

## Space Study Project

Following a round of interviews from three excellent architectural firms, our committee made a unanimous decision to engage the services of MSR. MSR is an award-winning firm with an impressive and large amount of library experience. MSR has won more than 150 international, national, and state design awards for achievement in the areas of architecture, interior design, and historic preservation. MSR's work won the Library Journal New Landmark Libraries for the Ramsey County Roseville Library in 2011.



From MSR's web site: "MSR (Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd.) is an award-winning architecture and interior design firm committed to excellence. Since 1981, our firm has produced work of enduring value: buildings that are expressly right for their time and place and that culturally and physically age gracefully. Our projects are diverse in type, size, and location, with specific depth of experience serving library, office, cultural, higher education,

and residential clients. The firm has earned a national reputation for both designing exceptional new spaces and, through preservation, adaptive reuse, and renovation, designing innovative ways to reuse buildings."

I am currently working with MSR to develop a timeline to govern key dates in our space study for the remainder of 2017.

## Electrical Upgrade

Our new UPS battery replacement was originally scheduled to occur on June 17 but was delayed. The upgrade was successfully completed on July 1.

## Programs and Services

Summer Challenge 2017 continues. As of this writing, here are the CCPL Summer Challenge Stats:

Participant Totals:

- Individual Signups: 1512
- Family Signups: 1715
- Added Family Members: 4134
- Group Signups: 14
- Total: 7375

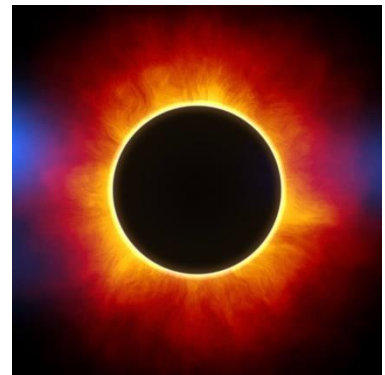


## Participant Ages:

- Infant/Toddler: 533
- Preschooler: 663
- Elementary School: 2801
- Middle School: 739
- High School: 303
- Adult: 2336

## Other programs of note:

- Our new CYS Questers space opened for business on June 24.
- The Mobile Library participated in Carmel Fest and reported great interactions with the crowds of people.
- A total solar eclipse will occur on August 21, viewable from Oregon to South Carolina. We have scheduled related programs leading up to the eclipse. The science of the eclipse was discussed at the library on June 8 and was well-attended with 110 people in the audience. Our series of eclipse related events ends with a culminating program on Saturday, August 12. The last full solar eclipse to be seen here was in 1972. Our event will feature food, music, face painting, and solar eclipse games and crafts, and will feature daytime telescope viewing of the sun with H-Alpha telescopes provided by the Link Observatory Space Science Institute. We've been getting a lot of calls about the eclipse viewing glasses, and yes, we will have free eclipse viewing glasses for attendees of this special program. The Carmel High School Tech Hounds and Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation will be here as well.
- CYS Staff held a series of "Lego Escape Rooms" on June 27 and 28. These popular programs were well attended with over 320 kids participating.
- Carmel Summer Lunch Program: this is a community partnership of local organizations and individuals working to provide nutritious meals for Carmel children who face food insecurity during the summer. A donation box is located by the stairs through August 11. Bags, with a list of requested food items, are available for you to pick up, fill and return to the box. To date over 450 bags have been collected. Big thanks to Liz Hamilton for making this connection and coordinating it.



## DML Update from Peter Konshak

June was a record month for the Digital Media Lab, with our door count reaching 1,170 patrons – nearly 350 more than our previous best month. The door count was bolstered by several successful programs, including more 3D printing workshops for children, as well as a nighttime “light painting” photography class that had an excellent turnout. A DML patron, Can Toksoy, volunteered to teach the class, and we had ten patrons show up. We walked the Arts and Design district, photographing the numerous statues.

DML staff Peter and Lorena with patrons who participated in a light painting workshop. We will be holding an album release party for local musician Michelle Qureshi, who is releasing a new album containing music recorded in the Whisper Room. This event will be held in conjunction with our next Arts and Design District Second Saturday Gallery walk. We are currently featuring photographs by local photographer Aaron Pierce. Aaron has been using the DML to create publicity materials for his new drone photography start-up, Pierce Aerospace.



Planning is being finalized for our Filmmaking 101 series in September. Local filmmaker James Moriarty will be teaching four classes. The Foundation has secured sponsorship from Roberts camera, who will loan equipment and help with promotion.

Patrons continue to give high marks to the Digital Media Lab. We continue to have over 96% rate their visit as five stars. When asked what they liked about the DML, comments include:

- “The equipment is wonderful, and the staff fantastic, and always helpful.”
- “The Digital Media Lab was very high-tech, clean, and modern.”
- “This program was spot on and the staff was amazing. My two preteens loved the program and they furthered their exploration outside of class (at home).”

## ALA Conference

ALA *Annual*

CHICAGO

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION JUNE 22-27, 2017

The annual ALA conference was held in Chicago on June 22 through June 27. The following section offers my report from the conference:

On Thursday, June 22 I toured the Harold Washington Center, the central library of Chicago. I was impressed on many levels with this library. They had recently re-thought their children's area. The newly revamped area had been in operation for four days at the time I toured. I noted the dramatic effect usage of color had on the new space. Another aspect of services that caught my attention was their mobile library services, in addition to the 80-plus network of branch locations. They have a mobile digital media service, with the capacity of much of our DML, but in a mobile setting that can go anywhere.



I also spent a little time getting to know Chicago on Thursday and had a great visit to the Contemporary Museum of Art, where I spent the most time viewing a stunning exhibit by Haruki Murakami. Following that, I soaked in an amazing view of the city from the 95<sup>th</sup> floor of the John Hancock Center.

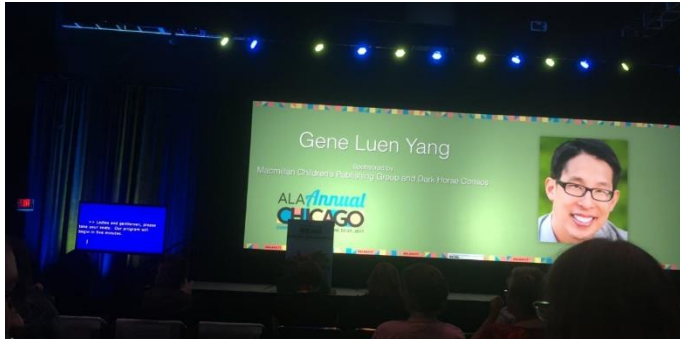
On Friday, June 23 I began by attending an "un-conference session." Here a room full of librarians identified current issues that we wanted to discuss and then broke out into smaller groups. I chose the group that discussed building projects & renovations. I was joined by a public library director from Wyoming, several academic librarians, and a public library director from Kentucky. One of our big points of discussion and agreement centered on the need to occasionally be forceful with architects, particularly when considering practical applications of new designs.



I attended several smaller sessions before opening session at 4:30. The opening session speaker was Reshma Saujani. Her book soon to be published is titled *Girls Who Code* (we have the print and audio books on order). *Girls Who Code* was the primary topic she discussed at conference. She pointed out that a great many technology jobs are currently available and yet not many women go for them. She further pointed out that something in our culture is steering women away from these jobs, and she has formed a non-profit aimed at correcting this problem. There may be an opportunity here to incorporate her program in our library, as our community certainly has an abundance of smart and intelligent young



ladies that might be interested in a coding program. Learn more at <https://girlswhocode.com>.



On Saturday I attended a presentation by author Gene Luen Yang. His graphic novel *American Born Chinese* won the Printz Award, the Eisner Award, and was a National Book Award finalist. He has gone on to write and draw other comics, including a run on Superman. He gave quite an enlightening viewpoint of

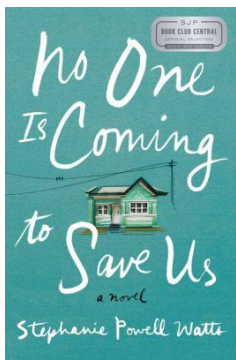
Superman, but that is a story for another time. Yang holds the title of National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. He had an interesting challenge for all of us: to **"Read Without Walls."** This might mean reading a book about a person unlike yourself, or on a topic you don't know much about, or in a format you are not used to, such as a graphic novel perhaps. Even better he says, is to pick something that meets all three criteria. See more about the Read Without Walls challenge here:

<http://read.macmillan.com/mcpg/reading-without-walls/>.

I took the shuttle bus to the Hyatt Regency, where additional ALA sessions were taking place. I attended the following session: "The Library Card Challenge: Local Leaders Collaborating for Increased Access to Educational Resources." This was a panel discussion moderated by Susan Benton from the Urban Library Council, of which CCPL is a member library. The panel was comprised of three library directors: Barbara Gubbin from the Jacksonville Public Library, Paula Kiely from the Milwaukie Public Library, and Jacki Nytes from our neighboring Indianapolis Public Library.

The basic premise is relatively simple: ensure that every child in school has a library card. The initiative is led by the Urban Library Council and is referred to as the "Leaders Library Card Challenge." Participating communities share information through an online resource and participate in various webinars and discussions about challenges and approaches to the partnership. I think we should seriously consider joining this effort.

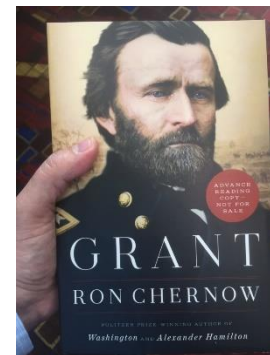
Following the presentation Jackie and I went to lunch and discussed the potential of replicating this program in Carmel. I am grateful to Jackie for always being available with open arms to discuss any issue with me and for sharing her perspective with me. She has certainly helped me acclimate more quickly to the Indianapolis area, particularly regarding library services.



Sarah Jessica Parker was the keynote speaker of the day, where she unveiled the first book in a new reading initiative. The initiative is called Book Club Central. It is an ALA sponsored resource with a mission to provide resources for book clubs of all kinds, with an online platform and other tools of engagement. Sarah Jessica Parker was given a lifetime appointment on the board of this new initiative, and she unveiled the title of the first discussion book: *No One is Coming to Save Us* by Stephanie Powell Watts (CCPL has this title in our collection).

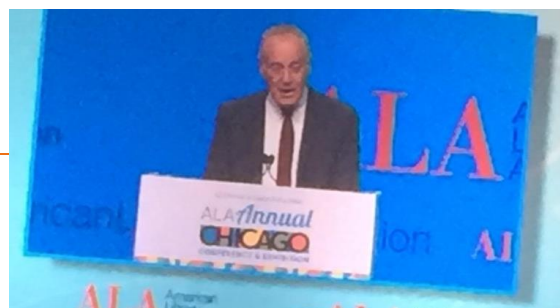
Ron Chernow was the keynote speaker for Sunday. Chernow is the author of the celebrated Alexander Hamilton biography and is the recipient of the 2015 National Humanities Award. His newest biography, *Grant*, will be published in October, 2017. One of my greatest personal scores of the conference: I have a signed advance reader copy of *Grant* and had a chance to meet the author.

If you are interested in what Chernow said of his upcoming book, read on. If not, skip the next couple of paragraphs. Mr. Chernow told us how Grant had always been reluctant to write his memoirs. That is, by the end of his life, while he was sick with cancer, writing his memoirs "became a matter of financial necessity." Chernow dispelled the rumor that Mark Twain ghost-wrote his memoirs, pointing out that Twain always considered Grant's memoirs a masterpiece. Why then, should Chernow attempt another biography? One reason is to address areas that Grant himself did not, such as his problem with alcohol, and those two terms as president. He said the sweet spot of a biography lies somewhere between the mythology of the subject and the historical record.



"Grant the Butcher" is a commonly heard part of his mythology, but Chernow wholly rejects it. He pointed out that Grant could only eat meat if were burned to a crisp even. Grant the drunkard is more complex, and Chernow hopes to give the definitive accounting of Grant and his drinking in his book. He points out that Grant was what we would term today as a high-functioning alcoholic. He never allowed his drinking to jeopardize his men, but it was a problem Grant wrestled with and eventually conquered, which Chernow says on a personal level was a triumph on par with winning the war.

Mr. Chernow says Grant is unlike any other major historical figure he has written about in that Grant had spectacular lows and modest ambitions. Grant was not after something big. At one point, "despite his exemplary dedication to the task, he failed at farming. Failure after failure was piled upon this man." In 1860, Grant hit



bottom in the ultimate humiliation and worked as a clerk in a shoe store. "Has there ever been a more dramatic turnaround in American history?" As a General, Grant proved to be unparalleled. I'm looking forward to reading the book.

I attended a session on privacy in preparation for updating our policy. The presenters covered a lot of privacy basics and took us through several privacy exercises. I took notes and will look at what might translate over to policy for us. While I am gathering notes and other policies for review, I will not be introducing a new policy draft for the board to review in July. I need more time to put it together and confer with the management staff before recommending a change.

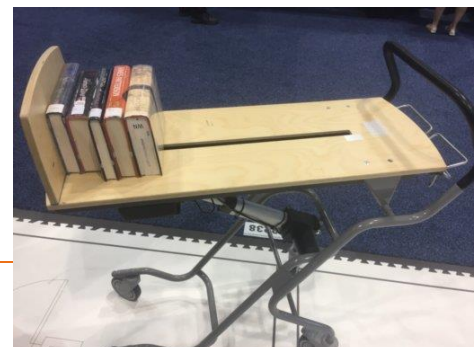
The last session of the conference saw Jim Neal take over as the 2017/2018 President of ALA. His first act was to introduce Hillary Clinton as the closing session speaker. Secretary Clinton thanked us for the work of libraries and reminded us that nothing is more important in a free society than standing up for the freedom to read and learn. Secretary Clinton has a children's book due to be published soon based on her original book *It Takes a Village*. She also has a book due in the fall comprised of a collection of essays focusing on the 2016 election.

In all, it was an excellent conference.

### **Vendor Report:**

Throughout the conference, I was periodically spending time in the exhibit space and talking with vendors. Here are the following vendors I took particular note of and why:

- Dustin Lamm from Bibliotheca. Circulation Manager Katherine Kersey and I have agreed that it is time to take a fresh look at our RFID technology and related equipment and see what we can make better. At the conference, Dustin and I talked about our security gates and setting up a time to look at fixing the problems on our gates or exploring upgrading to the latest model.
- Peter Schoen from Lyngsoe: Peter is our Lyngsoe sales rep and frequently stops by our library to check on how we're doing with our AMH. I had a chance to see the new model in action, as well as some nifty book carts that work in concert



- with the AMH. We're looking at either upgrading or replacing our system following the results of our space study.
- Ben Bizzle from Library Market. Library Market has an integrated calendar and room management software package that may be of interest to us in implementing a possible reservation system of study rooms. 3W and ITC Systems were other companies with a similar product/solution.
  - Carlos Carreon from Brainfuse. Brainfuse has a Veterans Assistance platform that potentially could be a way for the library to reach out and help connect veterans to services.
  - Howard Rosen from Chicago OneStop: this is an interesting option for CD/DVD Covers. These slim plastic cases for CD's, DVD's, and Blu-rays may be a way to preserve and continue to grow our significant collection in less space.
  - Gary Hanick from Steel Art Trees: I must say the examples I saw on the exhibit floor were impressive. These trees are lifelike but extremely durable and long-lasting.
  - Pamela Jaeger from Kore Design, where I tried out an unusual but comfortable Wobble Chair. I also reviewed furniture from the Marvel Group (no relations to the comics).

That concludes my report. I will have an update and also may send the board some updates by email as the plan for the space study takes shape. Thank you -Bob