

*We grow smarter communities, one person at a time.*

## More About Genealogical Records

### Vital Records

These are records issued for the birth, marriage, divorce or death of an individual. These records can help find information such as birth dates/locations, parents' names, maiden names of female ancestors, death dates and locations, and many other facts. Many states did not begin keeping these records until the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### Church Records

This is a great place to go when the records you are looking for are unavailable from the state, since church records often pre-date vital records. Many churches will keep birth, marriage and death records.

### Courthouse Records

These records may include wills, deeds, tax lists and marriages. To utilize these records, the researcher will need to know the state and county in which their ancestor lived.

### Census Records

The U.S. census contains the official count of the U.S. population. This is conducted every 10 years and sealed for 72 years before it is released. The most recent census available is the 1940 census, published in 2012.

## November is Family History Month at MLS

This month we are promoting the genealogy resources the library has to offer and encouraging customers to, "find your roots at the library." If you have not yet explored our genealogy offerings, be sure to check out our [genealogy webpage](#), ask an experienced colleague or check out the rest of this article.

### Metro's Genealogy Resources

#### The Genealogy Collection

Did you know that there is a physical genealogy collection located at the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library? Customers looking for family histories, census records, indexes, state history and local yearbooks may be interested in exploring this collection.

#### eResources

Our library system has a robust collection of eResources available from home including Oklahoma specific resources; vital

records from extensive collections such as Fold3, HeritageQuest Online, America's GenealogyBank and others; collections of maps including information such as original landowners; history databases and a variety of newspaper archives. Ancestry.com is also available, but for in library use only.

#### Research Guides

If a customer does not know where to get started, encourage them to read the library's [Getting Started Guide](#). There is also a list of more specific research guides available on our [genealogy webpage](#).

#### Special Collections Librarians

If a customer has a difficult genealogy question, tell them about the library's special collections librarians. Library customers can contact special collections at (405) 606-3859 or send in questions using their [online form](#).



## Civic Engagement at the Library

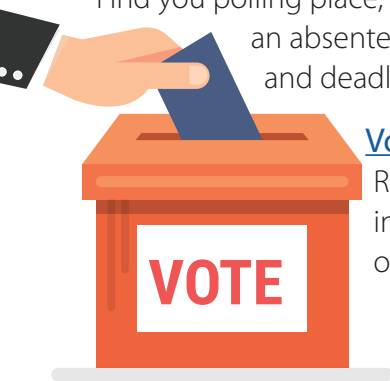
Tomorrow, Nov. 6 is Election Day! Engagement and Program Services have put together a voting resources page on the Library's website to help customers in need of voting information. Useful links:

### [Oklahoma State Election Board](#)

Find your polling place, view sample ballots, request an absentee ballot, view election dates and deadlines, and more!

### [Vote411](#)

Register to vote, find voting information and view the online voters' guide.



## Legislative Read Day

The first Legislative Read Day was held on Oct. 23 at the Belle Isle Library. Representative Cyndi Munson read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* to the children during the library's regularly scheduled storytime.



Following the reading, each child got to take home a book from the Potts Family Foundation (PFF). PFF focuses on supporting early literacy and numeracy to build a foundation for school success.

"Early literacy is vital to helping children enjoy reading and commit to academic success," Rep. Cyndi Munson said. "I am so excited to participate in the Legislative Read event at my local library to share my love of reading and encourage children in my district to read for fun and for learning."

Upcoming Legislative Read Days are scheduled for Capitol Hill and Edmond.

## Operations Town Hall Meeting Recap

The Operations Department had a Town Hall Meeting Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the Downtown Library to highlight key projects each department is currently working on and share more about their role in the library system.

The meeting included presentations from Deputy Executive Director, Anthony Herron; Interim Manager of Facilities Maintenance, Stephen Butts; Director of Marketing and Communications, Kim Terry; Manager of Planning and Assessment, Morgan Jones; and Security Manager, Ed Dillard.

There was a question and answer portion following the presentations. Ed was asked to identify and explain some of the most common security issues in the

libraries and it was suggested that a video be created to show what each operations department does.

The presentation included the release of a [trailer](#) for the library's upcoming infomercial to be aired on TV at the end of December.



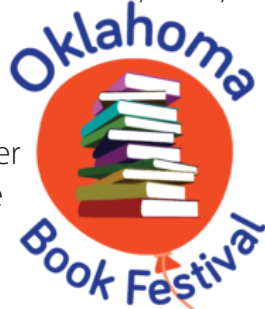
## HALLOWEEN 2018

Library staff donned their Halloween best, passed out candy to library trick-or-treaters and hosted some spooky storytimes this Halloween. View all of the photos [HERE](#). If you have additional photos to add, send them to Victoria ([victoria.stephens@metrolibrary.org](mailto:victoria.stephens@metrolibrary.org)).



## OK Book Fest

The library hosted a booth at the first Oklahoma Book Festival on Oct. 20, 2018, in the OKC Boathouse District. The booth included promotional materials and a temporary tattoo station. Over 300 festival guests visited the library's booth.



## United Way 2018 Campaign

Metro reached almost 80 percent of our \$10,000 campaign goal this year!

We are down somewhat from last year's campaign. However, we implemented a new online donation process through customized ePledge websites.

Next year we will be experienced with the new ePledge system, so we can blast past our campaign goals.

## FOL WEEK 2018

In October we celebrated the 13<sup>th</sup> annual National Friends of Libraries Week (FOL Week) and celebrated the wonderful Friends of the Metropolitan Library System.



The Friends have granted the library system almost \$5 million since 1981. Check out the [Friends thank you video](#) and the displays set up at our libraries for FOL Week.

## PARANORMAL FEST 2018

The Downtown Library celebrated the "spirits" of the season with the second annual Paranormal Fest on Oct. 13, 2018. The event included psychic, tarot and medium readings, an all-ages escape room and speakers on a variety of topics including ghosts, astrology, UFOs and metaphysics.





## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

### Staff Day Presentation Materials Now Available

If you missed a session you were interested in or wanted to take a second look at the presentation materials for a session you attended - provided presentations are now available on the Staff Day page [HERE](#).

[Read more...](#)

### Summer Reading 2019

Are you wild about reading? We're just now wrapping up last year's fantastic Summer Reading program, but it's time to start thinking about next year!

[Read more...](#)

## HELLO!

**Mikel Ibarra**  
NW Access Specialist I

**Kendra LaBarbera**  
VI Access Specialist I

**Samuel Regan**  
VI Access Specialist I

**Andrew Wright**  
DC Access Specialist I

**Cynthia Brantley**  
AL Access Specialist II

**Cait Chapman**  
ED Access Specialist I

**Meredith Davis**  
ED Access Specialist I

**Bonnie Ladd**  
CL-HR Access Specialist II

**Nhi Lam**  
BE Access Specialist I

**Amanda Mann**  
SO Access Specialist I

**Miasha Neely**  
NW Access Specialist I

**Natasha Parker**  
AL Teen Librarian I

## GOODBYE

**Jessica Moad**  
CIS Virtual Librarian

**Melissa Clabaugh**  
TP, Technical Processing Specialist

**Alexandra Davis**  
NW Access Specialist I

**Laurie Mack-Clark**  
BUS Staff Accountant

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Chris Kennedy**  
Regional Director to Deputy  
Executive Director of Public  
Services

**Juliet Alavicheh**  
Access Specialist II VI to Youth  
Engagement Specialist II VI

**Julie Ballou**  
Deputy Executive Director of  
Public Services to Executive  
Director

**Destiny Hightower**  
Access Specialist I VI to Access  
Specialist II RE

**Taya Patnode**  
Access Specialist I WA to Access  
Specialist II WA

**Rebecca Spencer**  
Access Specialist I VI to Access  
Specialist II VI

**Ellory Williams**  
Access Specialist I ED to Access  
Specialist II VI

## COMING UP...

**November 15**  
Staff Association Meeting at  
Edmond Library

**November 15**  
Commission Meeting at  
Edmond Library

**November 21**  
Library Closes at 6 pm

**November 22 - 23**  
Library Closed for Thanksgiving

**December 13**  
Staff Association Meeting at  
Capitol Hill Library

**December 13**  
Commission Meeting at  
Capitol Hill Library

**December 24 - 25**  
Library Closed for Christmas

**December 31**  
Library Closes at 6 pm for  
New Years Eve