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South Dakota Library Association  
Mountain Plains Library Association Report, February, 2006  
Submitted by Colleen Smith, SDLA Representative to MPLA

South Dakota Library Association hosted a Legislative Reception Jan. 18, 2006 at the SD State Library.

The 2006 SD Legislative Reception was held the evening of Jan. 18 at the State Library in Pierre, SD. SD Librarians attended both House and Senate Sessions that afternoon and were introduced to the Legislators. The Legislators all received reception invitations and a brochure describing SDLA. Librarians and Legislators discussed Bills promoted by SDLA. Refreshments were served.

South Dakota State Library is undergoing a 7-month long planning and evaluation process. Mary Bushing, consultant, has been hired to lead the SD State Library through this process. Dorothy Liegl, SD State Librarian, will be working with Bushing.

During Phase 1, telephone interviews were conducted. People interviewed represented various types and sizes of libraries across the state.

Phase 2 was launched in February 2006 with a series of focus groups held around the state.

Community leaders, library representatives, and members of local communities were invited to participate in these discussions. This will provide an opportunity to gather opinions and suggestions for what kind of library services people think need to be provided by the SD State Library. Participants were also asked "What should the SD State Library STOP doing?"

Preliminary reports will be submitted, more research will be conducted, the consultant will interview and meet with State Library staff, and more reports will be submitted.

4 South Dakota libraries will offer Family Time, Prime Time Reading Time Programs.

The South Dakota Humanities Council and the 4 SD libraries received the Prime Time Grant which will provide a 6-week reading program for children and their families. The program helps to establish the habit of reading for parents and their children. Themes which will be discussed include sharing, fairness, courage and honesty.

South Dakota Prime Time sites are the Yankton Community Library, the Huron Public Library, Sinte Gleske University Library on the Rosebud Reservation, and the Oglala Lakota College Library on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The Prime Time Program was developed in 1991 by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and has spread to more than 500 sites in 36 states.

Nine states applied to host the 2006 program. Five were selected – South Dakota, California, Georgia, Kansas, and Ohio.

SDLA will offer a SPRING FORUM in 2 locations – giving library staff a mid-year continuing-education opportunity.

The SD Spring Forum will be held April 7, 2006 at Siouxland Library in Sioux Falls, SD for library staff in the Eastern portion of SD. The Spring Forum will be held April 28 at the Rapid City Public Library for library staff in the Western portion of SD. Topics planned for the Spring Forum include Disaster Planning, Distance learning, Book Repair, and Marketing Your Library.

Jump Start Workshops held throughout SD.

Jump Start Workshops were held in January at various libraries throughout the state. Jasmine Rousey, SD State Library Children's & Youth Services Coordinator, led the workshops to introduce Children's Librarians to the 2006 Summer Reading Program theme, "Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales." Suggestions for all aspects of Summer Reading Program activities were shared by participants.