



ADMINISTRATION
& INFORMATION

STATE LIBRARY DIVISION

Mark Gordon, Governor | Patricia L. Bach, Director | Jamie Markus, State Librarian

State Librarian Report to the Wyoming Library Association

October 2020

Wyoming public and academic libraries saw a 16% library director turnover rate during the past year. WSL will conduct as many Directors' Orientations as needed to inform new directors of Wyoming Library Association, State Library, and WYLD Network services and obligations.

WSL remains fully staffed.

Budget News:

Like all State Agencies, the Department of Administration & Information submitted 10% and 20% budget reduction plans. The first 10% reduction was primarily removed from the State Leasing budget line. The second 10% is currently awaiting approval from the Governor's Office. The State Library anticipates taking a reduction through this process and/or the upcoming legislative session. The size of the reduction will dictate the response, but statewide databases and eBooks/eAudiobooks will most likely be impacted. The State Library's Statewide Shared Purchases Committee, a group made up of public, school, and academic librarians, will be charged with determining changes to GoWYLD.net resources.

The State Library received \$52,297 in CARES Act funds for Wyoming libraries and museums. The funds provided statewide library patron access to LinkedIn Learning, a business and technology learning portal; a literacy project on the Wind River Reservation; and various projects aimed at putting Wyoming museum collections online.

The State Library and Wyoming Arts Council received over \$170,000 in grant funding to support *Creative Aging Arts Programs in Wyoming Libraries*. The funding will cover an in-person training session for library staff and teaching artists in 2021, as well as subgrants to support library arts programs for seniors.

President Trump's 2021 Budget recommendation again eliminates all funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The American Library Association, Wyoming Library Association, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, and other organizations are closely monitoring this situation. The Wyoming Library Community may be asked to participate in communication and lobbying activities later this year. Our elected officials and their staff think highly of our libraries and services; no one believes that IMLS will be defunded.

State Library priorities have not changed:

1. **Shared library infrastructure** including the statewide Integrated Library System, interlibrary loan software, and electronic resource platforms
2. State Library **staff**
3. State Library programs and projects **required by statute**
4. Statewide library databases, resources, and digital content, and State Library programs, projects, and collections that are not required by statute

FY20 Project Updates:

The State Library updated our Strategic Plan: *Who We Are, What We Do, and Where We're Going*. The plan outlines State Library services and activities and charts a course for future projects. It can be found on the State Library's *About* webpage: <http://library.wyo.gov/about/>

The State Library assisted all types of libraries with emergency shut-down policies and procedures, adding additional online services for patrons, and phased reopening of library services and locations during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included hosting webinars for Q&A sessions, sending patron notifications of library closures, eliminating the ability to place holds or interlibrary loan requests on library materials, modifying patron due dates, and providing advice on curbside pickup, quarantining items, and many more process and procedure issues.

The Central Acquisitions Program successfully administered over 200 separate accounts for 43 Wyoming county libraries, school districts, community colleges, and institutions. The State Library facilitated and managed a \$1.8 million bulk purchasing program that saved libraries approximately 40% off retail pricing.

The State Library conducted 60 training sessions with more than 513 library workers, state employees, teachers, Wyoming residents, and others. Archived training videos were accessed 15,723 times and watched for more than 830 hours.

The WYLD Network of Libraries facilitated 3,430,978 library transactions in 108 public, academic, school, and special library outlets using the statewide integrated library system managed by the State Library. More than 7,000,000 searches were conducted in the online library catalogs in FY20.

The State Library circulated 380,781 eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines through statewide licensed products found on the GoWYLD.net library resource portal.

The State Library built a computer lab to support computer and network access for state employees required to telecommute and/or to rotate their time in the office due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements. This computer lab provides access to the state network, state employee network drives, and printers. The Patent and Trademark Depository collection was relocated in the library.