Makerspaces are making their way into all types of libraries: academic, public, and school libraries are joining this trend to adapt to changes in what their communities want and need. Makerspaces represent those adaptations as society changes focus from the “consumption of knowledge to the co-creation and production of knowledge.” (Enis, 2015, p. 24)

Librarians attending the 2015 NLA/NSLA Conference in Lincoln were given the opportunity to see a makerspace firsthand. The Directors of the Nebraska Regional Library Systems collaborated to bring a variety of makerspace activities to the Exhibits Hall.

The following list contains vendor information and approximate cost.

**Calligraphy practice mats** are intriguing to both children and adults. It is a fabric mat that is 28” x 18” with grid lines marked on it. Using only a Chinese character writing brush and a dish of water, participants are able to practice calligraphy and writing Chinese characters. The writing shows up black on the mat, but when it dries, it disappears. The mat will last for 10,000 times and it is hand washable. The mat and a brush sell on Amazon for $11.

**Coloring pages** for adults have become very popular and it is easy to see why. This is a nearly-free addition to a makerspace. Books are available for purchase, but countless pages are free online. Provide crayons, fine-tipped markers, and/or colored pencils for a cost of $1 - $10. Adult Coloring Clubs have social, mental, and creative benefits. People are drawn to the club because, unlike a book club, no preparation is necessary and no particular skill is required, not even speaking English. The Club provides an opportunity to meet new people in a stress-free environment. Participants “unplug” from the screens in their lives and unwind (Marcotte, 2015, p. 18-19).
**Crochet needles**, project books and yarn are a traditional addition to a makerspace. Cross stitch, knitting, needlepoint, sewing, and weaving are also popular activities. A Needlework Club can be a big hit. Anyone of any age working on any kind of needlework project is welcome. The only thing the library needs to provide is the space and maybe a coffee pot.

**Decorated duct tape** can be purchased in craft stores, home improvement stores and from Amazon for about $5 per roll. Discounted combo packs are available as well. Kids (and adults) will make jewelry, bags, wallets, hair accessories and more. Once you have the tape, even the old-fashioned silver kind, scissors, a ruler, and some idea books are all that is needed to set up a Duct Tape Makerspace that will encourage creativity.

**LEGO® building blocks** are commonly found in makerspaces. LEGO® Clubs are popular with the tween crowd. Books filled with projects can be bought or just turn the club members loose. There are a variety of sources for these well-known building sets, but the least expensive way to increase your stash is to ask for donations. Nearly everyone has a box in the attic, basement, or garage.

**MaKey MaKey** is a kit that turns everyday objects into touchpads and combines them with the internet. It is easy to make a banana piano and other unique projects (Silver, 2015). The classic kit can be purchased directly from the official website or through Amazon for around $50.

**Quilling** is an old craft that is coming back into popularity. Narrow strips of colored paper are curled around a fine-tipped tool (or a toothpick) and glued to paper to make decorative items or greeting cards. The quilling tool can be purchased at Hobby Lobby for $3.99. Packs of paper strips in color groupings are available there for $2.99. Pattern books are optional; there are many free design ideas on the Internet.

**Squishy Circuits** come in a kit with instructions for making both conductive play dough and insulating play dough. The tools in the kit allow children to create circuits and explore electronics using that dough (Thomas, 2015). The full kit is available from the Squishy Circuits Store webpage as well as Target, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon for around $25. Individual components can be purchased separately.

**Strawbees** are an inexpensive, easy-to-use construction kit. The instruction booklet for beginners is online at the Strawbees website (Strawbees, 2015). After that, only imagination limits what can be built. Using cardboard, plain drinking straws and the plastic connectors called Strawbees, kids and adults develop creative and problem-solving skills. The Central Plains Library System purchased the dies to cut out the connectors from Accucut. The plastic is available from them as well for $20/50 sheets. We will be glad to cut connectors or to loan the dies to any Nebraska library.

**Zoob®** is a building set that has five different styles of pieces “that snap together in 20 different ways. Kids can make connections that rotate, limbs that extend, axels that spin” (Alex Brands, 2015) and more. Sets come in many different sizes and price points ranging from $20 - $120. They are available from Walmart, Amazon, and ToysRUs, in addition the Alex Brands website.
These items represent a small sampling of what can be included in a makerspace. Academic librarians may choose to provide a space where users can take things apart (Harris, 2015, p. 9). School librarians might encourage exploration and creativity through writing, cooking, making films, or building a website (Abram, 2015, 10).

Start small and grow slowly. A makerspace can be a permanent area in your library or it may be a book cart with supplies than can be rolled into any classroom or it could be a group of carefully labeled plastic totes on shelves waiting for the afterschool crowd to arrive. The “space” part of makerspace is not the important part. Makerspaces are about your community’s culture, not specific rooms or equipment. Programs offer communities “a place to gather, share expertise, and work creatively and collaboratively, regardless of the tools involved.” (Enis, 2015, p. 25)

References
Puppet Order

Would you like to infuse extra excitement into your storytime? Add puppets to your routine and see the sparkle in the little ones’ eyes.

Folkmanis has more than 250 puppets of all sizes available. The company has been making the most innovative and engaging specialty puppets in the world since 1976, delighting imaginations and winning nearly every industry, child development, and kid-tested award – many repeatedly.

We will be placing a Central Plains Library System group order on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. If you would like to order puppets for your library, go to http://www.folkmanis.com to see pictures and videos. Our group rate is 50% of the price listed on the website, plus 15% for shipping. For example, the new French Bulldog puppet’s retail price is $29.99. We pay $15.00 plus $2.25 for a total of $17.25.

If you would like to order any puppets, please call Kay at 1-800-569-4961 or email her at cplasst@gmail.com by Monday, February 29, 2016.
Summer Reading Workshop

On Your Mark, Get Set Read

Presented by Central Plains Library System

Date: March 21, 2016

Mid Plains Community College
601 West State Farm Road
North Platte, NE 69101

(Registrations due March 14th)

AGENDA

9:30 -10:45 am  Book reviews by Sally Snyder, NLC
10:45 -11:00 am  Sharing Time
11:00—Noon  Extension Educator

LUNCH—1 Hour
1:00 - 1:30 pm  Games with Denise and Sharon
1:30 - 3:30 pm  Crafts with Jody Crocker

In case of inclement weather please contact the System office to see if the workshop has been rescheduled ( 1-800-569-4961 or 308-708-1688)

SUMMER READING REGISTRATION —$20.00

Date: March 21, North Platte  Registration Fee $20.00 (Includes your lunch)

Your Name:________________________________________
Library:____________________________________________
E-mail:____________________________________________

Please send registration and checks to: Central Plains Library System
2727 West 2nd Street, Suite # 233
Hastings, NE  68901

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administrated by the Nebraska Library Commission.
Celebrate National Library Week
April 10-16, 2016

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

http://www.ala.org/conferences/events/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek

Access to Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Opinions
Free online access to the official published judicial opinions of the Nebraska Supreme Court and Nebraska Court of Appeals will be available to the public beginning January 1, 2016, through the Nebraska Appellate Courts Online Library at ne.gov/go/opinions.

Public libraries serve as a valuable resource for self-represented litigants in the court system by providing access to computers, the Internet, printers, and other basic information about the law. Additionally, after January 1, 2016, public libraries will be able to offer the official certified opinions of the appellate courts free of charge using the online library.

Text-searchable opinions dating back to 1871 will be available for the Nebraska Supreme Court. The full collection of opinions of the Nebraska Court of Appeals, beginning with its establishment in 1992, will also be offered.

Permanent versions of all published opinions will be provided exclusively via the online library once formal printing of the Nebraska Advance Sheets and the Decisions of the Nebraska Court of Appeals ceases in June 2016.

Access via the online library allows the appellate courts to make their judicial opinions more easily available to the public.
The Central Plains Library System is declaring February 1 – 6, 2016, a “Week of Weeding”!
We want to encourage everyone to participate by agreeing to weed a section of their library that they have been avoiding. You know what it is—that corner, that shelf, that genre of books that you have put off weeding for a while. Now’s the time! **All** Libraries in CPLS are eligible to participate!

**How to Participate:**

1. Call the Hastings CPLS Office (800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975) or send Sharon or Denise an email at sharonosenga@gmail.com or denise.cpls@gmail.com to let us know you want to participate.

2. If you need extra encouragement or help deciding what to weed, let Sharon or Denise know. We will be glad to give advice and to lend a helping hand.

3. After you finish your weeding project, fill out the form below.

4. Those who submit their forms to the Hastings CPLS Office by February 12th will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire eReader! The winning library will be selected in a random drawing on Monday, February 15, 2016.

---

**Week of Weeding Participation Form**

Library _____________________________________________________________

Section Weeded ______________________________________________________

How many books were weeded? (approximately) __________________________

Best (or worst) thing that was weeded out? _____________________________________________________________

We’d love to see some “before and after” photos of your project! You can email digital pictures or submit printed photos with this participation form. (Pictures are not required and will not affect your library’s chance to win the eReader.)

Return form to: Central Plains Library System
2727 West 2nd Street #233
Hastings, NE 68901
Big Talk From Small Libraries
February 26, 2016
8:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (CT)

Big Talk From Small Libraries is back!

We’ve been listening! A comment we’ve heard pretty often is that so many presentations at conferences seem to be by and for librarians from larger libraries. Well, Big Talk From Small Libraries will change that. This free one-day online conference is aimed at librarians from small libraries; the smaller the better. Each of our speakers will be from a small library or directly works with small libraries.

Topics will range from technology (new tech and old tech) to programming to new roles for the library. Come for the programs on what you’re dealing with now, or maybe try something new.

Everyone is welcome to register and attend, regardless of how big or small their library is, but if your library serves a few thousand people, or a few hundred, this is the day for you.

Big Talk From Small Libraries 2016 will be broadcast online using the GoToWebinar online meeting service. GoToWebinar login instructions will be e-mailed to registered attendees the day before the conference.

This conference is organized and hosted by Christa Burns and Craig Lefteroff of the Nebraska Library Commission and is co-sponsored by the Association for Rural & Small Libraries.

More details can be found @ http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/

Cutting Machines

These handy machines cut out letters and shapes from paper, felt, cloth, thin cardboard, magnetic sheets, and foam. CPLS owns two Ellison machines—one Original and a Prestige Space Saver—plus one Mark IV Accu-Cut Machine, and dies (including a 2” alphabet/numbers and a 4” alphabet/numbers). System members may check the desired machine and/or dies out for a month at a time. See the reservation schedule online at: http://libraries.ne.gov/cpls/die-shapes/. Call the Hastings CPLS office to reserve this equipment for your library.
Cover One Book Repair Service!

The System has purchased a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. This machine easily binds up to a 2 ½" thick book and it has a sliding wall to hold smaller books in place. It will also work with legal size and well as regular 8 ½ x 11" size items. Repaired books will be ready to use in just 20 minutes! Go to http://www.coverone.net and click on the link for Book Repair Demo on the left-hand side of the page to see it in action.

This machine is perfect to repair books with glued bindings that have “popped” and split into several big chunks, paperbacks that have come out of their covers, and books where individual pages are coming loose.

Mail or bring your books to the Hastings System Office.
We will repair them for $1 per book plus actual return postage.

Disc Cleaning and Repair

The System Office has the ECO AUTO-SMART Fully Automatic Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won’t play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016, each CPLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.

- If you have more than 10 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc plus return postage.
- If you come to the CPLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than $5.00 per disc!
Audiobook Collection

CPLS owns over 650 circulating audiobook titles. System member libraries may borrow audiobooks (CD, MP3, and Playaway formats) for a loan period of 90 days.

New titles include:

- The Hen of the Baskervilles by Andrews, Donna
- Aunt Dimity and the Summer King by Atherton, Nancy
- The Christmas Train by Baldacci, David
- The Guilty by Baldacci, David
- Book Clubbed by Barrett, Lorna
- Gone to Sea in a Bucket by Black, David
- Malice at the Palace by Bowen, Rhys (MP-3 format)
- The Oregon Trail by Buck Rinker
- Depraved Heart by Cornwell, Patricia
- The Burned Bridges of Ward, Nebraska by Curtwright, Eileen
- The Angel by Dawson, Mark
- The Mistletoe Inn by Evans, Richard Paul
- A Banquet of Consequences by George, Elizabeth
- “X” by Grafton, Sue
- Fate and Furies by Groff, Lauren
- After She's Gone by Jackson, Lisa
- The Theory of Death by Kellerman, Faye
- Thomas Jefferson & the Tripoli Pirates by Kilmeade, Brian
- The Bazaar of Bad Dreams by King, Stephen
- Summer by Kingsbury, Karen
- Into Thin Air by Krakauer, Jon
- After Glow by Krentz, Jayne Ann writing as Castle, Jayne
- Rosemary -The Hidden Kennedy Daughter by Larson, Kate
- God is With You Everyday by Lucado, Max
- 204 Rosewood Lane by Macomber, Debbie
- 16 Lighthouse Road by Macomber, Debbie
- A Storm of Swords by Martin, George R.R.

Continued on Pg 11
**Audiobook Collection - New Titles—continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Clash of Kings</td>
<td>Martin, George R.R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Dance with Dragons</td>
<td>Martin, George R.R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game of Thrones</td>
<td>Martin, George R.R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms</td>
<td>Martin, George R.R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circling the Sun</td>
<td>McLain, Paula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Power of I Am</td>
<td>Osteen Joel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step on a Crack</td>
<td>Patterson, James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stars of Fortune</td>
<td>Roberts, Nora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Tokyo</td>
<td>Scott, James M. (MP3 format)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Story</td>
<td>Smart, Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Steel, Danielle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Irish Country Wedding</td>
<td>Taylor, Patrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Irish Doctor in Love and At Sea</td>
<td>Taylor, Patrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Spool of Blue Thread</td>
<td>Tyler, Ann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Crescent Spy</td>
<td>Wallace, Michael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Martian</td>
<td>Weir, Andy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hunting Trip</td>
<td>Butterworth III, William E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Mahogany</td>
<td>Woods, Stuart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

View the list of titles on our website under Services and then call or email the System office to borrow or reserve titles.

---

2016 TEEN TECH WEEK™
CREATE IT AT YOUR LIBRARY!

Teen Tech Week will be held March 6-12, 2016. It is a national initiative sponsored by YALSA and is aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other concerned adults. The purpose of Teen Tech Week is to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of digital media, especially the non-print resources offered through libraries, such as e-books, e-readers, databases, audiobooks, and social media. Go to [http://teentechweek.ning.com/page/toolkits](http://teentechweek.ning.com/page/toolkits) for FREE digital download of themed posters, bookmarks, and more!
Nebraska Library Association
Paraprofessional Section 2016 Spring Meeting

The Future

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. CT

SESSION I: Rebecca Stavick, Executive Director of Do Space, [http://www.dospace.org/](http://www.dospace.org/)
Presenting on Do Space a one-of-a-kind concept: it’s a community technology library, a digital workshop and an innovation playground filled with new opportunities to learn, grow, explore and create.

SESSION II: Emily Dust Nimsakont, Head of Cataloging & Resource Management, Schmid Law Library, UNL
Emily's presentation is on RDA (Resource Description & Access) for non-tech services librarians and paraprofessionals, in other words, for lay people

SESSION III: Erica Rose, Library Science Instructor at University of Nebraska-Omaha
Presenting on Skills and Dispositions for 21st Century Librarians


Janet Greser
NLA Para Board Member
janet.greser@nebraska.gov

CPLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to $100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.
Only one scholarship per person per year.
Each Library Agency shall be limited to two scholarships per year.

Name________________________________________
Library_____________________________________
Event______________________________________
Date of event________________________________
Scholarship requested for ______________________ (meal, room, etc.)
Amount requested________________
Other information: ______________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Send your request to: Central Plains Library System
2727 W. 2nd Street # 233
Hastings, NE  68901
The Public Library Association Conference is scheduled for April 5-9, 2016, in Denver, Colorado. It is the premier event for public libraries, drawing thousands of librarians, library support staff, trustees, friends, and library vendors from across the country and around the world. This multi-day event offers over 100 top-quality education programs, social events that include author luncheons and networking receptions, and a bustling exhibits hall featuring the latest in products and services. Register by February 26 and save! http://www.placonference.org/registration/

NLA is excited to offer a group bus trip to PLA Conference in Denver Colorado. NLA, with help from the Legacy fund, will be able to offer low cost transportation for Nebraska librarians to and from the conference via charter bus. A bus will leave in the predawn hours on April 5th from Omaha, making pick up stops in Lincoln, Grand Island, and North Platte before depositing travelers in Denver. For more information, contact Jake Rundle at rundleje@gmail.com.

Preconferences are available on the afternoon of the 5th and the morning of the 6th. Regular conference activities start at 9:30 a.m. on April 6 with a Book Buzz. The Opening Session with Anderson Cooper starts at 2:00 p.m.

Join your fellow librarians for a terrific bus trip to Denver.
NLA Advocacy Day is Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Libraries are “Community-Maker” Spaces

This year’s event will start at 10:00 am with a briefing at the State Capitol in Hearing Room 1507. From 10:45 to 11:45 am you will be able to meet with your senator and/or staff. Escort your senator to the noon luncheon at the Cornhusker. And after lunch, you can take advantage of an optional activity hosted by Nebraska Library Commission & Nebraska Innovation Studio, to be held at the Innovation Studio & Innovation Campus Auditorium, 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE

We have a terrific day scheduled so please make your plans to attend!

Eleven Points to Effective Lobbying

by Sharon Osenga

1. Make an appointment to visit your legislator.
2. Identify yourself and/or the organization you represent.
3. Make sure you inform the legislator that you are a registered voter in his/her district.
4. Be prepared. Deal in facts. Leave supporting documents
5. Get your point across in the fewest possible words.
6. Don’t argue, name call or threaten.
7. Give the legislator a chance to express his/her point of view and be a good listener.
8. Don’t be afraid to admit ignorance on special points. Say you will find the answer and report back.
9. Even if turned down, leave on a friendly note since you may want to join forces on another issue or get back later on the original issue in question.
10. Give special recognition to the legislators who are known to be on your side, and ask them for advice and help in reaching other legislators.
11. If lobbying with a group, one person should speak on behalf of the group.
2016 READING CHALLENGE

☐ a book published this year
☐ a book you can finish in a day
☐ a book you've been meaning to read
☐ a book recommended by your local librarian or bookseller
☐ a book you should have read in school
☐ a book chosen for you by your spouse, partner, sibling, child or BFF
☐ a book published before you were born
☐ a book that was banned at some point
☐ a book you previously abandoned
☐ a book you own but have never read
☐ a book that intimidates you
☐ a book you've already read at least once
Central Plains Library System

Mark Your Calendar

February 1-6  CPLS Week of Weeding (see page 7)
February 8-19 Basic Skills, Customer Service
February 10  Quarterly Meeting with NLC
February 15  President’s Day Holiday —System Offices Closed
February 26  Big Talk from Small Libraries (see page 8)
Febr.29-March 11 Basic Skills, Library Governance (taught by Denise)
March 6-12  Teen Tech Week “Create It @ Your Library” http://teentechweek.ning.com/ (see page 11)
March 8  Advocacy Day, Lincoln (See page 14)
March 8  State Advisory Council for Libraries, Lincoln, 1:30 pm
March 19  School Libraries Day
March 21  Summer Reading Program Workshop, North Platte (see page 5)
March 21-April 15 Basic Skills, Organization of Materials
April 5-9  Public Library Association Conference, Denver (see page 13)
April 10-16 National Library Week, “Libraries Transform” (see page 6)
April 25-May 6 Basic Skills, Readers Advisory (taught by Sharon)
May 2-8  Children’s Book Week http://www.bookweekonline.com/about

Where else could a member of the public linger for over ten hours without being questioned?

~Barry Bowes

We’re On the Web

libraries.ne.gov/cpls