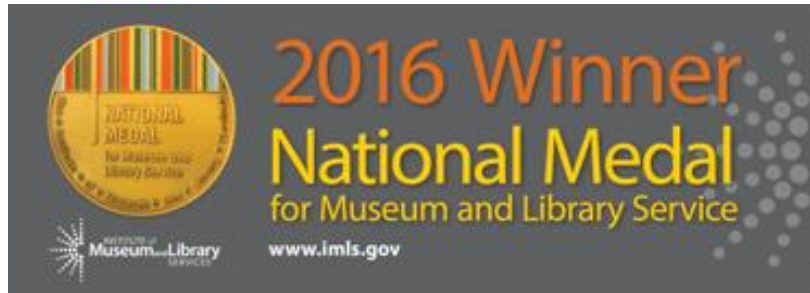


Library Director Report
April 2016

WE WON!!!!!!



The National Medal is one of the highest honors a library or museum can receive in the US. In its 22 year old history MPL is the first public library in Wisconsin to receive this award. I will be traveling to Washington DC with our featured community member, Rob Franklin, and Library Board President Tracy Kuczenski to accept the award given by Michelle Obama. Rob will also be featured in a short video that was produced in our media lab as part of the presentation on the 2016 National Medal winners.

CAPITAL BUDGET KICKOFF

The basic message from the Mayor in regard to the upcoming 2017 Capital budget was to delay projects if possible and only projects that are underway that do not have large operational budget ties should continue to be pursued.

WHAT WORKS CITIES

This is a national program in which the City of Madison was recently asked to participate. It involves using data to make decisions on the direction for the city and its services. The Library was one of five city departments asked to participate in the initial meeting to create a base for the program. We will have follow up meetings and complete some training sessions from experts who will demonstrate the application of data to decision-making.

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

We had 14 staff members attend the PLA conference in Denver. This was the largest participation we have had for a national conference. Many of the MPL attendees presented at the conference. I was very impressed when I was walking to a session and overheard a group of attendees talking about the awesome program they had just attended about MPL. In fact they were quoting lines from the presentation to others who could not make it. Awesome.

I also met with a group at PLA regarding digital music projects. Again MPL received kudos for our leadership role in this field with the development of the Yahara Music Library.

LIBRARY SITING AND ALLOCATION

The City is still in negotiations with RDC regarding the Royster Corners development.

Monona Terrace has decided to not co-locate with the Library at the Badger Building currently under design. Their withdrawal will mean that we have sufficient budget to complete the project without having to fund an extension to the building. The project will be moving from design to construction documents soon.

The eastside strategic siting plan “Communities Inspiring Libraries” is now with the designers to format the final report prior to printing. We will present the final report to the Board at the June meeting for approval.

KNIGHT NEWS FOUNDATION

Out of the several proposals to the KNF’s latest round of funding we have for the first time reached the semi-finals. Out of 616 proposals, the project involving Rabble and the Yahara Music Library made the cut to the next group of 47. Winners will be announced on June 21st.

STAFF RECOGNITION

We have the upcoming retirements of two veteran library staff.

Lisa Mettauer has most recently had oversight of our social services at Central Library. Under her guidance we established the current case management worker program. Her duties included her attendance at many community meetings and events regarding homeless issues in Madison. She was a hard working and empathetic advocate for people in need in our community. In addition she created a fun film series at Central Library showing “bad” movies.

Linda Wolfe has been a city employee for 47 years, most of those with the Library. Linda has been a dedicated and hardworking union representative for library staff. She never shied away from the difficult negotiations. Linda was always the go to person to help resolve labor concerns. She was a tremendous resource to my office by knowing the history regarding my many questions surrounding particular labor agreements or practices. Not only was she a valuable worker in the Technical Services department she was also a valued mentor to many of her coworkers during her tenure in that department.

Congratulations to both of you on your stellar careers with the library.

SPECIAL GIFT

Tom Linfield from the Madison Community Foundation recently contacted my office to let me know that MCF is contributing \$50K to the Pinney project. This sizeable contribution is a reflection of their recognition of the valuable services we bring to the Madison community, as Tom shared during his phone conversation with me, “Well earned. “

SPECIAL VISIT AND PRESENTATION

On May 13th at 1:30-3:00pm at Central Library, Sari Feldman, current president of ALA, will be making a public presentation on Libraries Transform. I would encourage board members to attend if possible.

Business Meetings

Matt Mulder Director of Library Innovation for Demco
UW/Madison Advance Board meeting
Interview with UW journalist student
Phone meeting with Alder Demarb on the Pinney project
IMLS National Medal winner conference call
Meeting with Susan Schmitz, DMI Executive Director
Budget check in meeting with Betsy York
Labor Management meeting
Staff meeting regarding the changes being made at Bethel for homeless services
Meeting with Public Health department regarding future collaborations

City Business

Dept/Division Head Meeting with Mayor
Mayor's Management Team
Capital Budget Kickoff
Mayor's Retreat for Dept/Div Heads
Mayor's Human Services workgroup

Public/Media Appearance

PLA Conference
"All Ways Forward" UW/Madison fundraising event in Chicago
Interview with the Badger Herald regarding the National Medal award
Take Your Child to Work
Literacy Network Reading Between the Wines event
Agnes B, WI Center for the Humanities event