

## **Director's Report August 28, 2024**

**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us here at Caro Area District Library and thank you to Erin for hosting and giving us the chance to tour your library!

### **Volunteers Needed!**

We are always looking for volunteers to help at this meeting to run the Zoom room. Please consider volunteering if you are able to attend in person.

### **Grant and Library Association Reimbursement**

Forty-two libraries (87.5%-\$12,600.00) have shared how they are spending their \$300 mini-grant with just over half using it for SRP. Other was the next highest category at 21%, and the rest were split between books, continuing ed, and tech. Twenty-five libraries have submitted their library association reimbursement (\$19,779.00).

### **Reimbursable Services Support Program (emailed to members on August 12)**

#### **White Pine Library Cooperative Fiscal Year October 2024- September 2025**

After reviewing the Cooperative's 2024-2025 Plan of Service and considering member feedback, several key services emerged as priorities, including policy creation and updates and IT/tech support for web accessibility compliance. For the fiscal year 2024-2025, the White Pine Library Cooperative **is proposing** to reimburse members for Programming/CE/eResources, Tech Support, and Legal Services expenses, up to \$900.00 per member.

You can allocate this reimbursement amount as you see fit, whether across multiple categories or within a single one. To request reimbursement, select the category of expense and attach a copy of your receipt for the services you received.

#### **Programming/Continuing Education** (you/staff/board)/eResources(OverDrive/Hoopla)

Amount to be reimbursed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### **IT/Tech Support** (newspaper digitization, web accessibility)

Amount to be reimbursed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Legal Services** (policy creation/updating, consulting)

Amount to be reimbursed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

The deadline would be September 19, 2025, so all paperwork and reimbursements would be included in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

### **Pre-Conference and MLA**

The Pre-Conference and MLA are fast approaching! I will be attending both. The Pre-Conference kicks off on Tuesday, October 15. If you haven't been to MLA before, I will be at the New Attendee Welcome Breakfast on Wednesday along with folks from LOM, MCLS, and MLA. Who is going? You have until Friday, September 8 to apply for an MLA scholarship and Friday, September 27 for the LOM Continuing Ed scholarship.

## **LCM Retreat**

I attended the LCM Retreat in Muskegon from August 14-16, 2024. It is great for us to get together in person and talk about services, issues some members have, brainstorm ideas, etc. Similar to the Traveling Librarians, it gives us a chance to check in with each other and share how we do things in our different Cooperatives.

## **Library Visits!**

On the way to Muskegon, I stopped and visited Tari at Thomas Township (they are going through the process of hiring a new director), Tiffany at Merrill (installing an elevator), Sunday at Howe Memorial in Breckenridge (recently renovated with new carpet and updates to restrooms), and Jessica at Cutler Memorial in St. Louis (who is in the very early stages of looking at an addition/renovation).

## **The Palace Project**

I shared this in the Weekly Update, but wondered if anyone has looked into it? Like pricing of items?

If you haven't seen this or heard about it, Digital Public Library of America and Independent Publishers Group announced an agreement that allows libraries to purchase ebooks and audiobooks and own them in perpetuity, rather than a current licensing model used by OverDrive like metered access. The [Palace Marketplace](#), formerly DPLA Exchange, is an e-content acquisitions platform that works seamlessly with the [Palace app](#). With Palace Marketplace, libraries can customize diverse collections beyond the bestsellers, including non-English titles. Member libraries benefit from DPLA's ongoing publisher negotiations for new, more favorable licensing terms, and have access to their collection of more than 11,000 open-access items.

I downloaded The Palace Project app and at first, they wanted you to select your library, but if your library isn't listed, you can still go to the catalog and select and download a book. A few I looked at are from Project Gutenberg, but then there were others like Big Nate. I don't know the cost of the items as you have to sign up (free) to get access to that information.

## **LOM Yearbook Projects**

For several years, the Library of Michigan has actively collected yearbooks from Michigan high schools, colleges/universities, and other post-secondary institutions (e.g., nursing schools, business schools, vocational/technical schools). With the start of the school year, we are expanding the campaign through our social media and other communications tools. We are encouraging libraries and historical groups to share on their accounts. Additionally, you can find downloadable/printable posters about the yearbook collection project on our [Make A Gift page](#) that we hope everyone will consider placing in your local history spaces or public posting areas: [www.Michigan.gov/LibraryGift](http://www.Michigan.gov/LibraryGift). Questions about the project or potential yearbook donors should be directed to [Librarian@Michigan.gov](mailto:Librarian@Michigan.gov) or 517-335-1477.

Related to the Yearbook collection project, we've also added a Yearbook section to our website: <https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/public/michigan/yearbooks>. A key

component of the page is a directory of sites from libraries and organizations throughout the state that have digitized yearbook collections. The directory is still in the early stages so if you know of a yearbook digitization project that hasn't been included yet, please send the link to me at [OsterA@Michigan.gov](mailto:OsterA@Michigan.gov) so I can add it to the listing.

### **White Pine Annual Meeting!**

I hope you can join us on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at the Trillium Banquet Center in Saginaw for our Annual Meeting!

**Aaron Witt from A-Train Tactical** will present on various important topics including maintaining situational awareness, developing a survival mindset, lessons learned from real-world incidents, and prevention and response strategies. He will also discuss what an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is and how it can increase your organization's overall response capabilities. You may recall that I had asked for floor plans and Aaron will be using some of those in his presentation.

**Michell Bradley and David Votta** from LOM will be presenting **Dreaming, Dreading and Doing: An Overview of the State Libraries and AI Technologies Project**: The Library of Michigan, along with 14 other State Library Agencies, has been part of a State Libraries and AI Technologies Working Group to facilitate State Libraries in "dreaming" of ways that AI might augment the work that libraries do, in helping libraries to address aspects of AI that we are "dreading", and in "doing"; by providing us with an AI petting zoo to experiment with AI technologies in real-time. This presentation will provide an overview of the project, as well as lessons learned and future plans.

**Author, Poet, and Producer Caleb "The Negro Artist" Rainey** will be speaking about his writing journey and how to engage young people and diverse populations with writing/literature. He will also do a book signing after the program.

**Roundtable Discussions** recommended by you, our members, will also be a part of the afternoon.

Also included will be giveaways (B&N gift cards and Think Space Scholarships), book bundles, and gifts from our Conference sponsors. This year I contacted some of our vendors and asked for sponsorships and was pleasantly surprised to receive not only financial sponsorships from Hoopla, MI Class, and Swank Movie Licensing but also branded "swag" materials from Hoopla and OverDrive!

### [Google Doc Programming Listing](#)

Please add performers and contact information. There are about 15 performers listed in the doc so far.

### **Your Library Policies**

Reviewing and updating policies is important. Check out these resources if you need guidance.

**WPLC:** [Resources tab](#)

**LOM:** [Niche Academy Library Policies](#) If this link does not work, go to the [Continuing Ed](#) page, click on Niche Staff Skills, and then search library policies. [Administrative Resources](#)

**MLA:** [Policies Webinar](#) This webinar is wonky at the beginning. It appears to start about the 1-minute mark.

**ALA:** [Library Policies Guidelines](#)

**Kent District Library:** [KDL Policies](#)

**MI Right to Read:** [MLA's Intellectual Freedom Tool Kit](#)

### **Housekeeping Reminders...**

**Member Directory** Just a quick reminder that if your information has changed like email, hours, etc., please let Alison know. [Member Directory](#)