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Special points of interest:

- 2020 NMLA Annual Conference
- GO Bond B
- Voting Safely

Message from the President

Hello New Mexico Library Association Members!

This year has brought us all challenges. Whether you are in a School, Tribal, Public or Academic Library the changes Covid-19 has brought to our work has been an opportunity to review our mission to the communities we serve.

Where I serve- the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, more commonly known as New Mexico Tech- we created a mitigation strategy to allow the Library to physically open. Online continues to be a 24/7 platform- but physically opening to students, faculty, and researchers as of August 3, 2020, made our Library review services, sanitation, social distancing, access to computers and information.

How have you been working to create space in these times of Covid-19? Other than social distancing, quarantine of materials returned, masks and mitigation efforts, what have you worked out?

Like most libraries, we had created a space for collaborative learning, interaction, and engagement. Shifting to a Covid-19 protocol took some real thought, work, and education. At the Skeen Library we presently have 100 seats open for reservation for students, staff, faculty and researchers. 35 of these seats are with networked computers. 65 seats are located where excellent WiFi signals are accessible. Using LibCal, we have made a system of two-hour blocks for work, and a thirty- minute cleanup which runs throughout the day. We have reduced our physical site open hours from ninety-six hours a week to sixty-five hours per week due to the demands on staff. And, for those who wish to use WiFi without a reservation, we set up an outside setting of 14 picnic tables, complete with umbrellas and exterior electrical outlets- with no reservations needed. We then instituted a “page” system for withdrawal of materials and shifted to digital course reserves only.

Lots of work is needed to stay open these days. Staff needs, patron services, and the mission of being places which advocate for learning, readership, and information literacy all intersect. Yet, I am hopeful you have found your way forward to give access to information.

Please remember- in all our venues, Libraries serve the public/patron good. How will we face that challenge? How will we be a light for our communities, and a place for insight and information needs? How are you supporting activities like the Census, and Voter services? The circumstances with Covid-19 has changed our ways of doing things- but our presence in the communities we serve remains crucial.

Thinking of you- and working with you as we meet the needs of today.

David E Cox



NMLA 2020 Annual Conference Registration is Open—Deadline October 16



Submitted by Melanie Templet, NMLA Vice President

The NMLA's 2020 conference registration is now open. Due to the fact that the conference is completely virtual this year, there is an October 16 deadline for registration. No "in-person" or "day of" registration will be accepted.

The week of the conference registrants will receive an email with the updated program and links to the sessions and vendors populated throughout the program.

We have some exciting folks lined up for the keynote and Author "luncheon" panel! Our Thursday keynote this year with our "Vision for the Future" theme is Dr. Harrison Schmitt. He is an Apollo 17 moon-walker and the second to last man to walk on the Moon! Our Friday author "luncheon" panel consists of 3 Disney/Hyperion Rick Riordan presents authors - J.C. Cervantes, Sarwat Chadda and Kwame Mbaila! There are tons of awesome breakout sessions also on tap for this unprecedented year - don't miss it!

See the 2020 [NMLA Conference Page](#) for registration information and the program schedule.

Join or Renew Membership to NMLA

It's conference time and a great time renew membership to or join NMLA!

NMLA is open to anyone who is interested in supporting and promoting New Mexico Libraries.

Already a member and want to renew? Go to <https://nmla.wildapricot.org/join-us>.

Login using the using the button on the top right. Your user ID is the email address NMLA has on file. If you'd rather fill out a form and mail it in, the for is on the website. The address is:

New Mexico Library Association
PO Box 26074
Albuquerque, NM 87125

Have questions? Email us: Membership@nmla.org or give us a call (505) 400-7309.

GO Bond B 2020

*By Omar Durant, Chair NMLA
Bonds for Libraries SIG*

This November 3rd, New Mexico citizens will vote on General Obligation Bond Issue B, which if passed, will provide publicly funded New Mexico libraries with a total of \$9,500,000.00.

This GO Bond will provide \$3,000,000 each for Higher Education libraries, Public libraries and Public School libraries. It will provide \$500,000 for NM Tribal libraries.

Thanks to funding from the New Mexico Library Association, the Bonds for Libraries Special Interest Group (BfLSIG) is working on several ways to promote public awareness for the 2020 GO Bond Issue B.

BfLSIG Projects

Updated Bonds for Libraries Website: We have updated our website, nmbondsforlibraries.org with new material that will provide you, your parent organizations and your communities with current information about the upcoming GO Bond election in November.

The website has charts to show the estimated amounts each library would receive if the bond issue passes. Using this information, libraries can put together how much would be received by each type of library in a community or county.

Libraries can also identify what needs can be addressed with the local allocation, including responses needed due to the pandemic. Individual libraries are encouraged to post these facts on social media, as long as it is informational rather than advocacy.

NOTE: If you need more information regarding what is not allowed to be promoted with your outreach, there is an article on the BfLSIG website that addresses this issue.

Ideas: Need ideas for flyers and bookmarks? – Access brochure and bookmark designs from previous years online at nmbondsforlibraries.org. Download or copy any of the items posted there and print them at your site for distribution in your community. If you design your own graphics or flyers or bookmarks, please share them with us and we will post them on the website.

New Outreach Suggestions: If you have an idea for a resource or graphic that would help you “sell”

the GO Bond B in your area please let us know by writing to omardurant@yahoo.com and we will post them on the BfLSIG website.

What Can You Do?

Local Projects - Librarians, library staff and supporters are encouraged to develop local projects. Encourage your library board members and Friends groups to communicate their support for Bond B by writing letters and newspaper opinion columns and posting to social media.

Join the SIG, or a Subcommittee – The Bonds for Libraries SIG welcomes new members. You become a SIG member by joining NMLA and checking the box requesting to affiliate with the BfLSIG.

If you are a BfLSIG member you will be invited to attend general meetings, create methods of informational outreach, and propose creative new ways the BfLSIG may expand its communications to local communities. This could provide a great professional development opportunity for graduate students and new professionals.

Creative Local Marketing – Assist the SIG by educating your library patrons in creative ways. New Mexico libraries have deployed book displays, identified bond-funded computers and other technology, and used book plates to bring attention to the resources made available through Bond B.

Share your Library Photos – Photos of your libraries, resources, services, staff and patrons are always welcome. They help the SIG promote the Bond via the website, and on social media. If you send photos to omardurant@yahoo.com we will post them on our Bonds for Libraries website.

If we all work together we will have another successful Library GO Bond B election.

Please remember, absentee voting ballots will be mailed out on October 6. Early voting begins on October 17.



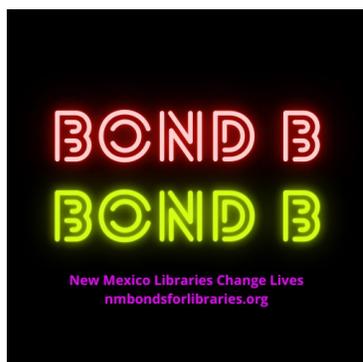
How to Promote Bond B Virtually

Submitted by Robyn Gleasner, Resource Management Librarian, UNM Health Sciences Library, rgleasner@salud.unm.edu

Wondering how you can promote Bond B while library buildings are closed or operating on limited hours? The UNM Health Sciences Library and Informatics librarians formed a brainstorming team to discuss this very thing. The team was passionate about promoting Bond B and came up with the following ideas that could be created and implemented quickly. To download, see

<https://www.nmbondsforlibraries.org/Advocacy>

- Facebook Profile Picture



- Facebook Banner



- Zoom Backgrounds - These can be used by library employees in place of traditional "Ask Me" buttons





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NMSU Debuts The Open Stacks Blog During Pandemic

By Dylan McDonald, CA, Political Collections Archivist/
Special Collections Librarian, NMSU

While working from home during the pandemic, the staff of the New Mexico State University Library Archives and Special Collections (ASC) launched the blog *The Open Stacks* (<https://openstacks.nmsu.edu>) in late March 2020 as a way to share with the public the dynamic and diverse content found in the collections. ASC staff hope to connect more meaningfully with users, highlight the varied work performed in the department, and share important research tips in blog postings. In short, the goal is to open up the archival stacks of ASC to readers. Content is written by ASC staff members along with guest posts by interns, student employees, and maybe a visiting researcher or two. Weekly posts are available, with fresh content coming out each Tuesday.

Over the last six months, posts have included behind-the-scenes looks at the fifteen-year long Durango Microfilming Project, how staff creates digital reproductions, and the valuable contributions made by student employees to furthering ASC's work; recent acquisitions including the Howell Allie Smith scrapbook, the Nellie Holt letters, and Joseph "Joe" Quesenberry diary; and deep dives into the border region and the history of the Loretto Academy, notable New Mexican women, historian Herman Weisner, and the 1935 Las Cruces flood.

The blog has also been used to launch ASC's project to document the effects of COVID-19 on NMSU and Southern New Mexico, a four-part journal on how the pandemic has affected an ASC staffer, and a post introducing the staff to the public that included a short video on how users can make use of department resources when access to the archives physical space is limited. The video, a first for ASC, made use of cell phone video capabilities, open-source editing software, and multiple takes to get the script just right. You can view the video at <https://youtu.be/uvA9ImmlnZo>.

As the *Open Stacks* grows in content, we would encourage you to explore the site by using the available search options by keyword, date, or category

tags. The category tags will guide you to posts written on similar themes, uncovering content that might also be of interest. These tags will build over time as we publish more posts and make readers aware of recent donations, upcoming events, updates on long-term projects, and newly available search tools, to name just a few of our expected blog categories.

Some may wonder why ASC would start a blog now, especially given the current situation with the COVID-19 global pandemic? While ASC staff have discussed starting a blog over the last year, we felt that this effort would allow us to support our users and stay in contact with them, wherever they may be. With social distancing still in place and many isolating at home, the digital environment still offers us a chance to share our interest and research in the Land of Enchantment.

ASC collects both archival and published material all the while promoting academic inquiry into the history, culture, peoples, and resources of New Mexico, the American Southwest, and the US-Mexico borderlands region. Our holdings come in all published forms, genres, and formats; and predominately are in the English language with some European and Native American languages present. The collection dates from the 1500s through the present, with the bulk of the holdings created after 1900. Future posts will provide insight into how to access the ASC collections remotely and how to select and order reproductions of our holdings. Additionally, we will explain the work of the different units within the department:

- Rio Grande Historical Collections
- Special Collections
- Political Collections
- Hobson-Huntsinger University Archives

Feedback regarding the *Open Stacks* has been positive and staff has enjoyed reviewing the blog's analytical data showing downloads and locations of those reading and sharing ASC content. If you have any suggestions for a post topic, wish to participate as a guest blogger, or have questions regarding the information found on *Open Stacks*, please reach out via archives@nmsu.edu. Happy reading!



Silver City Public Library Minecraft Club

Submitted by Lillian Galloway, Assistant Director/Programming and Outreach Librarian, Silver City Public Library

Before the coronavirus the Silver City Public Library had several successful weekly events for children and teens, including Minecraft Club. The library closed in mid-March, and soon after several staff members were working from home. At the beginning of April, then children's librarian MJ Medel and programming and outreach librarian Lillian Galloway began working on how to adapt some of the activities to reach children and teens online. In addition to starting an online storytime via Facebook Live, they focused efforts on setting up a Virtual Minecraft Club where participants could play together online from home. Initially they tried hosting a server on a spare computer from someone's home, but Internet bandwidth was a problem. Public services manager Javier Marrufo helped set up a Minecraft Realms Plus subscription to make it work. It allows children and teens in the community to continue interacting in the game, like they did before coronavirus, but without being physically in the library together.

After the Silver City Public Library publicized Virtual Minecraft Club to the community, some librarians from around the country contacted them to ask how they made Virtual Minecraft Club work. There did not appear to be any Virtual Minecraft Club guides on common library websites, blogs, or email lists. The Silver City Public Library staff decided to write a guide for other libraries. The guide has been posted on Programming Librarian, a website of the American Library Association Public Programs Office, here: <https://programminglibrarian.org/programs/virtual-minecraft-club>

We are pleased that we were able to innovate during extraordinary circumstances, and that we could share the knowledge we gained with others.



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Voting Safely During the Pandemic

By Jonathan Eldredge, Evidence-Based Practice Librarian, UNM Health Sciences Library, jeldredge@salud.unm.edu

New Mexico offers several ways to vote in the upcoming November 3rd General Election. Options include voting absentee, early, or in person on Election Day. Early voting and voting in person on November 3rd allows you to ensure that your vote will be tabulated within 18 hours of Election Day. Early or Election Day voters can maintain relatively low risks of contracting COVID-19 by keeping a social distance, wearing masks, and washing hands frequently. Voting absentee by mail offers less risk. The steps below will help guide your voting in New Mexico.

Confirm that you are registered to vote. Simply go to the New Mexico Secretary of State's website at: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/>

- Scroll down and click on "Find my Registration and Election Information"
- Fill out your information to search and confirm your registration.
- Once you've confirmed your registration, proceed to the options below.
- If not registered, then register to vote at this site. You must register to vote by October 6th to be eligible to vote in the November 3rd General Election.

Assess the varied risks of voting early, voting by mail, or voting on Election Day. These options are outlined below:

Voting Early:

Tuesday October 6th Early Voting begins in New Mexico. The Bernalillo County Clerk's office manages this process here in Albuquerque. Consult their website for specific dates, hours and locations: <https://www.bernco.gov/clerk/early-voting-locations.aspx> Early Voting ends on October 31st.

Voting on Election Day:

Voting in person on Election Day November 3rd might mean higher risk if it is crowded at your voting place. There are 70 places to vote in Albuquerque between 7am and 7pm on Election Day: <https://www.bernco.gov/clerk/election-day-voting-locations.aspx>

Absentee Ballots:

The New Mexico Secretary of State offers some variants of absentee voting. Every registered voter in New Mexico by now should have received an official application for an absentee ballot. One can request an absentee ballot online until October 20th, too. For options available for absentee voting, go to: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/absentee-and-early-voting/>

Voters should understand the rules for absentee voting, including rules for how and when county clerks count absentee ballots during an election. The New Mexico Secretary of State's website, as well as the websites of the county clerks around the state provide more information about this process. Bernalillo County offers several ways to deliver your absentee ballot: <https://www.bernco.gov/clerk/return-your-absentee-ballot.aspx>

Know Your Rights:

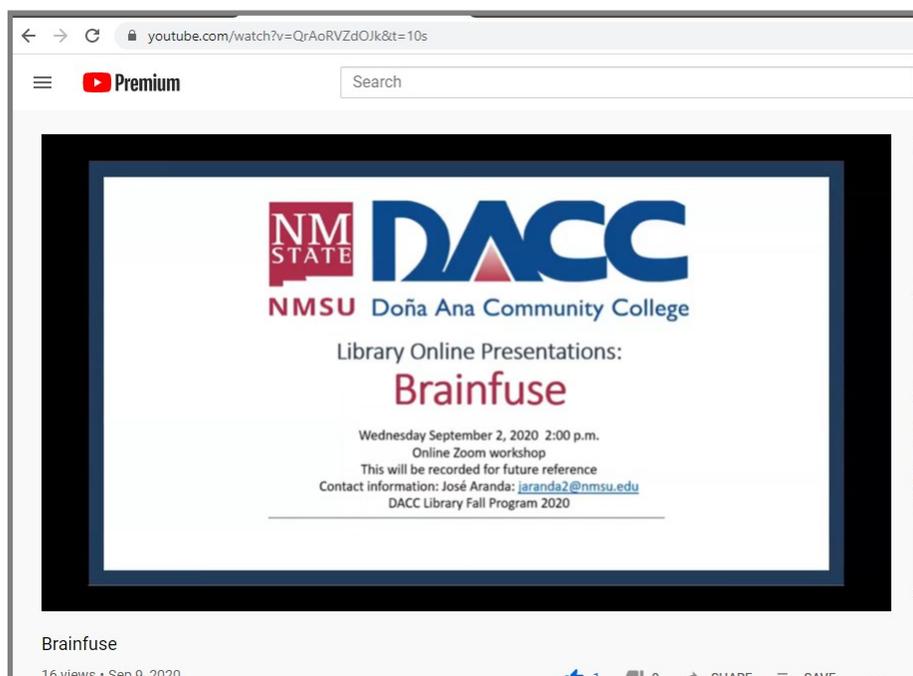
You have a number of rights connected with your voting. For example, you have the right to inspect a sample ballot before you vote. You also have a right to not be intimidated by others. Learn more at: <https://www.sos.state.nm.us/voting-and-elections/voter-information-portal/voter-bill-of-rights/>



DACC YouTube Channel

Submitted by Jose Aranda, Instructional Library, Dona Ana Community College, jaranda2@nmsu.edu

Dona Ana Community College Library in Las Cruces has been making the best of the quarantine and closed buildings by creating online presentations via Zoom and storing them on their own YouTube channel. With various topics, these presentations have allowed DACC to reach out to its users and community and keep them abreast on relevant library resources and services they can use during the pandemic.



New Adult Services Initiative at Rio Rancho Public Libraries

By Jenna Wells, Adult Services Supervisor, Rio Rancho Public Library

See You in the Stacks is the new newsletter from adult services librarians in Rio Rancho. Each week there is an article that is a book/dvd/cd review, topic of local interest, interview with a program presenter, etc. This newsletter is published on the library website at <https://rrnm.gov/4567/See-You-in-the-Stacks-Adult-Newsletter> and sent out via eblast every Monday. If interested in signing up, click here <http://www.libraryaware.com/1971/Subscribers/Subscribe>.

We were looking for a way to connect with those patrons that couldn't get to the library and thought a newsletter would be a great way to do some outreach, especially to those places that we can't visit right now such as 55 and over communities, senior centers, and assisted living communities.

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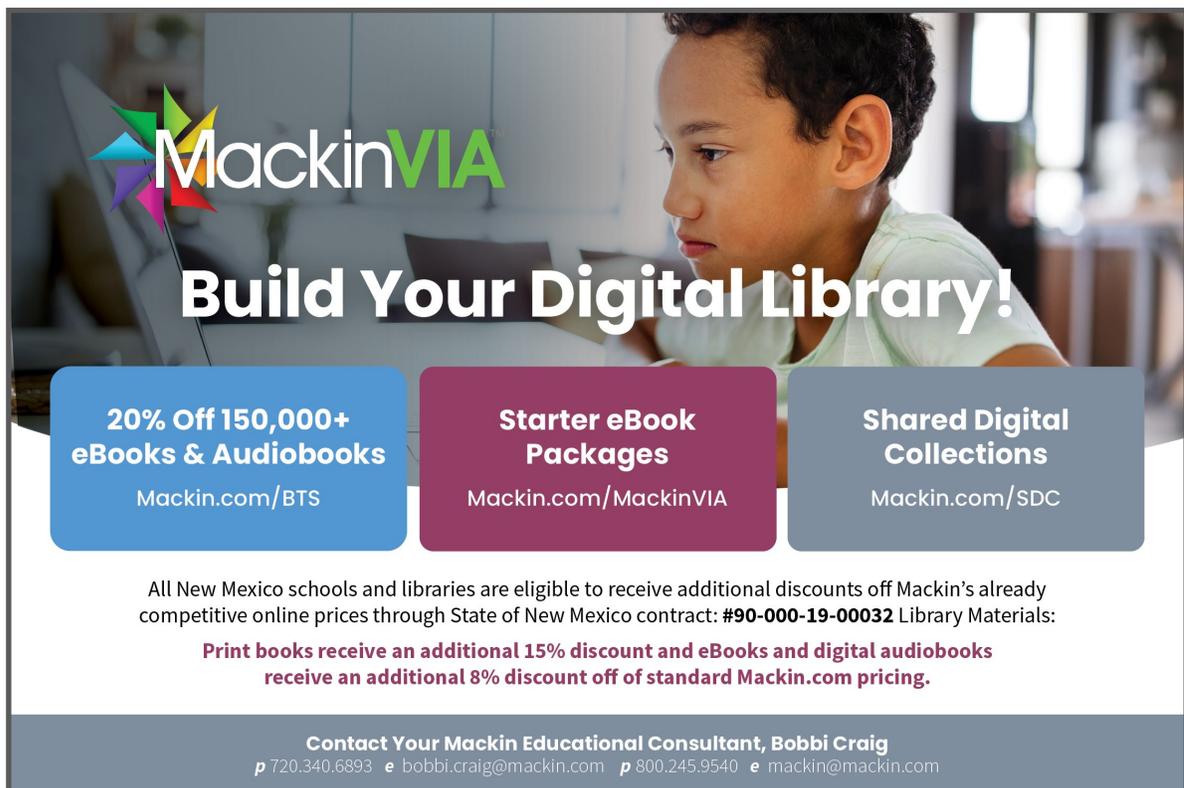
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NMLA NEWSLETTER

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New Mexico Library Association

Send “Newsletter” submissions, advertisements, and other requests to:

Newsletter Editor c/o NMLA
P.O. Box 26074
Albuquerque, NM 87125

newsletter@nmla.org

Calendar

Early Voting: October 6—31, 2020

2020 NMLA Annual Conference: offered virtually October 22 – 23, 2020

Election Day: November 3, 2020