

It would be great to have the dates and locations for the next one to two conferences announced at the current conference. We need to be forward thinking.

We agree! The WLA 2020 Committee is already working on 2020 and in about 6 months the WLA 2021 Committee will begin its work. It takes longer than 8 or 9 months to put a conference together, so we're hoping this will jump start the planning and that in the future we will be able to announce at the conference where the location and dates of the next one.

WLA needs space for approximately 140 for meals and 4-5 rooms for 25-65 people for breakout sessions. Please list any other locations you would like the committee to consider.

Using the community colleges limits us to the time period when they are not in session. Other feedback is very strongly against August. However, the board is discussing one year community college in August and another year in Sept/Oct at a conference site.

The Ramkota in Casper doesn't have enough meeting rooms and a couple of the rooms are very small (10 people). We're hoping the Casper Clarion Inn and the new Convention Center that Cheyenne will be getting will be good options.

These suggestions will be passed on to the WLA 2020 and WLA 2021 Conference Committees

Just about every place in Wyoming was suggested. It's probably time for WLA to work with Wyoming tourism to make sure we're not missing a place that will meet our conference needs.

Please indicate which month you would prefer for conference.

This is probably a bit skewed since most people who answered the survey attended the conference and it was in August. However, it appears pretty evenly split. Between August/Sept/Oct. Not all libraries are through with Summer Reading in August. All suggestions/comments will be passed on to the WLA 2020 and WLA 2021 Conference Committee.

Preconference and Program suggestions: Do you have any ideas for a keynote speaker or keynote topics? Do you have any ideas for an author whom you would like to see?

There were a lot of great and varied ideas! Since we have made the conference smaller and now only do 2 meals with speakers, we are trying to alternate adult authors and children's authors.

Information will be passed on to the WLA 2020 and WLA 2021 Conference Committee.

Our state doesn't do enough to hype the book awards or make them relevant.

We will pass this information on promoting the Youth Awards to the Book Awards Committee.

Comment about the awards: We need a backdrop for photos. And when setting up tables, keep in mind how the lighting will be during the awards presentation and set up accordingly. I loved the causal feel of this year's ceremony, but it was split in two with the buffet line separating the two sections. This felt very "divided" to me.

We do apologize for this. Little America had the wrong date scheduled for the event. We did not get what we expected. We will certainly take this information into account as we plan for future years.

I would like to see a more formal awards reception -- live music, full meal.

This change was made in response to previous conference feedback. At this time the major presentation is made in the awardee's home location so local media, staff, etc. are able to celebrate with the winner. We will keep track of this feedback and if there appears to be a trend towards the membership/attendees wanting this kind of event the conference committee will certainly investigate it.

It's odd that award nominees are not notified they've been nominated. Nominations for awards (especially those from a statewide association) can be listed on resumes and CVs and being nominated is an honor in and of itself. Nominees should know that someone noticed their good works and should have the opportunity to thank those who submitted the nomination. It's very odd, and not typical that this information is withheld.

*This is an excellent point and will be passed on to the Awards Committee.
Thanks!*

Maybe we should have a few "parties" next year to increase connections. Social hours at the hotel or elsewhere are nice too -- game night, trivia, etc.

Baker & Taylor sponsored a trivia happy hour on Wed night – I'm not sure who was invited, and they asked about doing it at the last minute, but it was well-received and we're hoping that they will do that again next year. If not B&T, then perhaps another vendor will step up to the plate.

It is easier for us who travel 8 hours to get to the conference to attend a shorter conference and be able to go home on Friday rather than pay for another night in a hotel and go home the next day. I like the shorter conferences just as long as the workshops are helpful and well- presented.

This is one that we'll never be able to get exactly right. Our goal is to provide enough sessions to make it worth the time and money and if people can't stay, they can feel comfortable showing up later or leaving earlier.

Interest groups should not be at 8am or right before the first program of the day, as those programs don't have set up time. Interest groups shouldn't be an afterthought. Otherwise what is the point of them?

It is difficult to schedule the interest groups with such a full schedule. We will pass this along to the Interest Group chairs.

Was it really necessary to have so many vendor breaks? After one round through, I had nothing more to look at or discuss with anyone, and it was wasted time. If there needs to be that many breaks, then we need more vendors with more variety

The Vendors pay money to attend the conference. Their fees offset our registration costs. Part of the contract is guaranteeing a specific amount of no-conflict time for the vendors.

Many of the Vendors attend to show their support for Wyoming Libraries. Additionally it gives them a chance to meet their customers face-to-face.

However, based on other feedback, this might be a good time to create (plan) some of that networking/socializing time that has been suggested. This idea will be passed on to the WLA 2020 and WLA 2021 Conference Committee's Program Committee.

We are always seeking Vendor contacts to invite. WLA's Executive Secretary, Laura Grott, is in charge of this process, so we will pass along these ideas for her to work from. Thanks!

Sessions needed to have quality introductions. Speakers shouldn't have to introduce themselves.

We agree! We tried to find volunteers to do this, but we weren't very successful. We'd love for those who want to help but don't have a lot of time to consider volunteering for this duty. It will need 4-5 people for each session, so please let Jake Mickelson or another WLA Program Committee member know if you are

interested in helping out with this. We will put out a call for volunteers much closer to the conference.