



DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
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DIRECTOR'S REPORT MAY 2023

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

Seventy-five librarians and trustees attended this year's Black Hills Library Mini-Conference. Staff members Adrian, Becky, Juliet, Baylee, Krista, Courtney, Elie, Christine, Scott O, Scott H, Brady, and Sam S presented sessions. The keynote was presented by State Librarian George Seamon, with other State Library staff also presenting sessions. Thank you to the RCPL Board members for your participation and engagement at the conference.

Events Coordinator Aly Quinn presented at the Statewide Family Engagement Center's monthly Power Hour Conference on the importance of summer reading programs, and was able to talk specifically about RCPL's summer reading challenge.

NEW SERVICES:

As of May 1, the library is providing access to the [Gardening and Horticulture](#) database. This resource will help patrons utilizing our new seed library, or anyone who want more information about gardening.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

The library welcomed Elijah Bush, a new Library Associate I and Jack Monroe, a new Library Page. Elijah has a background in student engagement in colleges, and has a great attitude for customer service. Jack is a student at Central High School.

Library Associate I Christine Waller prepared and presented de-escalation training to her colleagues, as a follow-up to the training received from the police department. Christine's educational background was evident in her clear and concise training and its follow-up session, and she was also able to tie in relevant examples that her peers could relate to.

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TechOps sent preliminary plans for the bookmobile build. Our bookmobile team reviewed these to ensure they match the original plans. While we are still anticipating a bookmobile delivery late this year, there are some indications that the project is slightly ahead of schedule.

The library's 2024 budgets as approved by the Library Board in April have been submitted to the Mayor and Finance office.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- April 5, Rapid City Journal Mention: [Government offices delay opening Wednesday](#)
- April 7, Newscenter1 Coverage: [The Rapid City Public Library is celebrating National Poetry Month](#)
- April 21, KEVN Coverage: [Peep this Rapid City Public Library hosts annual diorama contest](#)
- April 26, Live KOTA Noon Show: Database Promotion
- April 26, KOTA Coverage: [New wellness toolkit for teens](#)

ONLINE REVIEWS:

- April 1, Google 5-Star Review: Just a homeless shelter with books – Jon Mitchel
- April 3, Google 5-Star Review – Jessica Smith
- April 7, Google 5-Star Review: As an avid reader of most genres, if I don't buy a book I just head to the RC library and check it out or, with my membership, I can place a request for a book. The wait time depends on how popular, or new, the book is. I also check-out DVDs of movies we may be deciding on purchasing for our collection, or may have missed at the theater. The librarians are quite knowledgeable and helpful. When we moved here our grandkids were in kindergarten and preschool. I made sure they got library cards and took them there often. They loved the book displays and always wanted to take home a stack! That didn't always work so I encouraged them to check out 2 or 3 books. They were so excited to have the books read to them and then we made up other endings or talked about where the story took place, etc. They have a great selection of activities to participate in as well. During the pandemic my granddaughter and I took home awesome kits for making various projects that we could follow on video. Great times! – Carla Brutico
- April 19, Google 5-Star Review – Luz/Shane Jendry
- April 21, Google 5-Star Review: Workers were very helpful and worked with me to complete my printing request. – Nicholas Rotella
- April 23, Google 5-Star Review: Very family friendly and the staff is so helpful and kind - Charlie Heyer
- April 25, Google 3-Star Review: Fast Wi-Fi, lots of tables, friendly staff. But the vibe was off. - Nicole

VACANCY REPORT:

Vacancy Status as of 5/1/23				
LIBRARY DEPARTMENT	FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS	FULL AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES	VACANCIES	STATUS
Management	2	2	0	
Senior Librarians	2	2	0	
Coordinators	3	3	0	
Business Office	1	1	0	
Facilities	2.5 or 2.75	2	.5 or .75	<i>The facilities position has again been posted, with flexibility for either a 20-hour non-benefited position or a 30-hour benefited position, based on the interests of a successful candidate.</i>
Library Associate I	15.75	13.75	1	<i>One LA1 position is vacant, and interviews are being conducted.</i>
Library Associate II	8	7	1	<i>The job posting for the Training LA2 position has been revamped and reposted.</i>
Library Technicians	2	2	0	
Outreach	2.75	2.75	0	
35.5TOTALS	39 or 39.25	35.5	2.5 or 2.75	

One Page position (part-time, non-benefitted) is also vacant.