

We grow smarter communities, one person at a time.

The Facts

TEEN TECH MONTH

1 Occupations in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) make up over six percent of all occupations in the United States.



2 Workers in STEM fields earn higher wages, and degree holders in STEM fields earn 12 percent more than non-STEM degree holders, according to a March 2017 report from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

3 The number of students pursuing degrees in STEM fields has declined but STEM jobs are growing twice as fast as jobs in other fields, according to a Young Adult Library Services Association report.

4 Oklahoma has seen a 24 percent uptake in STEM employment since 2016, compared to the national STEM employment growth rate of 10 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



5 Teen Tech Week is a national initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other concerned adults.

The purpose of the initiative is to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of technology, especially the types offered through libraries.

Library Podcast Coming Soon!

Customers will have the opportunity to listen to the sounds of the library - er, the librarians who work in the library, in an all new library podcast. Special Collections is working on a library podcast, and they need your help!

The podcast will include three regular segments: author interviews, Oklahoma history and *Check Yo Shelf* - a fun library-related commentary. The podcast is set to launch in late March.

Author interviews will include Oklahoma authors Tara Hudson, Sonia Gensler and others. The first Oklahoma history segment will be a multi-episode segment about alcohol laws in Oklahoma. *Check Yo Shelf* will feature episodes on graphic novels and even *Star Wars*, in anticipation of the new movie *Solo: A Star Wars Story* coming out in May.

Interested yet? Send in ideas for topics you would like to research and discuss on the podcast. The podcast was created to be representative of the library system as a whole, and all staff are welcome to get involved.

Popular Library Podcasts



Do you already have a favorite library podcast? Here are just a few (of many) library-related

podcasts to get you geared up for our new Metro Library Podcast.

Better Library Leaders

This podcast was created by OU grad, Sarah Clark. She is now the Dean of the La Salle University Library in Philadelphia, and a Library and Information Studies professor at OU.

The New York Public Library Podcast

The New York Public Library's podcast was part of the inspiration for the new Metro Library Podcast. It includes authors and other pop-culture conversation. They also have a segment called, *The Librarian is In* - a book discussion with reader's advisory.

Dewey Decibel

This is a podcast of the American Library Association. Host, Phil Morehart interviews librarians, authors, thinkers and scholars on library topics.

"Libraries are essential in extending learning beyond the classroom and helping our Oklahoma youth prepare for life after graduation. We are proud to offer free programs that teach real-life skills and prepare teens for college and 21st century careers." - Emily Williams, teen services manager

8 Things Maintenance Wants you to Know



The library's Maintenance Department is hard at work each day to make the library an inviting place for the community to gather. So, what should you know about this oftentimes behind-the-scenes department? If you learn nothing else about them, know that they are constantly putting out proverbial fires, and your needs are important to them.

1. We do most of our own stunts.

Our maintenance technicians are skilled in things like building and woodworking, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), and other technical areas of expertise. Our drivers are also experienced in their field. Many of our delivery drivers have years of experience driving professionally.

2. There are two primary types of maintenance.

The Maintenance Department does not just respond to the work orders put in for miscellaneous repairs around the system,

Continued on the next page...

8 Things Maintenance Wants You to Know

- 1 We do most of our own stunts.
- 2 There are two primary types of maintenance.
- 3 We want to fix it. We really do.
- 4 We are doing everything we can to prevent bed bugs.
- 5 Planning and Maintenance work together
- 6 Our delivery drivers are like postmen; they deliver rain or shine.
- 7 Our drivers do more than simply transport books.
- 8 It is helpful if you can tell the drivers what you are anticipating for the following day.

Coming Up...

MARCH

Date	Event
All Month	Women's History Month
All Month	National Crafts Month
All Month	Teen Tech Month
Mar. 16	Freedom of Information Day
Mar. 17	St Patrick's Day
Mar. 17 @ 1 PM	Go Green St. Patrick's Day at Myriad Gardens
Mar. 20 - 24	PLA Conference and PLA Virtual Conference at the Service Center
Mar. 22 @ 2 PM	Staff Association Meeting
Mar. 31	1st Quarter Safety Training Due
Mar. 31 @ 1 PM	Easter Eggstravaganza at Myriad Gardens

APRIL

Date	Event
All Month	Child Abuse Prevention Month
All Month	National Poetry Month
Apr. 1	Easter (LIBRARY CLOSED)
Apr. 7-8	LEGO Brickuniverse at the Cox Convention Center
Apr. 7 @ 11 AM	EarthFest 2018 at the Martin Nature Park
Apr. 8-15	National Library Week
Apr. 8 @ 12 PM	OKC Philharmonic Discovery Series
Apr. 10	National Library Worker's Day
Apr. 12	D.E.A.R. Drop Everything and Read
Apr. 12	Literary Voices Dinner and Lee Brawner Award
Apr. 13	Literary Voices FREE Public Event
Apr. 15-22	National Volunteer Week

8 Things continued...

they also respond to regular PMs. PM is Preventative Maintenance carried out on a monthly basis - this is how they try to stay ahead of the game and repair things before you have to call them. Maintenance technicians are typically assigned to the preventative maintenance for a couple of libraries and they are also the individuals that are likely going to respond to any unexpected breakdowns at that library.

Maintenance items that are not preventative are considered trouble calls - these are unexpected breakdowns that occur. These may be as minor as a light-bulb that needs to be replaced.

3. We want to fix it. We really do.

At any given time, the Maintenance Department has over 100 requests in the online request queue.

Many of these items are their monthly PMs or items that they have responded to but they are waiting on a part to fix the issue.

Tasks are prioritized based on the severity of the issue. While one library may need a new light bulb, another library may have a sewage backup the same day. The more serious issue will get attended to first.

4. We are doing everything we can to prevent bed bugs.

We want our libraries to be pest free and we are doing everything we can to make sure that they stay that way. We are in the process of building a larger heating space to place the ergo trolleys in and heat treat them. We have also made vacuuming a part of our monthly PM routine.

5. Planning and maintenance work together.

You may be aware that Steve Butts recently moved to Planning. This is to help better manage the variety of construction projects happening across the system. Steve is now in charge of new construction funded by local city government entities within Oklahoma County. Jim Phillips manages all system-funded projects requiring contract labor.

6. Our delivery drivers are like postmen; they deliver rain or shine.

During the winter our drivers brave the cold, in the summer they brave the heat and they are even out there during storm season. If

the library is open, our drivers are making deliveries.

7. Our drivers do more than simply transport books.

Our drivers also sort all of the books in the ergo trolleys using the sorter. Often times there are so many books to be sorted that they will sort books by hand while one of them puts books on the automatic sorter.

8. It is helpful if you can tell the drivers what you are anticipating for the following day.

When the drivers arrive at your library they are assessing what you have and trying to anticipate what you will need for the next day. Sometimes they are unable to bring things like donation bins because they are out - they transport many items each day and if they can plan ahead they may be able to better meet your needs.

Fun Facts The MLS Maintenance Team

Pete Roberson

"I love going to Oklahoma Thunder games and I have on my thunder-wear today (it's a thunder shirt.)"

Pete Austin

"I am a hobby photographer."

Edgar Nunez

"I like quiet and lazy days at home."

Russell Pierce

"I play guitar in a Celtic band and an '80s rock band."

Derek Davis

"I am the youngest in my family and I am expecting my first child soon."

David Mack

"I am a big OU fan and I love to fish and hunt."

Jon Vodka

"I had an uncle play for the 1962 New York Yankees."

Mark Vance

"I work in horticulture - I sell plants for a few nurseries and do landscaping."

Continued on the next page...

"We enjoy each other's comradery and we enjoy helping this great organization."

- Edgar Nunez, maintenance technician



Inclement Weather Notification

Did you get a call, text or email from the library last week? If you did not receive the inclement weather notifications, make sure that your information is up-to-date in the library's automated notification system. Get more information on how to make updates on the [Intranet page](#).

Yes, it was HUM that called you. The automated notification system sends out notifications from Kasandra's office phone number in HUM. The Human Resources Department is not trying to reach you if you get a call from them on an inclement weather day, it is probably the automated system. Please do not return the call asking why you were called or leave voicemails. HUM thanks you.

Fun Facts Continued...

Christopher Poole

"I am related to Clark from the Lewis and Clark expedition."

Albert Brown

"I love to have a good time while I am working."

Roberto Soto

"I am a big OSU fan."

Matthew Logo-Falepouono

"I have over 200 great grandchildren in my family and counting."

Curtiss Ray

"In college I studied robotics. Both of my sons work in math and science related fields. We are proud to be nerds in my house."

In Case you Missed It...

Signing Savvy Returns to MLS

Sadie Bruce ♦ Feb. 27

Signing Savvy is back and better than ever! The American Sign Language learning and support site now comes with app access. Customers can learn sign language anywhere, anytime.

[Read more...](#)

Share Community Events with Marketing!

Victoria Garten ♦ Feb. 26

Have something special planned? We would love to know about your upcoming "outreach"-type of events or when you are attending something representing your library!

[Read more...](#)

Database Highlight #32: We've got the Remarkable Life for That

Sadie Bruce ♦ Feb. 26

February's final database highlight is Biography Reference Bank. This is the place to go when all your Black History Month biographies are checked out or you come across a student needing information on an African American inventor by tomorrow.

[Read more...](#)

Leadership Team Minutes - February 21, 2018

Victoria Garten ♦ Feb. 23

[Read more...](#)

More Sessions Added! Tech Training

Victoria Garten ♦ Feb. 15

Need to build your tech skills, or just need a refresher? Staff registration is open for tech training. Staff interested in registering will need supervisor approval.

[Read more...](#)

In Case you Missed It Continued...

Payroll Schedule FY 18-19

HUM

[Read more...](#)

ODL Workshop - Are you Ready to Rock this Summer?

Milissa Copeland ♦ Feb. 19

Are you ready to rock this Summer? Join Jenifer Strauss and Will Stuck for the 2018 Music Summer Reading Workshops!

The program includes activity suggestions for STEAM programming, creating musical instruments from unusual recycled materials, suggestions for theme-appropriate books and insights on development for early literacy.

[Read more...](#)

Database Highlight #31: We've got the Genealogy for That

Sadie Bruce ♦ Feb. 19

This week's database highlight, African American Heritage, provides unique sources and support for African American genealogy. The database ties together historical records from the census and military, as well as, the slave register and Freedman's Bank.

[Read more...](#)

Green Eggs and Ham Event at OU Children's Hospital March 1, 2018

Thursday, March 1 was the annual Green Eggs and Ham Dr. Suess Celebration at the OU Children's Hospital to support children's literacy. The event benefits the hospital's Reach Out and Read program and includes an authentic Green Eggs and Ham breakfast, a silent auction, and activity tables for kids. Outreach handed out books to children at the event.



Training Times Coming Soon

Learning and Development will soon re-release Training Times - a news update posted on the intranet to help staff keep up to date with all the professional development opportunities available.

Did you Know?

- L & D has a training calendar available on the [L & D Intranet Page](#).
- You can submit ideas for new professional development opportunities.
- There are many courses available to

you at anytime (while on the clock) online through the library's Learning Management System (LMS) EduBrite.

- You can submit certificates from Lynda courses and get course credit on your EduBrite transcript.