

NAVIGATOR: COLORADO LIBRARIES AND THE WORLD

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INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE INTEREST GROUP / COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARIES

International Library and Cultural Exchange Funds Three Grants



Photos from prior Mesa County Libraries' Culture Fest

The International Cultural Exchange Interest Group of CAL is pleased to announce that three grants will be awarded to international and cultural projects this year.

ILCE-IG's grant committee has awarded \$1,500 to Mesa County Libraries' Culture Fest; \$1,500 to Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Foundation; and \$100 to the Nederland Community Library District.

The funds granted to the Mesa County Libraries' Culture Fest will be used for event supplies, marketing and publicity. The Culture Fest is an annual event created to enrich the community and reflect the diversity and

cultural heritage of its residents. The event uses visual, performance, culinary and musical art forms as a stimulus for creating cultural awareness and celebrating diversity. The event, co-sponsored by the City of Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture and the Friends of Mesa County Libraries, will be held on the first weekend in November.



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Save the dates:

- Colorado Association of Libraries (CALCON) Loveland, CO September 19-21, 2019
- ALA Midwinter, Philadelphia, PA January 24-30, 2020
- PLA Nashville, TN February 25-29, 2020
- ALA Annual Chicago, IL June 25-30, 2020

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The funds granted to the Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Foundation will be used for a workshop for staff from government libraries on the Pacific side of Nicaragua as well as staff from all non-government organization libraries. Program events will include a give-and-take table with supplies donated by programmers and attendees; early childhood programming; a craft session; a book cleaning and repair session; and an internet safety session.

The \$100 to the Nederland Community Library District will be used for hospitality gifts for Cuban Library peers as part of the 2020 Cuba for Book Lovers Tour, co-sponsored by the Nederland Community Library Foundation and Viva Cuba Tours.

ILCE-IG offers grants to support individual and library partnerships and activities that enhance cultural understanding and to support cultural programming and activities that celebrate ethnic and immigrant cultures in Colorado.

Although two grants for up to \$1,500 each were available, the grant committee felt that all three projects merited funding.

By Sue Keefer

Jewelry Sale at CAL to Benefit International Library Projects



Nancy Bolt sells unique jewelry and crafts at CAL to benefit International Library Projects. Nancy and her husband, Bob, buy fair trade original jewelry and crafts as they travel and bring them back to share with CAL members. They strive to buy from the creative artist or from non-profits representing collectives that pay a fair wage to their members. Nancy and Bob will have jewelry from over 15 countries. Part of the proceeds from all sales goes to the International Library and Cultural Exchange International Library Projects. Go to www.nancybolt.com/jewelry for more information.

International Reception: Save the date and time

ILCE-IG will once again host its international reception on Thursday, September 19, 2019 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Stop by Nancy Bolt's booth at CALCON for location information. Network and share ideas about international library opportunities.

Librarians Without Borders: Guatemala



Two ILCE-IG members, Kathy Plath and Sue Keefer, recently journeyed to Guatemala with Librarians Without Borders to work in a school library in Quetzaltenango.

Ten years ago, Librarians Without Borders, a group from Canada, partnered with Miguel Angel Asturias Academy to start a library. Each year, the group goes back to take new books, do cataloging, do library programming, and other activities, depending on the school's needs.

Kathy and Sue were chosen to attend with seven other librarians and library students from Canada and the U.S. Two Canadian librarians went along as LWB leaders.

The group arrived in Guatemala City April 26. The next day, they traveled to a book publisher outside of the city, where they purchased books for the school. Both Kathy and Sue had hosted Facebook fundraisers, and most of the books purchased were due to their efforts.

The group spent four days at the school, which is a K-12 private school. The first two days, after a tour of the school, some began cataloging the purchased books, while others worked on finishing up programming for the students.

The last two days were spent working with the students. Before coming into the library, everyone must take off their shoes (adults, too!). Some of the activities included using a flannel board with a desert habitat, singing animal songs, and making animal masks (for the younger students) and origami, a word search, and "name the animal" for the older students.

After the programming on the last day, the LWB group was surprised with a special event. Several age groups did traditional dances, and then each LWB librarian was presented with a letter handcrafted by the students. Then, the parents fixed lunch for the librarians.

That afternoon, the younger ones of the LWB group engaged in a soccer match with the students. In the evening, the teachers fixed dinner for the group, followed by dancing.

In the spare time, the group toured Xela and traveled to a glass-blowing factory and a textile co-op. The group also spent an afternoon and evening in Panajachel, located on Lake Atitlan, and a day in La Antigua.



Primary students with their animal masks

By Sue Keefer

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Nancy Bolt, Chair, nancybolt@earthlink.net
Jen Yadav, Secretary, [jyadav@dclibraries.org](mailto: jyadav@dclibraries.org)
Janet Lee, At large janet.lee35@gmail.com
Barb Thorne, At large, BarbThorne@aol.com
Jane Mirandette, At large, janem101@aol.com
Kathy Plath, At large, plathkathy@gmail.com
Sue Keefer, At large, stlreadn@gmail.com
Shannon Brennan, At large, sbrennan@littletongov.org

Colorado Association of Libraries
P.O. Box 740905
Arvada, CO 80006
Phone 303 463-6400
cal@cal-webs.org



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Who We Are

The International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group (ILCE-IG) grew out of the American-Bulgarian Library Exchange Project (1996-2011), which sought to create connections and cooperation between American and Bulgarian libraries. The ILCE-IG has extended its scope to encourage projects that foster relationships between Colorado Libraries and those of other countries, to help build and maintain libraries in communities overseas, and to celebrate non-dominant cultures across Colorado.

We're on the web:
ilceig.wordpress.com/

ILCE-IG at CALCON

Library Services to Refugee and Immigrant Populations. Thursday, September 19, 2019 2:30 p.m.



The inscription on the Statue of Liberty reads: "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" Providing services to refugee and immigrant populations are both challenging and fulfilling, yet a vital part of the everyday services of libraries and librarians. Come listen to our distinguished panelists and discover what makes this population so unique and why providing this service is fulfilling. This presentation is sponsored by the International Library and Cultural Exchange Interest Group.

Presenters:

Marina Valenzuela, Arapahoe Libraries
Glucia Rabello, Bemis Public Library
Daniyom Bekele, Denver Public Library