



## International Library and Cultural Exchange Annual Report 2019

Submitted by Nancy Bolt

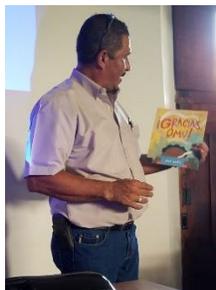
The ILCE-IG has had another very successful year. Our members have participated in a number of activities, locally, nationally, and internationally.

**CALCON 2019** ILCE-IG sponsored the program: *Library Services to Refugee and Immigrant Populations*. Presenters included: Marina Valenzuela, Arapahoe Libraries, and Daniyom Bekele, Denver Public Library. The panel presented on current services in Colorado for refugee and immigrant populations and was well received by an enthusiastic audience.



ILCE-IG held an international librarians' reception where important contacts were made. On behalf of ILCE-IG, Nancy Bolt managed a booth at the exhibits featuring international jewelry from her various travels. A portion of the sales is donated to the ILCE-IG grant fund.

**Three grants awarded.** ILCE-IG's grant committee 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.



HJH Libraries for All sponsored a very successful conference for librarians and library workers in Granada, Nicaragua reading utilizing the 2019 Read for the Record book, *Gracias Omu*. Coloradans Janet Lee, Barb Thorne, Victor Zuniga joined HJH Founder, Jane Mirandette, and librarians from the University of Maryland in presenting and playing important roles during the conference. Nicaraguan presenters included Gustavo Cruz, President of ANIBIPA, the Nicaraguan library association, and Nubia Manzanares, from the US Embassy American Corners Library. Staff from the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca helped organize and participated in the conference. The grant partially covered supplies, transportation, books, a copy of *Gracias Omu* in Spanish, and the conference luncheon.



Mesa County Libraries: Culture Fest. The ILCE-IG grant partially funded the 2019 Culture Fest, an annual event of the Mesa County Libraries. The event included a juried art exhibition, international arts and crafts, food, and performances. Over 2,100 individuals attended the event and 39 volunteers assisted staff with hosting. See full report on the ILCE-IG website:

<https://wordpress.com/post/ilceig.wordpress.com/1381>

## ALA Presentations

Janet Lee moderated the panel for the IRC Africa Committee's "An Excursion into Africana Collections Around the World."

Janet Lee presented a poster during the International Poster Session, "Bridging the Digital Divide through the use of Chromebooks and a Stand-alone Server in Rural Ethiopia." This project was the recipient of the first IRRT Mission Enhancement grant.

**IFLA** Nancy Bolt attended the 85<sup>th</sup> IFLA WLIC in Athens Greece. She is currently serving as chair of the Library Services to People with Special Needs. The committee has had a very productive year revising guidelines and special reports.

## International Travel and Service



Guatemala. Two ILCE-IG members, Kathy Plath and Sue Keefer, journeyed to Guatemala with Librarians without Borders to work in a school library in Quetzaltenango. They were chosen to attend with seven other librarians and library students from Canada and the U.S. During their travels they traveled to a bookstore where they purchased books for the school. Both Kathy and Sue had hosted

Facebook fundraisers and most of the books purchased were due to these efforts. The group spent four days at the school cataloging books and working with students.

Nicaragua. The aforementioned librarians in the HJH Libraries for All conference also participated in the San Juan del Sur Biblioteca 18th annual anniversary celebration in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua. The celebration focused on the book "Gracias Omu," The Read for the Record selection for 2019. Lunch was enjoyed by all participants and an award ceremony was held in the afternoon. A highlight of the event was the inauguration of 3D printing, presented by librarians from the University of Maryland. While on site, Barb Thorne performed cataloging duties and Victor Zuniga provided training and translation services.

Kathy Plath serves on the board of Laptops to Lesotho (L2L). Laptops to Lesotho is in the process of building a classroom/library at Kokobe Elementary School in Lesotho, Africa. The current one laptop per child laptops will be replaced with Kindle Fires. The Fires will be able to access a server that is being loaded with educational materials by the SolarSPELL project at Arizona State University. This will greatly enhance the learning opportunities for children and teachers.

**Publications** ILCE-IG published one issue of the Navigator, September 2019. <https://ilceig.files.wordpress.com/2019/09/ilce-ig-newsletter-issue-9-1.pdf> Newsletters

Two submissions to the February-March 2020 MPLA newsletter were published, <https://mpla.us/documents/newsletter/2020/february-march-2020.pdf>

ILCE-IG has an active Facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/ilceig/> and website: <https://ilceig.wordpress.com/>

[Lee, J. \(2019\), "Bridging the digital divide through the use of Chromebooks in Ethiopia", \*Library Hi Tech News\*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. https://doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-08-2019-0051](https://doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-08-2019-0051)

**AWARDS** Janet Lee won the prestigious 2019 Magis Medal from Alpha Sigma Nu, the Honor Society of Jesuit Colleges and University who melded her professional passion for libraries and literacy in serving underserved populations locally and internationally, most specifically returning to her adopted home of Ethiopia on several occasions to assist in library development and literacy training with an emphasis on first language publishing. <https://www.alphasigmanu.org/awards/magis-medal/>



**Meetings** ILCE-IG held two planning meetings and bid farewell to long-time steering committee member Barbara Thorne who is moving out of state.