview Branch for accepting the tremendous influx of book donations with grace and working to find storage for all of the materials prior to the sale. The Friends also want to thank Jan Huberty for her leadership of a team of more than 35 sale volunteers; Nancy Huberty for volunteer scheduling, Donna Andreas for managing the sale proceeds; Shoreview used bookstore volunteers Mary Ann Adams, Ann Ingle, and Peggy Biernat for taking on the extra work of the sale, and Friends Office Manager, Shayne Miller, for handling everything with grace and a smile. In addition, the Friends want to express deep appreciation to the many library patrons and Friends members who dropped off their used book donations to the Shoreview library for the sale.

Shoreview Library Capital Campaign Nearing Completion:
The Shoreview Branch received delivery of a fascinating mixed media collage piece commissioned from Saint Paul artist, Kristi Abbott, which will be installed very soon in the entry to the library. The Art Committee is currently reviewing delightful animal-themed watercolor selections by local artist Amy Clark for installation in the Comfort Room.

Reading Friends:
A wonderful team of 13 volunteers began their service as Reading Friends for the 2017-2018 school year on September 28, 2017. These volunteers spend one-to-one time with children after school at the partner site in New Brighton, Community Partners with Youth, to reinforce literacy skills, assist with homework assignments, and help build children’s self-esteem. The lives of many children are enriched every year because of the dedicated and generous Reading Friends.
Kindergarten Card Party Sponsors:
Mound Park Academy and Northeast Bank are back on board as sponsors for the 2018 event!

Upcoming Events:
- **Friends Board of Directors** meeting on November 20, 2017 at the Roseville Branch
- **Kindergarten Library Card Sign-Up Celebration** on Saturday, January 20, 2018 with author extraordinaire Kate DiCamillo at the Roseville Branch
- **Friends Annual Gala: Whole of a Tale!** on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **Book It 5k** on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Roseville Branch

TEEN SERVICES UPDATE:
Current teen services coordinator Marcus Lowry and incoming coordinator Amy Boese were present at the meeting to update the Library Board on teen services at Ramsey County Library. They thanked the Library Board for their support, specifically the addition of a new teen librarian at Shoreview. Lowry noted that he was the only staff member working in teen services when he began at RCL in 2008, and now there are three full-time librarians and 3 AmeriCorps CTEP workers assigned to teen services.

Ramsey County Library Teen Services strives to create connected learning experiences for young adults in the community. As a community “third space” beyond school and home, libraries provide a safe, welcoming environment where teens can explore areas of interest and develop a sense of ownership of their surroundings. RCL has a particular interest in outreach and collaboration with groups that serve diverse, new immigrant, and low income teens.

Highlights of the past year collaborations include:
- Expanded teen services team with the addition of Paige Fuller as a teen services librarian for Shoreview.
- Showcased Shoreview’s new Teen Space at the library’s grand opening. Five local robotics teams provided three demonstrations for over 200 visitors.
- Collaborated with the White Bear YMCA, Maplewood Community Center, RC Public Works, RC Parks and Recreation, Goodwill/Easter Seals, and the Science Museum of MN to offer a teen job fair at Maplewood.
- Instructed formal technology classes throughout the year across the system, including 3D printing, vector editing, music mixing, and digital literacy skills.
- Facilitated 133 weekly drop in classes for experimentation and hands-on play, creating and making with over 1,200 teens at the Brain Box.
- Built library connections with older teens in alternative school programs in North St. Paul/Maplewood, providing monthly digital literacy skills training to the Phoenix Recovery High School, the Harmony Learning Center work-based learning program, and special education.
- Hosted YA and SF author Nnedi Okorafor at Roseville as part of MELSA Club Book series.
- Partnered with Heritage Academy, a Somali school in Minneapolis, to teach library research skills.
- Hired three teen summer workers; one for Maplewood, Roseville, and Shoreview, who between them spoke seven languages.
- Brought Stella Binion, a national youth poetry winner to North St. Paul/Maplewood schools in partnership with the MN Department of Education and the Equity office of ISD 622.
- Continued a bi-monthly after-hours teen program for Maplewood in partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Maplewood and youth advocates.
- Provided six week-long, half-day teen camps instructing on topics of STEAM, film making, and empowering girls in technology fields.
- Piloted a partnership with MN Department of Education to provide free lunch and snacks for youth four days a week over the summer at Maplewood, serving 1,300 meals and snacks.
• Partnered with the MN Astronomical Society to host a “Pre-Eclipse Party” at Shoreview, at which a presenter educated over 200 attendees about what to look for during the eclipse, and how to view the event safely.

• Completed Teen Summer Reading Program with 5,281 online book reviews created and 1,062 unique teens participating in the program with the highest participation in all of MELSA.

Amy Boese is the incoming Teen Services Coordinator and will be located at Roseville. Marcus Lowry will be the library manager of Mounds View. A new teen librarian will be hired for Maplewood.

FACILITIES PLANNING UPDATE:
Library staff continue to advance the Maplewood Library capital planning project. Three proposals to provide pre-design consulting services were received, and a firm has been selected. The Library hopes to have a contract in place by December, and the consultant will deliver a report within 60 days of the contract start date.

In this phase of the Maplewood project, the consultant will deliver:

• An analysis of known issues
• Pre-design options with cost estimates to solve major issues
• Recommendations on phasing a project, if necessary

Library staff will bring implementation recommendations to the Library Board in early 2018. Staff hopes to utilize remaining Shoreview project funds to support final design and implementation at Maplewood, though additional funds may be requested as needed.

Mielke spoke in favor of having play areas for children as well as spaces for quiet study. Boldenow noted that preparations are underway to develop a system-wide facilities master plan in 2018.

POP UP LIBRARY OVERVIEW:
As part of the library’s community engagement goals, delivery of pop-up library service began in various locations throughout the community, led by Jeff Eide, Ramsey County Library’s community engagement coordinator.

The goal for this service is to reach into communities that the library has had a harder time reaching. These communities can include racial or ethnic groups, or groups or individuals for whom transportation may be a barrier to library services. For the most part, pop-ups have been held within the suburban Ramsey County service area. Some other local library systems, such as Hennepin County, have also been experimenting with pop-up library services.

As each venue is different and has different needs, precisely what the service looks like can vary somewhat from location to location. Generally, this service includes: computers for staff to register library cards or look up information, collections of library materials to be checked out, brochures to advertise library services – such as the Explore Newsletter or Summer Reading Program materials, and some sort of visual draw to the space – such as a 3D printer, a button-maker, or free giveaways.

Venues that were visited in 2017 include: Tuj Lub Court grand opening at Keller Park, Residential Reentry Center (for people transitioning from corrections), Fairview Community Education ESL/Adult Education, Ramsey County Fair, Farmer’s Markets in Shoreview and Maplewood, Maplewood Community Center, New Immigrants Welcome Event in Maplewood, and the Gladstone Learning Center.

The service will continue into 2018 with return visits to new venues as well as return visits to many of the locations where that have been successful.
Eide noted that staffing the pop-up events has been the most challenging aspect of the initiative. Commissioner McGuire thanked the Library for its outreach efforts, and suggested a shared vehicle for Countywide outreach services from various departments.

ROSEVILLE BRANCH UPDATE & TOUR:
Trends in the Service Area:
- Enrollment in Roseville Area School District is growing, with just over 7,500 students in K-12 grades.
- Student ethnicity: 48% white, 21% Asian, 17% Black, 13% Hispanic, 1% American Indian.
- 28% of students in the district have languages other than English spoken at home; Spanish, Karen and Hmong are the most prevalent.
- 46% of students in the district qualify for free or reduced price lunches.
- Roseville Police Department has increased their training in the areas of mental health awareness and de-escalation, and has begun an initiative to provide all sworn personnel crisis intervention training by 2018.
- The City of Roseville hosted a series of community conversations over the past year called Imagine Roseville, which developed in response to the Philando Castile shooting in Falcon Heights. The conversations were an effort to help people voice concerns and make connections in light of changing demographics.
- The multi-million dollar re-investment in Rosedale Shopping Center continues, with the upscale department store, Von Maur, coming in 2018.

Library Issues and Service Trends:
- Circulation was down 5.7% last year.
- Visits to the library increased by 2%.
- Attendance at programming increased by over 23% in just one year.

Library Board members toured the facility, including the children and teen areas, the reading garden, the circulation workroom, and the Digital Services Department. The upcoming facility master plan will be an opportunity to replace worn furnishings, and address any needed service improvements.

NEXT MEETING: December 13, 2017—RCL Shoreview, 4560 North Victoria Street, 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:
Klausing adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Larson
Library Board Coordinator
**Staff Updates:**

**New Hires:**  
Holly Pierson, Librarian Substitute  
Patricia Berglund, Librarian Substitute  
Carly Kreger, Librarian Substitute  
Kim Garcia, Library Page Substitute

**Retirement:**  
Paula Harris, Library Associate 2, Technical Services

**Important Dates:**  
All Ramsey County Libraries will be closed for upcoming holidays: December 24 and 25, 2017; and January 1 and January 15, 2018. The Friends 2018 Gala is February 24, 2018—with the theme “A Whale of a Tale!” Costumes are not required, but we are encouraged to dress as a character from a book set in, on, or around water. Registration opens in early January.

**Ramsey County Library named a Star Library**  
For the fifth consecutive year, Ramsey County Library has been named a Star Library by *Library Journal*. This designation is given to libraries with a high index rating based on per capita library visits, print and e-circulation, program attendance, and public internet computer use. We were among thirty libraries nationally with budgets between $10M-$29.9M to be honored. Other Minnesota libraries honored include Edgerton Public Library, Baudette Public Library, Ely Public Library, and Grand Marais Public Library.

**Shoreview Library wins architectural award**  
Shoreview Library was recognized with an AIA Minnesota Honor Award. The American Institute of Architects - Minnesota honored thirteen projects with 2017 Honor Awards, which recognize outstanding architecture designed by AIA Minnesota members. The firm of record on this project is HGA Architects and Engineers. Project partners include Adolfson & Peterson Construction and ESI Engineering. Congratulations to everyone who helped plan and guide this outstanding project!

**Maplewood Library capital project**  
The Library has contracted with MSR Design (Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd.) to begin work on the Maplewood Library capital project. Library staff will work with the firm to examine issues and opportunities. MSR will produce pre-design options and cost estimates to inform an implementation plan.

**New makerspace programs launch in January**  
Ramsey County Library is expanding maker programming! Digital Services Librarian Jenny Jackson is launching Open Makerspace programs on weekends and evenings with 3D printing, a vinyl cutter, sewing machines, and more. Open Makerspace will be offered in January at Shoreview Library on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Maplewood Library on Thursdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m., and at Roseville Library on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. We hope to recruit new adult participants, but we will welcome families and people of all ages.

**County IT consolidation**  
We are making some advances toward IT consolidation in the next few months. First, the Library will be moving to the County’s Outlook 365 email platform in December. As a result, all Library email addresses will be standardized and have a County domain instead of rclreads.org. This transition will also improve calendar access among Library and County colleagues. We will use a variety of communications to announce the new email addresses, and we will forward emails from rclreads.org addresses for a period of time to ease the transition.
The County’s Information Services (IS) department plans to add staff in the next two months to support the Library and County Attorney’s Office in phase two IT consolidation. When the staffing is in place, IS will expand training to assume responsibility for Library desktop support and administration of network and servers. We have already begun to transfer knowledge and access to IS staff regarding network and servers.

Library and IS staff have met about transition plans and risk assessment. After consolidation, Library staff will continue to lead the Library’s technology planning and manage the Library’s many business line applications. We will continue to work with IS to determine financial implications, purchasing, and other aspects. We are working to complete IT consolidation, while sustaining excellent library service and advancing other goals in the library’s technology plan.
**Friends 2018 Gala**
Make a splash at the 5th annual Friends Gala, *A Whale of a Tale*, to be held on February 24, 2018. This unique fundraising event will feature a cocktail party atmosphere with live music, hors d’oeuvres, wine, silent and live auctions, a costume contest, prizes and more. Join us for a fun and lighthearted event open to adults of all ages. Together, we can make a difference.

Our goal for 2018 is to raise $30,000 to add 1,500 new items to the lending collection of all seven Ramsey County libraries located in Maplewood, Mounds View, New Brighton, North St. Paul, Roseville, Shoreview and White Bear Lake.

**Friends House Party raises more than $5,000 for the Shoreview Library Capital Campaign**
On November 9, 2017, Friends members Mary and Wayne Carter and Kate and Rob Huebsch hosted North Oaks friends of the libraries and the Shoreview Capital Campaign Committee to toast the library’s exciting transformation and to help bring the capital campaign goal of $250,000 across finish line.

Guests gathered at the Carter’s home to learn about the many additional amenities of the Shoreview library supported by the Friends capital campaign, meet and talk with library staff, and even try out the 3-D printer that has become a popular part of the library’s teen area. This event has raised $5,300 so far to support additions to the travel and foreign language collections and to bring the library a step closer to adding a second 3D printer and a laser cutter to the Makerspace area.

**Upcoming Events**
- **Kindergarten Library Card Sign-Up Celebration** on Saturday, January 20, 2018 with author extraordinaire Kate DiCamillo at the Roseville Branch
- **Friends Board of Directors** meeting on January 22, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **Friends Annual Gala: Whale of a Tale!** on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
- **Book It 5k** on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Roseville Branch
Request for Library Board Action

SUBJECT:
Award Library Gold Cards

BACKGROUND:
Ramsey County Library awards gold cards to volunteers and other individuals whose contributions have enhanced services to our library patrons. Two Library Board Trustees, Jan Rapheal and Kim Vanderwall, have terms ending in December 2017. To honor their service on the Library Board and their contributions to the Library and the community, gold cards are proposed for both members.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
To award Library Gold Cards to Janice Rapheal and Kim Vanderwall as a symbol of appreciation for their contributions to Ramsey County Library and to authorize the Library Board Chair to sign the Gold Card certificates.

Meeting Date
December 13, 2017

Action Requested
Approval

Presented By
Jill Boldenow,
Library Director
SUBJECT:
Accept LSTA Grant

BACKGROUND:
In accordance with the Library Board Policies, grants exceeding $5,000 are to be brought to the Library Board for appropriate action.

Ramsey County Library has been awarded a Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) Grant in the amount of $40,846 by the Minnesota Department of Education to support Pop-Up Library services. An excerpt of the grant application language includes:

The overarching goals of the Ramsey County Library (RCL) Pop-Up Library are to address inequities and barriers, build community relationships, and expand lifelong learning for new patrons. Following a Pop-Up Library pilot in summer, 2017, this project will increase the number of Pop-Up Library sites and events, services delivered, and patrons served. At each event, RCL’s goal is to meet vital, lifelong learning needs and to cultivate continuing use of branch libraries and digital library resources.

Sites are selected to reach low-income residents, people of color including new immigrants, families, seniors, individuals transitioning from corrections, and individuals lacking awareness of the library’s resources. RCL develops Pop-Up Library plans in collaboration with community organizations—such as the Volunteers of America Minnesota Residential Re-entry Center, Adult Basic Education at Fairview Community Center, Maplewood Community Center, and others.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
To accept the Library Services Technology Act Grant by the Minnesota Department of Education in the amount of $40,846, and to authorize the Library Director to execute the Agreement.
Official Grant Award Notification

Grantee Information

Organization Name: Ramsey County – Ramsey County Library
Identified Official with Authority Name and Title: Jill Boldenow, Ramsey County Library Director
Address: 270 Courthouse
City/State/ZIP+4: St Paul, MN 55102
Phone and Email: 651-486-2201, jill.boldenow@rclreads.org

Grantee Project Staff

Program Contact Name: Jeff Eide
Phone and Email: 651-724-6061, jeide@rclreads.org
Business Manager or Accountant Name: Mary Larson
Phone and Email: 651-486-2203, mlarson@rclreads.org

Grant Project Title: Library Services Technology Act grant

Single Source  _____ Yes  ______ No

Funding/Encumbrance Information

GMS NUMBER:
SWIFT Contract Number: 134726
SWIFT Vendor Number: 0000196508-2
Purchase Order Number: 300001687
Funding Source/Legislative Authority: State of MN
Library Services Technology Act Five-Year Plan 2013-2017
Federal Award Number: LS-00-17-0024-17
Federal Award Year: 2017
Federal CFDA Number: 45.310
Grantee DUNS Number: 010354488
UFARS Finance Code Number: 01 F499
(for school districts and charter schools only)

State Fiscal Year: SFY2018
Fund: 3000
FinDeptID: E373C166
ApprEvid: E370670
Account: 441302
PC Bus Unit: E3701
Project ID: E3706717
Activity ID: C
Source: REIMB
Amount: $40,846.00
(should equal total award)
Award Period

Start Date: November 15, 2017
End Date: September 30, 2018
This is a one year grant.
Continuation grant awards ____ are / ____X____ are not an option.

Original/Initial Award: $40,846.00

MDE Authorized Representative
Name: Leah Larson
Division: Library Services
Phone: 651-582-8604
Email: leah.larson@state.mn.us

Grant Specialist
Name: Deb Rose
Division: Grant Services
Phone: 651-582-8853
Email: debra.rose@state.mn.us

Terms of Acceptance

This award is made with respect to the terms and conditions of the application materials for the identified grant project under which the grantee has an approved application and has agreed to the assurances, which are incorporated by reference herein. These materials are referred to as the "Application" throughout this Official Grant Award Notification (OGAN). By accepting this award the grantee agrees to comply with all provisions of the award including all assurances and certifications made in the Application and all applicable state or federal statutes, regulations and guidelines. The grantee agrees to administer the program in accordance with the approved Application, budget, timelines, and other supplemental information submitted in support of the approved Application. All terms not defined below are as set forth in the Application.

1. PURPOSE OF FUNDING/GRANT

➤ Subgoal 1.1: Support literacy, including but not limited to 21st century and digital literacy skills.

Subgoal 1.2: Provide educational opportunities for children from early learning through postsecondary, especially targeting children from birth through age 17 from families living in poverty or facing barriers including but not limited to language, race, ability, geography or access to resources such as technology.

Subgoal 1.3: Promote lifelong learning and continuing education, including the enhancement and expansion of services and resources relating to health, access to justice, workforce and community development in order to cultivate a more informed citizenry.
Subgoal 1.4: Promote training and professional development, including continuing education, to expand the current and future library workforce to support end user needs.

**PROGRAM REPORTING**

**Interim Progress Reports (IPR)**, summarizing grant activities and outcomes, including any data collected/requested related to the grant program, are due to MDE, as follows:

IPR must be received by April 30, 2018 for activities occurring for the grant period of November 15, 2017 – March 31, 2018.

**2. FINANCIAL REPORTING**

**Financial Reporting Forms (FRF)** summarizing grant expenditures to date, shall be submitted in the form and manner prescribed by MDE, as follows:

a) FRFs must be received according to the schedule below reporting expenditures incurred for the period

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2017 – December 31, 2017</td>
<td>January 31, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018</td>
<td>April 30, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1, 2018 – June 30, 2017</td>
<td>July 15, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1, 2018 – September 30, 2018</td>
<td>October 31, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b) If this grant goes beyond the state fiscal year end date of June 30 or ends June 30 of that state fiscal year, all expenditures incurred through June 30 must be submitted by July 15 of that same state fiscal year.

c) Expenditures incurred on or after July 1 must be submitted on a new and separate FRF.

d) Reimbursement of approved expenditures will be made based on expenditures reported on the FRF. Reimbursement for expenditures deemed allowable, allocable and reasonable will be made within 30 days of receipt of a request. Payments are subject to review of supporting documentation, if requested. The state reserves the right to withhold payment for any reimbursement request deemed to be in question of being allowable, allocable and reasonable, or for which adequate supporting documentation does not exist.

e) Reimbursement requests may be submitted no more frequently than once per month and no less frequently than quarterly unless otherwise stated in this OGAN.

f) Grantees must track the grant budget and record expenditures and reimbursement payments separately from their other organization budgets.

**3. FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION/MONITORING AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**
a) A financial reconciliation or desk review of reported expenditures to supporting documentation will occur at least once during the award period on grants that exceed $50,000. MDE will request supporting documentation for review and reconciliation of at least two (2) budget line item expenditures based on a financial reporting form (FRF) submitted by the grantee.

b) In the event a monitoring visit(s) is required by MDE, the grantee shall cooperate with MDE and shall comply with MDE’s request for documentation and other information, before, during and/or after the visit(s).

c) Financial documentation to support expenditures incurred under this award must be maintained by the grantee and provided to MDE upon request.

4. FINAL PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

Final Program and Financial Reporting Forms are due by October 30, 2018. Final reporting may include, but is not limited to, the following items:

a) A final program report summarizing activities completed, as requested by MDE, along with supporting data requested by the program staff or federal or state funding.

b) Final Financial Reporting Form (FRF) with a budget narrative describing expenditures.

c) Expenditure detail report, such as general ledger, from accounting system.

5. BUDGET AND/OR WORK PLAN REVISIONS

The grantee must receive prior written approval from MDE for any budgetary changes of approved line item amounts greater than 10 percent of the total grant award available for expenditure during the grant period. Total budget line item deviations exceeding 10 percent of the total award must be approved in writing by MDE prior to incurring the expenditure. In their request for approval the grantee must include supporting information to justify why the change is necessary. MDE is not legally obligated to approve expenditures incurred on budget line item changes that exceed 10 percent of the total award for which prior approval has not been granted. Grantee may not incur expenditures within a budget line item that is not included in the approved budget without the written approval of MDE.

6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation With or Without Cause. An award contract may be cancelled by the state at any time, with or without cause, upon thirty (30) days’ written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed and for approvable expenditures.
b) **Cancellation Due to Discontinued or Insufficient Funding.** It is expressly understood and agreed that in the event the funding to the state from Federal sources or appropriations by the Minnesota Legislature are not obtained and/or continued at an aggregate level sufficient to allow for the grantee’s program to continue operating, the grant shall immediately be terminated upon written notice by the state to the grantee. The state is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro-rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed and approvable expenditures incurred prior to termination to the extent that funds are available. The state will not be assessed any penalty if the grant is terminated because of a decision of the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source, not to appropriate funds. The state must provide the grantee notice within a reasonable time of the state receiving notice.

c) **Cancellation Due to Failure to Comply.** The state may cancel an award contract immediately if the state finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of an award, that reasonable progress has not been made or that the purposes for which the funds were awarded/granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The state may take action to protect the interests of the state of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

d) **Termination of Grant.** This grant agreement which is subject to Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.97 and 16B.98 will be terminated if:

1) the recipient is convicted of a criminal offense relating to a state grant agreement; or

2) the agency entering into the grant agreement or the commissioner of administration determines that the grant recipient is under investigation by a federal agency, a state agency, or a local law enforcement agency for matters relating to administration of a state grant.

8. **AMENDMENTS**

Any amendments to this award shall be in writing and shall be executed by the same parties who executed the original award, or their successors. An amendment must be requested 45 days prior to the end date of the award period and is valid and effective upon written approval from the MDE authorized representative or their delegate. No amendments will be considered on expired grant awards.
MDE Signatures

I, the Authorized Representative, acknowledge by signing below that I have reviewed all documentation and documents related to this award to ensure that adequate oversight and appropriate internal controls to properly administer grant funds have been measured.

Leah Larson
Authorized Representative Name and Signature

11/8/17
Date

I, the division director, by signing below verify that agency policies and procedures were followed in the awarding of this grant and do hereby approve this award and attest to the Authorized Representative’s review of said documentation and documents related to this award.

Jennifer Nelson
Division Director Name and Signature

11-8-17
Date

I hereby certify that funds have been encumbered as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.15 and 16C.05. (Signature is for current fiscal year only.)

Joel Borghen
Encumbrance Agent Name and Signature

11/15/17
Date

As representative of the Minnesota Department of Education, I hereby certify that this award notification and release of funds are therefore approved, legal, binding and valid.

Andre Prahl
Authorized Representative Name and Signature

11/15/17
Date
Request for Library Board Action

Meeting Date
December 13, 2017

Action Requested
Approval

Presented By
Jill Boldenow, Library Director

SUBJECT:
Internet Access Policy

BACKGROUND:
Public policies are brought to the Library Board every year on a scheduled basis. Last year, public policy review was deferred with the change in library directors, resulting in a several policies submitted for Board review in 2017.

This month, staff is recommending updates to the Internet Access Policy.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
To approve the recommended changes to the Internet Access policy.
Internet Access

Approved by:
Library Board
Approved Date:
Wednesday, April 16, 2008
Reviewed Date:
Wednesday, November 16, 2011
Review Schedule:
Every 5 years
Next Review Date:
2016

As part of its ongoing mission to provide the public with the broadest possible spectrum of educational and recreational materials, Ramsey County Library offers public access to the internet. Internet resources are, by their nature, not subject to the Library’s traditional procedures for selection of materials. The Library filters internet resources in order to block obscene content. The Library does not accept responsibility for any information found on the internet including, but not limited to, inaccurate, outdated, or offensive information.

Requirements for Acceptable Use of the Internet
The Library requires that internet users shall:

- Display or access material in accordance with copyright laws and database license agreements.
- Make use of Library hardware and software in a responsible manner that does not deliberately disrupt or degrade the integrity of data, or compromise technical performance standards of the Library’s computer system.
- Refrain from activity that deliberately seeks to create a threatening or hostile environment for staff or other library users. Such activity includes, but is not limited to, the use of shared printers to reproduce offensive material from the internet, if this action has the effect of creating a threatening or hostile environment for a reasonable person.
- Refrain from any online or other activity prohibited by state or federal law.

Disclaimer
Ramsey County Library expects all persons who access the internet through its facilities to conduct themselves in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. In particular, this means that internet users will comply with laws governing obscenity, child pornography and materials harmful to minors.
Ramsey County Library does not accept responsibility for any damage caused or incurred by persons who choose to access the internet through the Library. In particular, the public is advised that the Library cannot protect the privacy of data that is transmitted to third parties via the internet.

**Internet filtering**
As provided by law, any Library patron who is 17 years or older may request that filtering software at a Library workstation be temporarily disabled on an individual basis without offering any explanation or justification, other than proof of age. Due to technical limitations, the Library will not disable filtering on its wireless network.

Despite efforts of staff and filtering software developers, no filtering software is infallible. Constitutionally permitted material may occasionally be blocked by our filters, and proscribed material may occasionally evade the filters. For these reasons, Library users must exercise their own judgment in undertaking internet usage. In all cases, whether filtering is or is not in place, individuals who access the internet through the Library shall conform to legal and procedural requirements outlined in the Disclaimer and in the Requirements for Acceptable Use of the Internet as listed in this policy.

**Limitations on Use**
Individual branches may place limitations on time and manner of internet use, in order to regulate internet access as equitably as possible, and to respect the rights and concerns of all Library users.

**Children’s Use**
The Library recognizes that the responsibility for the guidance and regulation of a child’s use of the internet lies with the parent or caregiver. For that reason, the Library urges caregivers to work with their children to foster productive and satisfactory online experiences.

As a convenience to caregivers, individual branches may establish certain additional guidelines governing manner and time of use for internet terminals that are specially designated for use by children and caregivers.

**Failure to Comply**
Failure to comply with the regulations of this Internet Access policy may result in loss of access to Library services and facilities. Appropriate legal sanctions will be used against those who willfully violate the provisions of this policy.
SUBJECT:
Library Board Self-Evaluation

BACKGROUND:
The Library Board conducts a self-evaluation at the end of each year. Attached are the results from a survey of Board members in December, 2017.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
For information and discussion.
1. Please indicate your level of satisfaction in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Very dissatisfied</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structuring discussions and presentations to keep our conversations</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at a strategic level during board meetings.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulfilling our fiduciary duties (using care, acting in the best</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interest of the organization, adhering to appropriate laws, etc.).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fostering an environment that builds trust and respect among board</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>members.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allotting sufficient time for questions, participation and</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>discussion during board meetings.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effective and efficient use of committees to further our work.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

- Only committee is personnel committee at this point.
- I see board meetings and related minutes as a super way to stay apprised of relevant trends and to learn about the operations of the library. That said, there is minimal relevance to or value associated with the board's role, now that the 10-year capital campaign is complete. Most of my satisfaction in serving stems from service being largely what I make it.

2. Please indicate your level of satisfaction in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Very dissatisfied</th>
<th>Dissatisfied</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your understanding of our history, mission, strategies and values.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your sense of contribution in furthering the strategic priorities of</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsey County Library.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board leadership’s receptivity to your ideas or concerns.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extent to which we are utilizing your skills and experiences.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The extent to which you find serving on the Board of Directors a</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>satisfying and rewarding experience.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

- The strongest guideline I've received from RCL is the "Five Leadership Roles for Library Trustees" article by the Urban Libraries Council given to me as part of my board member orientation. Overall, as a board entity, there is little authority or political impact afforded to the board.
- It is a great board to be on. I like it that I don’t feel the board is controlled by one or two people.
- Our meetings tend to have less meat for board discussion this year.
Ramsey County Library Board Self-Evaluation 2017

3. What do you like best about serving on this board?
   • I am proud of our superior staff and all they accomplish. I try hard to attend assorted events to show support. I'd like to see more board members at programs, employee inservice day and Friends events.
   • The work we do to support the Ramsey County Libraries Director & staff in their efforts to serve county residents/patrons.
   • Being able to facilitate the ability of residents to access information, IT, job information, etc.
   • I appreciate the access to personnel and information board service provides that enhances by ability to be a proactive liaison to the community.
   • You can see change by what you are doing.
   • I love our libraries! And the role we play in the community!

4. What changes might you suggest to make board meetings more informative, motivating or enjoyable?
   • I wish we had more opportunities to work together on an issue/idea/collaborate. Strategic planning next year should give us some opportunities.
   • None.
   • Perhaps we could have something along the line of study sessions (when our schedule permits) to better understand the issues facing libraries.
   • Put more of a 'human face' to board meetings by inviting people described in retirement proclamations or employees of all levels to share and be acknowledged for their efforts. Every meeting could have at least one new person whose contribution enriches the board dialogue.
   • Cocktails?
   • More strategic discussion and learning

5. Do you have suggestions about how the board receives and responds to public input?
   • Can we please experiment with having public comment at the end of meeting? This would allow management staff to go home after a long day. I thoroughly dislike public speaking on topics on our agenda before we have discussed the item. And be firm about how long each individual speaks.
   • Having public comments in meetings and providing opportunities for Ramsey County residents to address concerns or to make recommendations is sufficient at this time.
   • I don't, but I feel as though there has to be a better way.
   • I often find myself grappling to understand people's points. I would recommend they be asked to state their assertion up front, before offering evidence. Also, it would be interesting if the board could be supplied more information about any 'suggestion boxes' or unsolicited feedback received during the course of the month through phone, email or in person discussions from the general public for taking note of.
   • No I know we need to do it.
   • We get really good data from our formal studies. Are we still getting suggestions in settings other than the board meetings?

6. What are the two or three key areas the board should focus on in the next year to improve its performance?
   • With potentially 2 or more new board members, we need to put less items in the consent agenda. It feels like key topics often aren't even discussed.
   • Maintain an open channel of communication with the Libraries Director. Develop a strategic plan that will support of the libraries long term.
   • I would like to spend time working on how the board evaluates the Director's work and making that process an ongoing one, with the year-end evaluation being the final chapter rather than the entire book.
Foster more board member commitment & dedication to purpose/mission (not only is this up to the board, but also county management). Not until this happens will a foundation will be in place on which performance can be improved.

Work more on the forgotten libraries; Mounds View and North St. Paul. They seem like the poor cousins.

Offer study sessions on key issues that the board might need to discuss in the future -- so board members can be well versed when the need arises. Spend time discussing what the future holds for libraries, and how we are positioning ourselves to be ready for that.

7. Are there any areas in which you feel you could add more value? What would need to happen for that to occur?

- Meet individually with new board members. I think a short retreat to get to know each other better and connect with new board members would be helpful.
- No, I feel satisfied with my work in the board.
- No.
- Be present as a board rep. for a kindergarten reading card party or special exhibition of some kind for teens .... maybe contribute an article to a newsletter. To do these things, however, I would appreciate an 'exchange of value' either monetary, a kind of small, legal reward or a higher level of deference to the recommendations and ideas I put forth .... Here's one-- have a 'Board member reads a story day' to simultaneously serve and let people know who represents them at their 'library home.' :-)  
- It's too late for me but on one MN St board I was a public member. I took what the board did and addressed the issues and solutions as to how would John Smith feel about this.

8. Is there anything else you'd like to say?

- Thank you.
- I appreciate the work of the other board members, particularly Jan & Kim.
- Everything I've offered in this survey is predicated on the relationship between the county and myself as a board member being more of a two-way street with increased give and take. I see Director Boldenow as good a person as any to help with this, but the county structure has its real and imagined ways of tamping people down and squashing their creativity & public spirit. Please consider sharing the results of this survey with the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- It has been an honor to serve on this board.
Request for Library Board Action

SUBJECT:
Caféine Thai Café

BACKGROUND:
The Caféine Thai Café at Maplewood Library is closed November and December, 2017, at the request of the owners, Sanook, LLC. The Library agreed to the closure but did not agree to waive the rent for these months. On November 21, 2017, Sanook, LLC notified the Library that they will not pay rent for November or December until the café reopens.

The Library will respond with a letter proposing a late payment schedule and terms. The Library is working with the Ramsey County Attorney’s office on this matter.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
For information and discussion.
TRENDS IN THE SERVICE AREA

- Shoreview characteristics include a natural setting of lakes and open spaces, well-educated and involved residents, and a strong business community, which is home to many national corporations.
- The Shoreview Community Center is undergoing extensive renovation. The project will add 5,000 square feet to the Tropics Indoor Waterpark, as well a 15,000 square-foot addition adjacent to the gymnasium.
- After extensive renovation of the building, the Mounds View Public Schools District Office has moved to the old Shoreview Library at 4570 Victoria St. N.
- The city of Shoreview is working on Destination Shoreview, 2040, its new comprehensive plan which is a reflection of the community’s social and economic values and is used as the vision and policy guide for development in Shoreview.

LIBRARY ISSUES AND SERVICE TRENDS

- The new library in Shoreview opened in January 2017. The first year of the new library has gone very smoothly. Staff and patrons alike have quickly grown accustomed to our new building, as well as the added hours and staff.
- Automated Material Handling system immediately checks in returns, adds efficiency to circulation processes. Single floor construction creates more efficient work for staff.
- Our new building has allowed us to increase our programming. New programs for adults in 2017 included Creative Memory Café, Knit for Good, Great Films, Brain Fitness, Dementia Friends, a Naturalization Ceremony, Sensory-Friendly Programming, an Autism Book Club, Powerful Tools for Caregivers, and several well-attended historical programs.
- Children’s programming was very successful. In addition to our well-attended storytimes, we offered Brains, Toddler Obstacle Course, Toddler Dance Party, Family Fort Night, Captain Underpants party, Star Wars Reads Day, STEM programs, passive programs, a host of wildly popular Summer Reading Programs and two absolutely packed Eclipse programs, initiated by Children’s Librarian Angie Miller. We also have a strong partnership with the Shoreview Community Center’s Summer Discovery Program, which brought about 200 children to the library each week in the summer.
- Our Teen programming, provided by new Teen Librarian Paige Fuller, included weekly sessions of Game Night and Brain Box, as well as Teen Tech Camp, Young Lenses Camp, a summer book club, Library After Dark, Urban 4H Steam, and D&D afternoons.
- Ramsey County piloted early voting at the Shoreview and White Bear Lake libraries in October/November 2017 and Shoreview had the highest voter turnout of any Ramsey County Early Voting location.
- Our Sensory-Friendly Comfort Room has been fitted with furniture, white noise machine, soothing lights, fidgets and a variety of comfort objects.
- Art has been added to the library, which includes botanical prints by Linda Snouffer, bright and colorful works by Emmy White and Janine Olmscheid, pottery by Paul Gaston, a painting by Yudong Shen, a photograph by Jim Radford, historical photographs provided by the Shoreview Historical Society, and a commissioned collage artwork by Kristi Abbott.
LIBRARY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Number of weekly storytimes, book clubs or other on-going programs
- Two Storytimes per week – Family and Baby & Me
- Two Teen programs per week – Game Night and Brain Box
- One Drop-In Computer and Tech Help lab per week
- One Conversation Circle for New English Language Learner per week
- One Knit for Good session per week
- Four Book Clubs held monthly: Fiction, 2 Mystery, Poetry Circle
- Lego Club and Open Chess held monthly
- Paws to Read held frequently

What is special and important about the library
- Floor to ceiling windows, rich walnut wood details, and a fireplace provide a warm and welcoming environment. A wood laptop bar and bench made of reclaimed oaks from the building site spans the west wall. Study tables and groups of comfortable seating create suitable spaces for browsing, reading, group study or individual work. The children’s area includes Minnesota Children’s Museum pre-literacy interactive installations, dedicated computers and is well stocked with books, DVDs and CDs. The teen area features a spacious lounge area, media lab and computers. A gallery in the Community Program Room provides art display space including regular exhibitions by Gallery 96, a local nonprofit art collective.

- Built using SB 2030 guidelines, the library has many energy-saving features, including underfloor air distribution that provides heating and cooling via floor diffusers, LED interior and exterior lighting, daylighting sensors that turn down lights at the perimeter when not needed, and efficient mechanical and electrical systems.

Additional amenities include
- Keurig coffee bar in lobby
- Friends bookstore features books and other materials for sale
- 9 public restroom stalls available throughout library with handicapped accessibility and changing tables
- New collections such as Binge Boxes (collections of DVDs on a particular topic or series), Memory Minders Caregiver Kits (selection of materials for people caring for a loved one with dementia)

Collection Highlights
- The library has an extensive collection of mystery and travel books, along with classic and contemporary DVDs, video games, and talking books.
- $50,000 worth of Opening Day collection materials were added in 2016-17, with more to come.
- Atrium area features ample display area for new books and staff recommendations
- Easy access to large type, talking books on cd, and special collections

Key Partnerships
- Shoreview Human Rights Commission
- Autism Society of Minnesota
- Career and Life Transition Program (Mounds View Schools)
- Green Card Voices
- Gallery 96
- Harriet G. Walker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
- League of Women Voters
- Shoreview Press
- Scandia Shores of Shoreview
- Shoreview Community Foundation
- Shoreview Historical Society
**SHOREVIEW AT A GLANCE**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>YEAR BUILT</strong></td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SQUARE FEET</strong></td>
<td>38,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **DAYS OPEN**    | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
                  | Fri, Sat 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
                  | Sun 12 - 5 p.m.  |
| **HOURS/WEEK**   | 63    |

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS</strong></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRINT COLLECTION SIZE</strong></td>
<td>88,795</td>
</tr>
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<p>| | |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAFF FTE</strong></td>
<td>12.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL STAFF</strong></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VOLUNTEER HOURS</strong></td>
<td>2,733</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CIRCULATION</strong></td>
<td>646,861</td>
<td>655,816</td>
<td>594,303</td>
<td>481,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILDREN’S CIRCULATION</strong></td>
<td>265,789</td>
<td>283,638</td>
<td>266,139</td>
<td>218,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(TOTAL # AND % OF TOTAL CIRC)</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REFERENCE</strong></td>
<td>41,925</td>
<td>34,411</td>
<td>32,578</td>
<td>29,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMPUTER HOURS USED</strong></td>
<td>18,817</td>
<td>20,689</td>
<td>20,692</td>
<td>15,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WIRELESS USERS</strong></td>
<td>12,326</td>
<td>18,704</td>
<td>22,515</td>
<td>27,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANNUAL VISITS</strong></td>
<td>239,068</td>
<td>242,687</td>
<td>226,231</td>
<td>192,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILDREN’S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE</strong></td>
<td>8,913</td>
<td>9,659</td>
<td>8,632</td>
<td>7,927</td>
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<td>584</td>
<td>785</td>
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Library puts finishing touches on its walls

By Sara Marie Moore/Editor  Nov 14, 2017

SHOREVIEW — Over the last several months the new library has been putting the finishing touches on its walls with local art.

Many of the pieces were purchased or commissioned by Ramsey County Library - Shoreview with funds raised by the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for the library’s capital campaign, Friends Executive Director Cyndi Cook said.

The artwork is diverse — inspirations and subject matter range from wetlands and cityscapes in Shoreview to library and book-themed. Several artists are from Shoreview and Vadnais Heights; all are from the metro area.
A photograph of Island Lake in Shoreview taken by Jim Radford greets visitors at the library's entrance.
Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

Shoreview photograph greets visitors

At the entrance to the library is a metal print of a photograph of Slice of Shoreview Days at Island Lake by Jim Radford, of Shoreview. Funds for the piece were donated in honor of longtime Friend member Nancy Guerino.

Radford took the photo of the moon over the lake during the city festival in 2016 using a long exposure. Radford, who displays his photography in restaurants locally and across the metro several times a year, said he is honored the library sought out his work.

“It is really a great place to put art — in a library,” he noted. Surrounded by written art in the form of books, visual art fits in nicely, he explained.

Radford has been a photographer since he was 12 but ramped up his hobby when he retired from 3M. He specializes in outdoor scenic photography and sells his work.
A collage near the entrance by the coffee maker includes motifs of Shoreview landmarks.

Submitted

**Community collage over coffee**

Near the entrance to the library above the coffee maker, a collage piece by Kristi Abbott will be up on the wall soon, said Library Manager Carol Jackson.

Within the collage can be seen Shoreview Mayor Sandy Martin, the Shoreview flag, a water tower, historical buildings, the farmers market, flags from large immigrant groups and many other local motifs. A key to the collage will be posted next to it.

Abbott is well known for a similar type of piece she created of Prince. She has also been commissioned to make the 2018 State Fair poster. Abbott has a studio in Lowertown St. Paul.

In the community room, a painting by Yudong Shen says hello in several languages.

Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

**Bringing community together across cultures**
In the community room is a painting by Yudong Shen, of Shoreview.

The art piece he created, “Unlimited,” represents how libraries bring together people from various cultures and the unlimited possibilities people from different backgrounds can create together as they contribute to the community, he said.

“(A) library is the home that unites us all,” Shen said. Within the painting of a river flowing from a Roman building is the word for “hello” in four languages, including English, Spanish, Chinese and Hindi. More languages are in the background, he noted. Also included are the Chinese characters for “peace,” “love” and “never give up.”

The piece was donated by the local Chinese community. Shen owns Mei Lin Art Studio in Shoreview.

**Watercolor pieces by Emmy White, displayed in the children’s area, inspire children to read.**

Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

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**Children and animals read books**

In the children’s area near the computer space are four paintings of children reading books with a bear, an elephant and friends or family.

Emmy White, of Minneapolis, said she made the varnished watercolor pieces with young children in mind. She made the pieces with spray varnish so they would not need to have glass on top, which would reflect near the windows. Her son makes wooden shadowbox frames for her work.

“I’ve been painting really almost all my life,” White said. When she retired from nursing she started taking classes and took her hobby to another level.

**Pottery accents shelves**

Four pottery pieces by Paul Gaston, of Vadnais Heights, fill shelves by the large print and talking books.
A light cream Raku-fired piece represents the beginning of the library system, Gaston said. It was heated to 1,500 to 2,000 degrees outside to complete the glazing process. The natural, organic process represents a beginning, he noted.

Two other tall pieces are porcelain and a short, oval-shaped piece is earthenware, which is usually fired below 1,200 degrees.

“All of them represent new beginnings for the library and community,” Gaston said.

Gaston has been a potter for 35 years and has a studio in his garage. Gaston is a member of Gallery 96, is on the White Bear Center for the Arts board and has also taught pottery in the past.
Collage pieces by Janine Olmscheid are in the book club room.

Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

Peacock room gets a peacock interpretation

Janine Olmscheid, of Shoreview, made multimedia pieces for the book club room.

Olmscheid said the first piece, a giraffe surrounded by books and card catalogs with a hidden map of Shoreview, was noticed by library staff at a Gallery 96 exhibition. The library art committee asked to purchase it and asked her to make two more pieces for the book club room, which was sponsored by the Peacock family.

Olmscheid said she doesn’t know the Peacock family but was inspired to make her second piece a peacock interpretation, a girl with blue butterfly wings. There is also a peacock on the left side among some books and a peacock print in her dress and the border. A third piece follows a similar theme with books and butterfly wings.

Encouraging people to take a closer look is what Olmscheid enjoys about her collage artwork, which she has been making for about 10 years.
Five botanical prints by Linda Snouffer on the west wall were made from grasses across Highway 96.
Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

**Wetland grasses grace a wall**

Five botanical prints made out of grass from Grass Lake in Shoreview grace the west wall of the library near the hydro fireplace. They were made by Linda Snouffer, of St. Paul. To make the piece, she placed ink on grasses and pressed them onto tissue paper with a pigment infusion.

The five pieces have 500 prints of individual grasses, she said. They range from a few inches to 5 feet tall. The tallest ones are from Grass Lake across Highway 96 and she also gathered grasses from other areas.

“I got as many varieties from across the street as I could,” she noted. It took 150 hours for Snouffer to make. It was her largest commissioned piece, and she had to move to a larger studio to work with the large grasses, she said. She has been working as an artist for 10 years.

**Additional art fills the library**

The art committee still has plans for additional artwork in the teen meeting room and comfort room, Cook said. Photographs from the Shoreview Historical Society will also be going up in the library’s study rooms.

Gallery 96, located in Shoreview, also donated funds for rotating art display hangers in the community room, Jackson said. The gallery will do two to three displays per year and other groups will also use the wall; the library hopes to partner with local schools to display art from local youth.

Finishing touches to graphic illustrations in the entryway and children’s area were also completed this month. The inspirations from Minnesota children’s authors are part of HGA Architects’ design for the building and were chosen by children’s librarian Angie Miller.

At the library’s entrance is a tree full of owls, a graphic illustration on glass adapted from “Twelve Owls” by Minnesota author Laura Erickson and illustrator Betsy Bowen. Near the checkout area and
entrance to the children's area is a display from “Swirl by Swirl,” a children’s book written by Minnesotan Joyce Sidman and illustrated by Beth Krommes. Inside the children’s area is a graphic from “On the Day You Were Born” by Minnesota author and illustrator Debra Frasier.

Shoreview editor Sara Marie Moore can be reached at 651-407-1235 or shoreviewnews@presspubs.com.
AIA Minnesota Announces Thirteen 2017 Honor Award Recipients

Tagged: AIA Minnesota (http://www.aia-mn.org/tag/aia-minnesota/), Firm Award (http://www.aia-mn.org/tag/firm-award/)
For high-resolution images of individual projects, contact Sheri Hansen (mailto:hansen@aia-mn.org).

MINNEAPOLIS, November 16, 2017 - The American Institute of Architects - Minnesota (AIA Minnesota) honored thirteen projects with 2017 Honor Awards. The awards were announced today at the AIA Minnesota Conference on Architecture. The Honor Awards recognize outstanding architecture designed by AIA Minnesota members and member architecture firms.

87 projects were submitted in 2017, and were evaluated in five categories: architecture; interiors; renovation and restoration; and urban design and master planning. Entries are evaluated by three internationally-renowned architects for their degree of design invention, attention to detail, advancement of sustainable design and other factors.

The 2017 Honor Awards jury included Wendell Burnette, FAIA, founder of Wendell Burnette Architects, Phoenix, Arizona; Mimi Hoang, AIA, principal of nARCHITECTS and adjunct assistant professor at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, New York City; and Hao Ko, AIA, design director for the architecture practice at Gensler, San Francisco, California.

Honor Award recipients will receive their awards at the annual AIA Minnesota Awards Dinner on December 8, 2017 at International Market Square in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Learn more about the Honor Awards here (http://www.aia-mn.org/get-involved/aia-minnesota-awards/honor-awards/).

2017 Honor Award Recipients:

Upcoming Events

Awards Celebration (http://www.aia-mn.org/event/awards-2/)
Friday, December 8
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
International Market Square, Minneapolis (https://www.google.com/maps/place/International+Market+Squ./@44.980421,-93.289648,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!)

AIA Minnesota Closed for Holiday (http://www.aia-mn.org/event/aia-minnesota-office-closed-thanksgiving-2/)
Friday, November 24
12:00 am - 11:59 pm

AIA Minnesota Closed for Holiday (http://www.aia-mn.org/event/aia-minnesota-office-closed-thanksgiving/)
Thursday, November 23
12:00 am - 11:59 pm

Features

AIA Minnesota Announces Thirteen 2017 Honor Award Recipients (http://www.aia-mn.org/honor-award-2017/)
Project name: Deloia
Location: Duluth, Minnesota
Client: Linda Deloia
Firm of record: Salmela Architect
Project partners: Travis Van Liere Studio (landscape architect); Meyer Borgman Johnson (structural engineer); and Rod & Sons Carpentry, Inc. (general contractor)
Photo credit: Corey Gaffer

Project name: Faulkner Performing Arts Center
Location: University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Client: University of Arkansas
Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers
Project partners: Allison + Partners (associate architect); Manhattan Construction Company (construction contractor); Jaffe Holden Acoustics, Inc. (acoustics/AV); Schuler Shook, Inc. (theater); Development Consultants (civil engineer); TME Consulting Engineers (MEP/fire protection); and Cromwell Architects Engineers (energy)
Photo credit: Paul Crosby

Project name: Huss Center for the Performing Arts
Location: St. Paul, Minnesota
Client: St. Paul Academy and Summit School
Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers
Project partners: McGough Construction Co., Inc. (general contractor); NTH (owner’s representative); HGA Architects and Engineers (structural engineer, civil engineer); Michaud Cooley Erickson (mechanical engineer, lighting designer); Schuler Shook (lighting designer, theater); and Acoustic Distinctions (acoustics)
Photo credit: Richard Brine

Project name: Hyttinen Cabin
Location: St. Louis County, Minnesota
Client: Shelly Hyttinen
Firm of record: Salmela Architect
Project partners: Rod & Sons Carpentry, Inc. (general contractor); and Meyer Borgman Johnson (structural engineer)
Photo credit: Paul Crosby

Project name: La Mesita
Location: Oaxaca, Mexico
Client: San Pablo Etla
Firm of record: Locus Architecture with RAW Workshop
Photo credit: Paul Neseth

Project name: Lofts at Mayo Park
Location: Rochester, Minnesota
Client: Helen Roland, GFP Trust
Firm of record: Snow Kreilich Architects
Project partners: Meyer Borgman Johnson (structural engineer); Coen + Partners (landscape architecture); Pierce Pini + Associates (civil engineering); J-Berd Mechanical Contractors, Inc. (mechanical, plumbing and
fire protection); Berd Electric (electrical engineers); and Welsh Construction
(general contractor)
Photo credit: Corey Gaffer

**Project name: Mill Street Parking Structure**
Location: Wayzata, Minnesota
Client: City of Wayzata
Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers
Project partners: Adolfson & Peterson Construction (general contractor);
TEGRA Group (owner’s representative); and Walker Parking Consultants
(parking consultant)
Photo credit: Peter J. Sieger

**Project name: Minnesota State Capitol—Restoration**
Location: St. Paul, Minnesota
Client: State of Minnesota
Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers
Project partners: JE Dunn Construction (construction manager at risk); CPMI,
Inc. (owner’s project representative); MOCA (owner’s program manager);
Schooley Caldwell Associates (historic design and planning); Wiss, Janney,
Elstner Associates, Inc. (stone and copper technical); Roof Spec, Inc. (roof
consultants); Luken Architecture, PA (HSR support and historic hardware);
VDA, Inc. (elevator) Schuler Shook (chamber lighting design); Summit Fire
Protection (fire sprinkler and code review support); Rozin Security Consulting
LLC (security evaluation and report); GA Design Architecture and Planning
(BIM and architectural support); Elert & Associates (DAS system); ESI
Engineering (acoustics); William Seale (historian); Salmi Wayfinding (signage
consultant); and LV Engineering LLC (schematic plumbing design)
Photo credit: Paul Crosby

**Project name: Q Wood and Steel**
Location: Togo, Minnesota
Client: Ahles/Hill
Firm of record: Kara Hill Studio
Project partners: Nelson Wood Products; ADT Contracting, LLC; and
SteelMaster Buildings
Photo credit: Loren Ahles

**Project name: Ramsey County Library—Shoreview**
Location: Shoreview, Minnesota
Client: Ramsey County Libraries
Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers
Project partners: Adolfson & Peterson Construction (general contractor); and
ESI Engineering (acoustician)
Photo credit: Paul Crosby

**Project name: Straight River Northbound Safety Rest Area**
Location: Owatonna, Minnesota
Client: Minnesota Department of Transportation
Firm of record: Snow Kreilich Architects
Project partners: MBJ/Murphy Curran (structural engineering); Stantec
Consulting Services (civil engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical
engineering); Coen + Partners (landscape architects); HZ United, LLC (noise analysis); Braun (geothermal consultant); CPMI (cost estimating); The Joseph Company, Inc. (general contractor); Heselton Construction, LLC (earthwork); Evenson Concrete Systems, Inc. (concrete); MG McGrath Architectural Surfaces (metal panel); Twin City Tile and Marble Company (ceramic tile); Ford Metro, Inc. (storefront and doors); Viracon (custom-fitted glass); Wausau (site furniture); Landscape Structures, Inc. (play equipment); Hoffman & McNamara Co. (landscape contractor); and Prairie Restorations, Inc. (prairie plantings)

Photo credit: Corey Gaffer

**Project name: Walker Art Center Expansion**

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Client: Walker Art Center

Firm of record: HGA Architects and Engineers

Project partners: M.A. Mortenson Co. (general contractor); HGA Architects and Engineers (structural engineer, mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, civil engineer, landscape architect); Taylor and Miller Architecture and Design (lighting designer); Inside Outside (landscape architect); and Water In Motion, Inc. (irrigation designer)

Photo credit: Paul Crosby

**Project name: Wayzata Residence**

Location: Wayzata, Minnesota

Client: Confidential

Firm of record: Snow Kreilich Architects

Project partners: Ericksen Roed & Associates, Inc. (project consultant); and Welch Forsman Associates, Inc. (contractor)

Photo credit: Paul Crosby

The American Institute of Architects Minnesota, founded in 1892, is dedicated to strengthening our communities, improving our built environment and providing exceptional design. For more information on the organization and Minnesota architectural firms, reference our website (http://www.aiamn.org/), visit our Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/aiaminnesota/) page and pick up a copy of Architecture MN (http://www.aiamn.org/features/architecture-mn-magazine/), our award-winning magazine.
Opinuendo: On mitten makers, the return of ’68, a sister city and more ....

By PIONEER PRESS EDITORIAL BOARD | Pioneer Press
PUBLISHED: November 24, 2017 at 12:49 am | UPDATED: November 25, 2017 at 9:00 pm

MARVELOUS MITTEN MAKERS

Our holiday celebration of giving thanks is also a time for saying thanks. The St. Paul school district does so on its website in a report on community members who devote time and resources to aid students and their families. It highlights “a few of these special relationships,” as well as opportunities to help at spps.org/partnerprojects111617.

Among those spotlighted are the Marvelous Mitten Makers, a group that has been knitting, crocheting and sewing for district students for more than 30 years.

The effort involves 120 volunteers who create mittens, hats, scarves and other cold-weather items for students. This year, the volunteers, aided by the district’s Office of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships, distributed more than 13,000 cold-weather items to more than 40 schools and programs, according to the district.

“The students get so excited when they receive their hand-made hats and mittens,” the report quotes Heather Kilgore, interim director of the partnerships office, saying. “It’s so special for them to know that someone spent hours knitting their mittens and that people in the community really care about them having warm clothes for the cold Minnesota winter.”
A replica of that city’s famed Aiwan Pavilion will be a focal point of a planned St. Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden in Phalen Regional Park. It’s intended to help connect Hmong people in Minnesota with their ancestral home in south central China, a city that now is home to 7 million people.

In the exchange to take place in 2018, St. Paul will send five statues of “Peanuts” characters based on the cartoon creations of St. Paul native Charles Schulz.

Last week’s Maplewood Review provides an update: The statues, to be finished in a few weeks, were cast from the same molds used to create the “Peanuts on Parade” statues on display around town in summer civic promotions during the early 2000s. Staff writer Marjorie Otto reports that five characters are bound for China: Charlie Brown, Linus, Snoopy, Lucy and Snoopy’s doghouse.

Lucy will be painted wearing traditional Hmong clothing, and Snoopy’s doghouse will be decorated with Minnesota images, including a loon, pink lady’s slippers and monarch butterflies, according to the report.

**NUMBERS TO KNOW**

The Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries — the nonprofit that supports branches in Maplewood, Mounds View, New Brighton, North St. Paul, Roseville, Shoreview and White Bear Lake — reports some impressive numbers about the system. According to its 2016 year in review:

- 16,886 new patrons registered for library cards.
- 3.8 million items were checked out.
- Children’s librarians provided 657 story-time sessions with attendance of more than 31,000.
- 275,860 reference questions were answered.
- There were more than 2 million visits to the library’s website.
- Library computers were used for Internet access for 254,129 hours.
- 321 conversation circle programs were held to help people practice English skills.

**THE BIG SHIP**
EAST METRO

Roseville panel discussion on race sparks growing community conversation series

More discussions are scheduled for 2018.

By James Walsh (http://www.startribune.com/james-walsh/10646161/) Star Tribune

DECEMBER 1, 2017 — 10:52PM

It was after the July 2016 shooting of Philando Castile by a St. Anthony police officer, and Roseville resident Nyia Harris wanted her community to hear the perspective of black men — regarding policing, bias, everyday life.

So she went to Do Good Roseville and pitched “Ask a Black Man,” a February panel discussion and question-and-answer session that ended with a standing ovation by its audience of 100 people.

“I wanted black male voices to be out there,” said Harris, a mother of two and a part-time teaching assistant at her children’s school. “But I was going to be one and done.”

Not so fast. The enthusiastic response by the public that night, and a continued hunger for honest conversation, has instead fueled continuing conversations that show no signs of abating.

Ask a Black Man led to Ask a Black Man-Part 2 — which included three white men on the panel. That led to Ask a Muslim Woman, Ask a Community Youth and Ask a Veteran. In 2018, planned panels include Ask A Dreamer, Ask A Muslim Woman-Part 2, Ask An Adoptive Parent and Ask a LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual).

Harris serves as the moderator. Each panel discussion includes questions submitted on note cards from the audience, which has ranged from 60 to nearly 200 people. All she asks is that people be civil and respectful. They have been, she said, thanks in part to the presence of community access television.

“It feels like it’s turning into a thing,” said Harris, whose husband was a member of the first two panels.

The growth of the “Ask” panels delights Kathy Ramundt and Sherry Sanders, founders of Do Good Roseville, a grass-roots community organization founded in 2015 to share ideas and allow Roseville residents to get involved and have an impact on their community.

“It really has taken off,” Ramundt said. “I just think the time is right, right now. People are interested, more so than at any other time.”

Said Sanders: “We’ve always believed that you have an idea that can build community, bring it. People need to hear other people.”

The result has been that in a little more than two years, Do Good Roseville has expanded from a group that collected coats, hats and mittens for children in need to partnering with the Ramsey County Library, area churches and the YMCA to host discussions on topics of intense local and national interest.

“It was not the original idea to have a social justice group,” Sanders said, pointing to early efforts for a volunteer fair and community gardens. “What’s cool about what we are doing is it’s just the three of us. And if we think of something interesting, we can
make it happen.”

Harris, who has also hosted an art show on race, never intended to become a conduit for such serious discussions. But the native of Apple Valley said her family has come to love Roseville, and she's gratified that she and her friends are helping get people talking. Even if it was sparked by the tragedy of Castile's shooting.

“I'm a resident who cares,” she said. “And I don't see an end in sight.”
Ramsey County shifts manager to lead economic growth team

By FREDERICK MELO | fmelo@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press
December 4, 2017 at 1:22 pm

Ramsey County continues the reorganization of its top administrative staff.

Johanna Berg, the county’s former chief information officer, will lead the Economic Growth and Community Investment Service Team, the latest in a series of leadership changes that began in mid-2015.

Berg’s team consists of seven county departments: Community and Economic Development, Library, Parks & Recreation, Property Management, Public Works, Regional Railroad Authority and Workforce Solutions.

Berg is filling the position vacated by former Deputy County Manager Heather Worthington, who joined the city of Minneapolis this summer.

“Johanna has proven herself again and again as a top-notch executive with a proven track record of delivering large, high-priority initiatives on behalf of our residents and organization,” Ramsey County Manager Julie Kleinschmidt said in a written statement.

In July 2015, Ramsey County announced that instead of having more than 20 department leaders report to the county manager, the county government would reorganize itself into four integration teams, each led by a different team leader.

At the time, Berg was promoted to deputy county manager in charge of information and public records, which included countywide information technology services, creation of the Project Management Office, the Ramsey Online and Open Data Portal projects, Enterprise Risk Management, and the restructuring of Property Records and Revenue.

She has been overseeing the Public Works, Regional Railroad Authority and Community and Economic Development departments on an interim basis since August.

Scott Williams, deputy county manager for safety and justice, will lead the Information and Public Records Service Team temporarily, until the county completes a search for a permanent deputy.

Chief Financial Officer Lee Mehrkens will continue to lead the Rice Creek Commons and riverfront properties initiatives.

Tags: Ramsey County
Frederick Melo was once sued by a reader for $2 million but kept on writing. He came to the Pioneer Press in 2005 and brings a testy East Coast attitude to St. Paul beat reporting. He spent nearly six years covering crime in the Dakota County courts before switching focus to the St. Paul mayor's office, city council, and all things neighborhood-related, from the city's churches to its parks and light rail. A resident of Hamline-Midway, he is married to a Frogtown woman. He Tweets with manic intensity at @FrederickMelo.
Facebook Highlights

Meet Amy Eisele, Teen Services Librarian at Maplewood

Who I am
Someone who asks questions, is community focused and constantly energized by working in the library. See More

Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries
November 13 at 9:49am

What are you doing between now and Thursday, November 16? That's right...remembering the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries who, in turn, give so much to our libraries!

Creative Pastels
Monday, November 20, 2 p.m.
RCL - White Bear Lake
Appropriate for ages 6 - 12.

 Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor (1) November 13 at 10:22am

Use pastels to explore Fall themes and colors. Create artwork banners to take home for your family!

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor (1) November 14 at 9:11am

Turn everyday moments into learning opportunities for your child! Our Children's Librarians highly recommend Think Small ParentPowered Texts.

Bonnie Bassett, Heather Monitor and 3 others
November 10 at 12:33am

As beautiful as this piece is, I don't like it. Its loud, disruptive behavior everywhere and the staff does nothing to keep it in check. Every time I go there are people on the computers talking loudly in their cellphones, people with their headphones on singing profanly out loud. Last week there was even a guy SNORING so loud sitting in the area by the coffee shop/computers for a good half hour. If not more. Finally I went to the staff who was oblivious and blank faced like they had no issue with it. Not at all what a library should be. I'm so annoyed since I used to love this place as a child. As beautifully remodeled as it is, it sucks.
Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor | November 15 at 1:15pm

How out of control is your to-be-read pile? Image via @CuriosityQuills

1,456 people reached

1. Shelley Sedro, Daniel Vierow and 14 others 8 Comments 1 Share

Top Comments

Shelley Murray
Definitely in the All is Lost category, and that’s just the books and ebooks I own. Forget about my digital list on Goodreads. I couldn’t read all of them in a lifetime.
Like Reply Message 2 November 15 at 3:25pm

Alyce Morgan
All is lost. (I’ll read forever, thanks 😊)
Like Reply Message 2 November 16 at 8:58am

Jeff Johnson
I have two spiral notebooks full of books I want to read. My reference librarians have made inter-library loan from those notebooks for years. And, for years to come.
Like Reply Message 1 November 15 at 10:00pm

Kristen Kleemann
YEARS. But I could probably do it if I quit my job and didn’t add anything else to the list.
Like Reply Message 1 November 15 at 4:46pm

Abe Holte
Thanks to the little used book store at the Roseville library, all is most definitely lost...
Like Reply Message 1 November 16 at 3:04pm

Amanda Rice
All is lost. But I won’t stop trying.
Like Reply Message 2 November 15 at 6:45pm

Andre Jose Chouravong
All is lost.
Like Reply Message 1 November 16 at 9:08am

Ronnie Krishna
All is lost
Like Reply Message 1 November 18 at 12:49am

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor | November 20 at 4:13pm

Do you agree with this book list? What additional title would you add?

917 people reached

1 Like 0 Comment 0 Share

Top Comments

Vickie Bartkus
Somewhat female-interests oriented. No wonder boys don’t want to read.
Like Reply Message November 21 at 11:09am

Barbara Bartkus
The list seems to have many books that would interest boys. Too bad the picture shows mostly stereotypical get books.
Like Reply Message November 21 at 2:45pm

Vickie Bartkus
Barbara Bartkus which will dissuade boys unfortunately
Like Reply Message November 21 at 4:54pm

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor | November 24 at 8:00am

Blood drive today at the library in Shoreview. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome. More information: www.redcrossblood.org

1,134 people reached

1 Like 0 Comment 0 Share

Top Comments

John Hakes
Very glad to have been able to donate blood at the Shoreview Library today. It is an accessible, pleasant and meaningful venue in which to do so—and it helps counteract the excesses of Black Friday no less. With more advanced notice and an established frequency, donations at this venue could easily increase in the future.
Like Reply Message November 25 at 8:41am Edited
The sign of a great event - Exhausted kids! Thank you to the Ramsey County Library for sponsoring our entertainment. 7,300 people came to visit us today to try out the new Explorers' Nest indoor playground. We hope you had fun! We will post photos from the event next week! #kidsexercise #magnolite #beach

If you didn’t know, Ramsey County Library has ‘Read Down Saturday’ the first weekend of the month. For every 15 min kids spend reading in the library, they receive a $1 credit to their library fines. #magnolite #beach

Like  Comment  Share

Sara Weisberg Haarinen: Living the adoration and the upside-down reading.

Like  Reply  December 2 at 11:55am

Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Loi 11 December 5 at 10:57am

Library humor

COLD? CHECK OUT A BOOK!
YOU’LL STILL BE COLD BUT YOU’LL HAVE A BOOK

5,496 people reached

Like  Comment  Share

Andre Jose Chevesson: Thank you for Star Wars yesterday.
Like  Reply  Message  December 5 at 11:28am

Elisabeth Ploosd Cloud Library... don’t even have to leave the house 😁
Like  Reply  Message  December 5 at 5:07pm

Alix Dellorre: Kelsey Uribe
Like  Reply  Message  December 6 at 6:01pm

Ramsey County Library

This workshop, presented by Alicia Scipion from the YWCA Minneapolis Racial Justice Department, is designed for youth and caregivers who want to acquire skills in dealing with racism as it occurs in their personal lives.

Confronting Racism: Minnesota Style
FOR YOUTH

DEC 7

Confronting Racism Minnesota Style... Thursday 7 PM Ramsey County Library, Maplewood...

855 people reached

Jacqueline Lloyd Cunningham, Bi Bowman and 4 others
Ramsey County Library has been recognized as a Star Library for a fifth consecutive year.
Castronauts: Mission Moon is “a darn cute beginning graphic novel,” says @rclreads librarian Tami Lee at #StKatesBooked. Author @thebrookart also incorporated STEM concepts for elementary readers.

@melissadsavage’s book “Lemons” is @rclreads Tami Lee’s favorite book of the year! #StKatesBooked

@flanjanette @stpaullibrary @rclreads I didn’t know that my HCLIB card could be used other places.

I mean, where to start?! @rclreads #amreading @ginamallet @HillaryClinton @mainengmoua @wwnton @simonschuster @MNHSPress @mnhs
Thanks @rcrlreads for coming and teaching our kindergarteners about getting library cards! @ISD_623 #623learns

1 Retweet 5 Likes

Looking at moon rocks is serious business. Thus the police officer providing security. Thanks @rcrlreads for making this happen #bucketlist

5:53 PM - 18 Nov 2017

2 Likes

Got my @rcrlreads librarycard today!! Spent about 4 hours over at the Roseville Library this afternoon and ended up leaving with 11 books...

#ilovelibraries #sorronotsorry #readingFTW #literacy #community #libraries #books #booksonbooksonbooks

6:30 PM - 25 Nov 2017

4 Retweets 7 Likes
I have lovingly patronized the public library in every city I have lived in my entire adult life, and I am immeasurably better off for it. (Thank you @denverlibrary, @duluthlib, @rclreads.) You, sir, can piss off. Go read a book.

Andre Walker @andregwalker
Replying to @pdylkhok
I'm serious. What adults use libraries. Almost none.

10:27 PM - 4 Dec 2017
4 Likes 2 Retweets

Jill Boldenow @JillBoldenow
A great honor for Shoreview Library and @rclreads!

Valerie Horton @vaeriehorton
Congratulations to Ramsey County Library from your friends at Minitex! @MinitexMN

Ramsey County Library has been recognized as a Star Library for a fifth consecutive year.

2:21 PM - 7 Dec 2017
1 Retweet 2 Likes

Renee Grassi @MissReneeDomain
Holy cripes, the @rclreads Roseville Library is GORGEOUS. #libraries #libraryspaces

1:02 PM - 7 Dec 2017
2 Retweets 14 Likes

Anna Haase Kringle @opinionsbyanna
It's my second favé❤️

Ramsey County Library @rclreads
What's your first?

Anna Haase Kringle @opinionsbyanna
Shoreview is just perfect.

Monica Stratton @monicastrat
Yayyy!! Glad you love us!

Beth @bompalm
It's my favorite one! I also like @JHillCenter.

Brooke Newberry @be_newberry
Those bins!!!
Renee Grassi
@MissReneeDomain

OBSESSED with the design of this wall. Just amazing, @rclreads. 😍😍😍#asl #librarydesign #libraries #librarianlife

5:06 PM - 7 Dec 2017

Barbara Klipper @barbarekkb 9h
Replying to @MissReneeDomain @rclreads
Love this! Can I get info on where you get these? Were they custom-made?

Darin L @MShoreview

Book return @rclreads #tistheseason

5:09 PM - 7 Dec 2017

Facebook/Google/Yelp Reviews

Ramsey County Library - Administration
4560 Victoria St N, Shoreview, MN
4.0 ★★★★★ 4 reviews

mubarak ali
1 review
★★★★★ a week ago
The people are really mean you can't run or talk

Ramsey County Library - New Brighton
400 10th St NW, New Brighton, MN
4.4 ★★★★★ 16 reviews

Cressy Kovich
2 reviews
★★★★★ in the last week
Great place to work on computer!

Ramsey County Library - North St. Paul
2300 N St Paul Dr, North St Paul, MN
4.0 ★★★★★ 9 reviews

Sheri Knopf
3 reviews
★★★★★ 3 weeks ago
Staff is really nice and helpful. Small but nice. If they don't have what you are looking for they will get it for you.

Ramsey County Library - Roseville
2180 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN
4.5 ★★★★★ 64 reviews

David Lundeen
Local Guide 431 reviews 338 photos
★★★★★ in the last week
This place is a great resource for the community.

Connor Lynch
2 reviews 1 photo
★★★★★ a week ago
The best little nook in MN