**Director's Articles of Direction**

- *In Pictures: Agatha Christie: Unfinished Portrait*
- *Grand Rapids Area Library*
- *Local writers will give Minnesota State Fair a literary flair*

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**Minitex News** *Info submitted by MaryLei Barclay*

**Coloring Trend in Libraries Promotes Relaxation and Mindfulness**—by Jennifer Hootman—If you've even glanced at *Library Journal, American Libraries Magazine,* or major news networks in recent months, you've likely noticed a new trend in services—coloring book clubs. Over the past few years, the activity of coloring and adult coloring books like the Dover Publications' Creative Haven series have experienced a rise in popularity. And libraries are responding by creating coloring programs and promoting its stress-relieving benefits. [Article](#)

**Indianapolis Promoting Literacy Through Art: The Public Collection**—by Carla Pfahl—The Public Collection is a new series of art installations designed to promote art, literacy, and the love of books. boingboing picked up on an article from Teleread highlighting the new installations as modeled after the Little Free Library project but with a different goal in mind. While the Little Free Library project is designed to bring free books to neighborhoods the Public Collection is a project to connect literacy and art and to bring books to low income neighborhoods and homeless communities. [Article](#)

**ELM Workshop Gives Teachers a Head Start**—by Carla Pfahl—In mid-August I gave a workshop to the teachers with Lincoln Elementary School in Ivanhoe, MN, just outside Marshall. The teachers were enthusiastic to start the new school year and to learn about all the elementary resources available for their students within ELM. They mentioned that the 3rd-6th graders were going to embark on a new research project that would take up most of the school year. The project, called Find Your Passion, invites students to find one thing they are passionate about and to learn everything there is about it. In the spring, the students will share what they've discovered at the Find Your Passion fair. The teachers said ELM will play an important part for this project not only helping students to gather information about their topics, but also to help the students with putting the research project together. This will be the first research project the students will do and they will be learning about... [Article](#)

**OverDrive Periodicals** *Info Submitted by Mollie Stanford*

The Arrowhead Library System has expanded its digital collection with the addition of OverDrive Periodicals. This new collection features over 100 popular digital magazines and newspapers, including National Geographic, Cosmopolitan, Newsweek and Food Network. Users can check out periodicals on the same digital library website where they currently borrow eBooks and digital audiobooks. All that is required is a valid library card and a NOOK account. Titles can be read via a NOOK tablet device or available for a multitude of smartphones and tablets.

The Arrowhead Library System partners with overdrive, Inc., a global leader in digital media services, to offer digital magazines and newspapers, eBooks, and digital audiobooks.
**Kids & Teens Broadcast**  
*Articles Submitted by MaryLei Barclay*

**How Three California Cities Fought to Save School Libraries**—School Library Journal by Alexandria Neason (Release 8/14/2015) - As post-recession budget woes have extended debates about the relevance of school libraries, their plight has been most dramatic in California. What does it take to save a city’s school libraries? This snapshot of three districts in the state—Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Vista—illustrates the setbacks faced by each and the steps taken to restore or maintain its school librarians. While these regions have faced deep challenges informed intervention, outreach, and good timing can make the difference when facing a tough fiscal baseline. [Article](https://wwwlibraryjournal.com/articles/577955/)

**The changing role of the school library**—Knowledge Quest by Connie Williams (Released 8/20/2015) - The changing role of the school environment—where students have access to tech all day long and inquiry assignments set each student or student group on their own learning trajectory—means that educators need to re-think how and where we work with students during the school day to best help them navigate their learning. We know that most students know how to use a computer, but experience has show that they often don’t work well online yet. In order to function well in their workplace students must know how to organize their workspace, research effectively, analyze their information, and express their opinions and new learning successfully. Many workers today take their work out of the office, which involves being able to work alone as well as with others in spaces that might be considered non-traditional. Third space in the school—that space between the classroom and home—is an important place for on-site, individualized, and directed learning and practice. A third space environment can be a great place to be around people, yet still focus in on work. In schools, this third space is the school library. [Article](https://wwwknowledgequest.org/articles/3692-the-changing-role-of-the-school-library/)

**The KIDS PLUS Youth in Philanthropy** Board is a group of 16 young people that, with guidance from adult mentors, awards grants up to $1,000 to school and youth organizations in northeastern Minnesota and the Superior School District in Wisconsin.

**Stanford’s Links to Assess**  
- Produce a 90-second Newbery Film Workshop
- Supercharged Storytimes

**Donated Books**  
*Info Submitted by Shari Fisher and MaryLei Barclay*

Local author Philip Solem has donated a copy of his book *Owlsstones* for each public library in our region. ALS will send those out via the courier service.

**Libraries in Times of Crisis**  
*Article Submitted by MaryLei Barclay*

American Libraries Magazine by George Eberhart (8/20/2015) - The IFLA Committee on Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) held a panel discussion Tuesday, August 18, at the World Library and Information Congress in Cape Town on “The Role of Library and information Workers in a Time of Crisis.” Simon Edwards, director of professional services for CILIP, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in the UK, said the scope of potential crises that librarians face worldwide is vast, ranging from personal crises to community, national, and global crises that threaten the entire species. “Government agencies also classify crises as sudden (with an immediate impact) and smoldering (a long-term crisis of attrition),” he said. “Libraries play subtly different roles in supporting communities in each.”

Edwards said that US libraries in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas played vital roles in providing services before, during, and after the 2005 hurricane season that spawned the devastating tropical storms Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. They served as information and safety hubs that helped people locate individuals, fill out Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) forms, find disaster information... [Article](https://wwwamericanlibrariesmagazine.org/articles/18317/libraries-play-subtly-different-roles-in-supporting-communities-in-each/)
It’s a LEGACY Thing
By Chris Magnusson

“The Spirit Sings” a program on September 24 & 26 of African American music as it transformed from slave songs to jazz featuring the music of OboeBass! The duo of Rolf Erdahl, double bass and Carrie Vecchione, oboe.

As the world’s only professional oboe/bass duo, Erdahl and Vecchione have had a unique career focused on reaching, involving, and educating people through the creative power of music. Their repertoire is virtuosic, demanding, and accessible, with folksong, jazz, tango, and literary inspirations. They make contemporary chamber music comprehensible, meaningful, engaging, and inspiring for their audiences.

Vecchione and Erdahl are both classically trained musicians with doctorates in music performance and extensive performing and teaching experience. When they married, they discovered very little had been written for their combination of oboe/English horn and double bass. Talented composer friends stepped into the breech and the variety of styles and expressions of the music written for them convinced them to pursue a career as a duo specializing in new music for oboe and double bass.

The New Role of Librarians and Libraries: removing the Silence Signs
Article Submitted by MaryLei Barclay

New England Journal of Higher Education by Nancy Carriuolo and Tovah Reis (Released 8/10/2015) - An increasing number of institutions are freeing up shelf space in their libraries and moving in student services as well as a coffee shop and other lures such as flexible seating arrangements. Librarians are taking down the silence signs in all but the quiet study rooms and urging members of the academic community to meet, talk, research and incubate new ideas collaboratively as well as to engage in more traditional activities.

Of course, all of this change is jarring to traditional academics, despite many good arguments about saving space, saving funds and drawing greater numbers of thinkers to the library to create new knowledge. The question is how to make the change and communicate the change successfully. As more libraries remove printed materials from shelves, few have shared their successes and mistakes in doing so.

Planning before purging: At Rhode Island College (RIC), the James P. Adams Library’s print collection was not growing as fast as in the past, as most journals and many books were increasingly received electronically. To create space in the building for more student collaboration and relocation of student services, an estimate 30% of our collection of 300,000 books and other printed materials would need to be removed. The library director contacted SCS... Article

The Surprising Benefits of Reading Before Bed
Article Submitted by MaryLei Barclay

Van Winkle’s By Matt Bercial (Released 8/23/2015) - We’re all commitment phobes. We scan, we skim, we browse, but rarely do we read.

Our eyes pingpong back and forth from Facebook posts to open chat boxes, unclicked emails to GIFs of dancing cats, scanning for keywords but barley digesting what we see. Average time spent on an online article is 15 seconds. In 2014, the Pew Research Center revealed that one-quarter of American adults hadn’t read a single book in the previous year. And that’s a shame because those who read consistently exhibit significantly greater memory and mental abilities at all stages in life.

Cracking open a book before you go to bed could help combat insomnia too. A 2009 study from researchers at University of Sussex showed that six minutes of reading reduces stress by 68% (more relaxing than either music or a cup of tea), thus clearing the mind and readying the body for sleep.

The reasoning, per psychologist and study author Dr. David Lewis is that a book is “more than merely a distraction, but an active engaging of the imagination,” one that “causes you to enter an altered state of consciousness.” Article
Webinar Control Center
Info Submitted by MaryLei Barclay

Mistakes You Don’t Want to Make and How to Avoid Them—SirsiDynix September 14, 4pm EDT—Join us for a free, 15-minute webinar with Horizon guide Ken Bonney and discover how you can become a Certified Horizon Explorer! The seventh of ten monthly webinars in the Expanding Your Horizon Certification Series. Register

Managing Mobile: Library Device Checkout Made Easy—Techsoup.org—September 16, 11:00am PDT—Are you starting to check out devices like e-readers, tablets and laptops? Making devices available for public use may seem challenging and overwhelming. However, the right combination of technology, organization, and policies can help your library create a popular checkout program that your patrons will love. Register

Scholarly Communication Models: Evolution or Revolution? - Minitex September 23, 10am-4:00pm Central Time—Scholarly communication deals with the systems and processes involved in the creation and dissemination of knowledge. Scholars can’t help but have to navigate the complex issues around author rights, access, costs, new models of publishing, peer-review, and compliance with research funder policies. These scholarly communication components are continually evolving along with changes in technical infrastructure, the economics of publishing, knowledge preservation, and social practice. Learn how scholarly communication models are evolving from the authors’, publishers’, and libraries’ perspectives. The presenters would share and discuss their approach in adapting and navigating the issues surrounding this topic. Register. More NISO Webinars

ELM for Public Libraries—Minitex September 23, 9:00am CT & October 20, 12:00pm (CT) - The Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) is a sizable suit of statewide resources. Sometimes it can be challenging to identify which resources are most relevant to the library in which you work and the community you serve. This one hour webinar will focus on ELM databases that are most applicable to a public library setting. More Minitex and Elm Training Sessions.

Speak Up: Supporting Online Language Learning with In-Person Programs—Library Journal September 17, 3:00pm EDT—With 311 languages spoken in the US, few, if any, public libraries have the capacity to teach all of them. Register

What’s the future for libraries?
Article Submitted by MaryLei Barclay

Austin American-Statesman by Nancy Flores (Released 8/18/2015) - Local library leaders took a trip to Amsterdam to visit a “library of the future” and consulted with a library futurist for inspiration on cutting edge ideas. But library users may have already noticed their neighborhood branches beginning to incorporate innovative services and programs over the years. In 2009, instead of hosting book sales for the library’s overstock and outdated books, the public library launched the Recycled Reads bookstore on Burnet Road. Since its launch, the bookstore has become an incubator for the library by testing out different programs, from interactive puppet shows to upcycling workshops. If programs are successful there, they’re often replicated in the library’s branches. This community center approach to libraries actually brings them back to their roots. Reed says her grand-parents immigrated to the U.S. from Poland and went to the New York Public Library to learn English and take citizenship classes. “That’s where they went to become a part of the American fabric... so not only is it the future of libraries, but it’s the tradition of libraries.”

In 2013, the American Library Association launched the Center for the Future of Libraries, which focuses on identifying emerging trends relevant to libraries, librarians, and the communities they serve. Article

Tantalizing Tidbits
Mental Floss
March 2015 issue:

Obsidian is volcanic glass that forms when silica-rich lava cools so quickly that crystals don't have time to form. For centuries, people whittled the brittle material into arrowheads. Today, some surgeons use the material for scalpels since obsidian is sharper than surgical steel and creates less scar tissue than even the finest metal blades. Hot meteorites crashing into Earth can melt the surrounding rocks and send them skyward. When those rocks land and cool, they may harden into black or milky green shards of glass called tektites. As far back as 8,000 years ago, people turned these tektites into tools, good-luck charms and even jewelry – King Tut included.

May 2015 issue:

The first Selfie: Just months after Louis Daguerre announced his invention to the French Academy of Sciences in early 1839, a young Robert Cornelius set up a camera fitted with an opera glass in the backyard of his family’s Philadelphia store. He pointed the lens of the newfangled camera at himself and waited... and waited. (Exposures for early cameras took up to 15 minutes.) He’d have to wait about 170 years for someone to finally invent an explanatory hashtag.
Thinking Outside Minnesota

Articles submitted by MaryLei Barclay and Jim Weikum

Colombian garbage collector rescues books for children—
Associated Press by Cesar Garcia (Released 8/30/2015) - Garbage Collector Jose Gutierrez started rescuing books from the trash almost 20 years ago, when he was driving a garbage truck at night through the capital’s wealthier neighborhoods. The discarded reading material slowly piled up, and now the ground floor of his small house is a makeshift community library stacked from floor to ceiling with some 20,000 books, ranging from chemistry textbooks to children’s classics. He says books are luxuries for boys and girls in low-income neighborhoods such as his, with new reading material at bookstores too expensive. There are 19 public libraries in Bogota, a city of 8.5 million, but tend to be located far away from poorer areas. Article

Calais migrant camp gets make-shift library—and it needs more books—The Guardian by Mart Bausells (Released 8/24/2015) - Volunteers have set up a make-shift library at the migrant camp in Calais which the French authorities estimate now shelters at least 3,000 refugees. The library is just one of the essential services being provided on a voluntary basis at the camp, known as the Jungle, as the refugee crisis in Europe escalates. Opened by British teacher Mary Jones, who baptized it Jungle Books (or Livres de la jungle in French), the library is stocked with giveaways. Jones herself has been taking books and other items to the camp for years, but wanted to go beyond that. Article

Rockaway Beach Library Set to Reopen for First Time Since Sandy—DNA Info by Katie Homan (Released 8/1/2015) - Nearly three years after Hurricane Sandy destroyed it, the Peninsula Library will re-open Tuesday with more books, more space and more programs, officials say. The one-story building on the corner of Beach 94th Street and Rockaway Beach Boulevard has been closed since Hurricane Sandy flooded the building in 2012. Water from the ocean and the bay broke through the building’s glass front during the storm, destroying the inside of the building, which was built in 1972. For years it operated out of a trailer parked outside. But after a $3.6 million renovation, paid for with FEMA funds, insurance, city and state money and private donations, it will reopen on Aug. 18. Article

Library Journal Directors’ Summit
Article Submitted by MaryLei Barclay

Free In-Person Event November 12-13, 2015 at District of Columbia Public Library—Join Library Journal for the 2015 Directors’ Summit, Brand Challenge: Communicating the New Library to Build New Brand Equity. This year we will focus on how the evolution of libraries into active hubs of civic engagement participatory spaces, and more, enlarges and cements their role as key institutions in the community. This intimate two-day think tank brings 100+ library leaders and strategic thinkers from beyond libraries to re-think, re-engage, and re-position “their” libraries as much more than that “trad” but true book brand.

Dig deep on strategic positioning from library leaders including DC Public Library’s Richard Reyes-Gavilan; Siobhan Reardon, President and Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia; and Patrick Losinoski, Chief Executive Officer, Columbus Metropolitan Library.

Contemplate the power of brand reinvention with keynote Barbara Shipley, Senior Vice President of Brand Integration at AARP. Learn about the changing fundraising landscape, and how brand equity fuels support from representatives of the Knight Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and others. Register today
September is Library Card Sign Up Month

Did you know you can get FREE online homework help with your library card?

The Smartest Card
GET IT. USE IT.
@ your library

Celebrating Library Card Sign-up Month in September

brainfuse HelpNow
(available at your library or at home through your library’s website)

September is Library Card Sign Up Month

Did you know you can get FREE job assistance, including an expert resume review, with your library card?

The Smartest Card
GET IT. USE IT.
@ your library

Celebrating Library Card Sign-up Month in September

brainfuse JobNow
(available at your library or at home through your library’s website)
A quilt made by Melissa Gulan of the Going to Pieces Quilt Guild has been the showpiece hanging in the Virginia Public Library for the month of August.

August quilt of the month
on display at Virginia library

VIRGINIA — The collaboration between the Going to Pieces Quilt Guild and Virginia Public Library continues in August with a piece presented by local quilter Melissa Gulan.

Designed with north woods batiks in shades of green, maroon and beige, this piece is named “Lady of 5,000 Lakes.” It looks as if it contains 5,000 pieces of fabric, with darker hues radiating out from the corners to a lighter center much like Minnesota lakeshores.

Gulan completed this work in 2012 using a machine pieced method to sew the triangles of this 42x42-inch quilt. Her pattern was created by Claudia Clark Meyers, a renowned designer of intricate paper-piece patterns. Gulan highlighted her hand-quilting technique by stitching small circles in the flying geese squares located in the center of the quilt.

Nancy Maxwell, director of Virginia Public Library, said, “This is one of the most intricate works we have seen in the library. And with our cooler August weather it almost seems as if the colors are a harbinger of our approaching autumn.”

The motto of the Going to Pieces Quilt Guild is “Inspire, Instruct & Improve.” Area sewers are welcome to attend the monthly meetings held the third Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. in the basement of the First Covenant Church at 232 Fifth St. S. Quilting retreats are sponsored by the guild every spring and fall. For more information contact Darcy at 750-7035 or Betty at 741-4348. New members are always welcome. For more information on this project, or other services the library provides, call 748-7525 or check the event calendar at www.virginia.lib.mn.us.
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By LJ Reviews Editors “Downton Abbey meets The Addams Family” encapsulates one of the fall/winter books recommended by LJ’s editors, the intriguingly named The Dead Duke, His Secret Wife, and the Missing Corpse. It’s one of many upcoming releases that grabbed our attention and will be great for patrons as days grow shorter and the air, chilly.

34 FORMAT FOLLOWS FUNCTION
By Lisa Peel Libraries must make more complicated choices based on what patrons want and what format they want it in. Hardcover, paperback, large print, and library binding are joined by ebook models that are more varied than ever and audiobooks on CDs, preloaded players, and downloadable files.

38 ARE YOU BEING SERVED?
By Meredith Schwartz Two complementary surveys contrasting academic librarian and faculty attitudes toward their library services highlight areas in which libraries can grow to meet evolving needs.

42 COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT
By Erin Cataldi Betwixt and Between, New adult (NA) is one of the most loved and fiercely hated trends to emerge this decade. Many decry NA as a mere marketing ploy, while others are excited that an overlooked demographic is finally getting its share of the spotlight. These 33 sources will give patrons plenty to ponder.

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Can you guess what ONE word we are describing? It is just ONE word and this can get a little tricky but fun.

What Word

1. Metal jar, 4th letter __________________________
2. Honey maker, chain ___ fence __________________________
3. Woman opposite, complete __________________________
4. #2 leg cousin __________________________
5. Stupid discovered __________________________
6. Display the animal hair __________________________
7. No money, serving platter __________________________
8. Not the front flame __________________________
9. Golf bell holder, urine __________________________
10. Sketch the vertebrae __________________________

www.ThinkablePuzzles.com

MaryLei’s Links Limited on Typing

• What you can do with your library card (other than check out books)
• Did technology kill the book or give it new life?
• Makerspace Playbook
• Make it @ Your Library
• Judgey: Judge a Book by its cover
• A History of US Public Libraries
• Frequently Challenged Books
• ELM Scavenger Hunts