



DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
610 QUINCY ST. | RAPID CITY, SD 57701 | 605.394.6139

RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG



DIRECTOR'S REPORT **OCTOBER 2024**

COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTAL, AND INTERLIBRARY RELATIONS:

The city's grants division collaborated with us to submit an application for an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant. We hope to obtain funding for a facilitator and related costs to plan for and implement consortium-wide reciprocal borrowing for all the Black Hills Library Consortium members.

The library and other city departments collaborated with Volunteers of America and Mommy's Closet for a diaper drive; city-wide, the drive collected 35,000 diapers through cash and diaper donations.

NEW SERVICES:

Large live plants have been placed on the library's main floor, courtesy of the Friends of the Library. There have been many favorable public comments about the plants, with people pleased about the improved ambiance in the library. Plants are also planned for the upstairs area, but will not be placed until after the carpet installation and furniture moving is completed. In addition to providing the plants, the Friends will pay for a plant maintenance contract from the vendor.

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Sophie Brown was promoted to the Library Associate Lead for Makerspace. Sophie has worked with us as a Library Associate I for a year, and recently completed her Master of Library and Information Science degree. We look forward to Sophie's contributions in her new role.

I attended the South Dakota Library Association conference. Discussion took place among public library directors and school librarians regarding compliance with South Dakota Codified Law 22-24-56. A session on strategies for staff in-service training provided information that will be useful for training sessions for our own staff as well as for the Black Hills Librarians' Mini-Conference in April. A guided lunch session featured questions for discussions at assigned tables, to become better acquainted with librarians from around the state. The Statewide Family Engagement Center shared information about their services and educational opportunities for families of young children, which can help with our early learning initiatives. The Siouxland library staff presented information on how to make an inexpensive, self-paced murder mystery program that patrons can take with them and do individually or in small groups. Ideas and resources from all these sessions and more was shared with the RCPL team.

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Some of our staff became impromptu wildlife wardens when they teamed up to rescue a bat that had made its way into the library. The bat was successfully released outdoors, but the process involved a number of squeals and exclamations from the folks involved. The librarians involved were nominated by other staff for a 'cheers for peers' award for 'bravely, creatively, and safely removing a furry and fanged patron from the premises'.

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- September 27, KXLG Radio Mention: [Watertown Middle School Librarian Honored at State Conference](#)
- September 25, Live KOTA Noon Show: Reader's Advisory
- September 17, Newscenter1 Coverage: [How the RC Public Library is helping residents register to vote](#)
- September 17, Rapid City Journal Mention: [Sept. 23-29 to be 'Diaper Need Awareness Week' in Rapid City](#)

ONLINE REVIEWS:

- September 10, 5-Star Google Review – Andrea Kindvall

VACANCY REPORT:

Vacancy Status as of 10/1/24					
DEPARTMENT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	TOTAL POSITIONS	CURRENT EMPLOYEES	VACANCIES	STATUS
Management	Master's in Library Science	2	2	0	
Senior Librarians	Master's in Library Science	2	2	0	
Coordinators	Bachelor's Degree	3	3	0	
Business Office	Associate's Degree	1	1	0	
Facilities	Custodial experience	2.75	2.75	0	
Library Associate I	Bachelor's Degree	17.75	14.75	3	<i>Vacancies are due to internal promotions and a resignation. Filling the positions is on hold until after the November election.</i>
Library Associate II	Bachelor's Degree	5	5	0	
Library Associate Lead	Bachelor's degree	2	2	0	
Library Technicians	Associate Degree	2	2	0	
Outreach	Bachelor's Degree	2.75	2.75	0	
TOTALS		40.25	37.25	3	