

CO-3  
MPLA Awards  
August 30, 2016

We had 3 nominations this year, and the Awards Committee has voted to award all three.

MPLA Literary Contribution Award will be awarded to **Lili DeBarbieri**.

Lili DeBarbieri is a noted author, agricultural and film historian and lecturer that has been writing about the Southwest for the past decade. A Philadelphia native, she has traveled extensively through six continents before settling in the American Southwest.

MPLA Distinguished Service Award will be awarded to **Bette Rathe**.

I write to nominate Professor Bette Rathe for this award in order to acknowledge and recognize the significant contribution that Bette made to librarianship at the state, regional, and national levels. Possibly even more importantly, Bette worked with thousands of budding teachers through the 20 years that she served at the University of Northern Colorado. Her caring, rigorous, and thoughtful work with each of those students, either in a classroom, at the reference desk, or in her office, surely had an impact that is still felt in classrooms and libraries throughout Colorado.

MPLA Innovator Award will be awarded to **Deanne Dekle**.

The Maker State initiative in New Mexico was started by former Chief of the Library Development Bureau Ryanne Cooper. Ms. Cooper left the State Library in July of this year. Prior to her departure she had included Ms. Dekle in all aspects of the Maker State program and turned it over to her to continue to nurture. As the Youth Services Specialist at the State Library Ms. Dekle has participated in many of the Maker State events at public and tribal libraries in the state and has helped tremendously in terms of the success of the program. Ms. Dekle is relatively new to the library profession; however, she has made the Maker State project into exactly what you are looking for-creative, inventive and trail-blazing. Many of our libraries that experienced the "Pop-Up" maker spaces have gone on to create permanent spaces for this activity in their facility.