

A Message from the President: The Conference Issue!

Welcome to the PNLA Quarterly conference issue! The 2017 PNLA conference was held in Post Falls, Idaho, and showcased the wonderful and innovative work happening in libraries across the region. This particular conference will always hold a special place in my heart, as it was where I first took the reins as PNLA President.

For me, library conferences offer a great opportunity for professional development, rejuvenation, and meeting new people. The PNLA conference is no different. The recent PNLA member survey indicated that our membership also highly values the annual conference as a place to interact with and learn from peers in the Northwest. A unique aspect of the PNLA conference is its international scope, inviting librarians from both the United States and Canada to gather and share ideas. I am particularly drawn to the “just-right” size of the PNLA conference that allows for everyone to participate and interact. The PNLA Board is working hard to make sure that future PNLA conferences remain welcoming, diverse, and inclusive.

The success of any conference depends on the people who plan, present, and attend. PNLA is fortunate to have so many great librarians among our membership and in the region that have contributed to memorable PNLA conferences. To the PNLA membership and everyone that makes PNLA and our gatherings a success, I would like to extend my ongoing thanks. Our conferences are well-regarded in our Northwest library community because of you and your efforts.

The next PNLA conference will be held in Kalispell, Montana from August 1-3, 2018. The conference theme is Breaking the Fourth Wall which should elicit some interesting presentations and speakers. Kalispell is a beautiful location and I encourage you to plan to attend if you are able. I hope to see you there. In the meantime, please enjoy and be inspired by this latest conference issue of PNLA Quarterly.

For more information on the upcoming conference, please see: http://www.pnla.org/conference_2018.

Rick Stoddart
rstoddart@uidaho.edu