



Utah Library
Association
Rural & Small Libraries Committee

How Small is It? Resources

ULA Rural and Small Libraries Committee Website: <http://ula.org/rural>

The Association for Rural & Small Libraries: <http://arsl.info/>

Webcasts for Small Libraries:

Library Journal Best Practices:

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/webcasts/best-practices-from-americas-best-small-libraries/>

Webjunction Free Webinars: <https://www.webjunction.org/>

Friends of the Library Resources:

United for Libraries Friends Groups Info: <http://www.ala.org/united/friends>

Salt Lake City Public Library: (BIG) <http://www.slcppl.org/friends>

Ada Community Library: (Small) <http://www.adalib.org/hiddensprings/support-your-library>

Various resources:

Albert Wisner Public Library Best Small Library in America Winner 2016

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2016/01/lj-in-print/culture-convener-best-small-library-in-america-2016/>

Programming Librarian: <http://www.programminglibrarian.org/>

The Small but Powerful Guide to Winning Big Support for Your Rural Library

<http://www.ala.org/offices/olos/toolkits/rural>

Outreach toolkits: <http://www.ala.org/offices/diversity/resources>

Swiss Army Librarian Blog: <http://www.swissarmylibrarian.net/>

LIBRARY - COMMUNITY RESOURCES:



- Six County RSVP - <http://www.volunteer-connection.com/> (Central Utah)
- Library Board of Trustees: help with everything - programs, committees....
- Library Teen Advisory group T.A.C.O.S.: adopted flowerbed in front of Library, service projects for Library, bulletin boards
- Special job committees: Centennial Celebration Committee
- Youth City Council: help with book sale & distributing flyers
- Wasatch Academy (private High School): child-development classes plan & execute two preschool storytimes
- Eagle-scout projects:
 - Library sign & two benches in front of the Library
 - Tables for archive room
 - Storage shelves in supply room
 - Sell old books online (with supervision)
 - General service hours
- Easter Seals: (workers put in hours at the Library & Easter Seals pays them)
- Barnes & Noble: partner with Friends for a multiple author-signing event, including books for sale for the author to sign
- Court-ordered community service: DVDs & CDs, wash windows, shelf reading, weed flower bed, move books & shelving, help get ready for book sale (Certainly can't be involved in some functions)
- High School Sterling Scholars:
 - Technology: update & troubleshoot computers (one was our paid IT specialist)
 - Tech Trades: authentic looking shelving in Archive Room
 - English: write articles for newspaper
 - General service hours
- Local Mt. Pleasant Royalty (other close cities also): help with programs, storytime, Summer Reading
- Local city officials: Summer reading – draw prizes, read to children
- High School “Work-based Learning”: Students get high school credits for performing work & learning job skills. (Three ended up being hired as paid employees)
- Parents: too many to list – programs, booksale, Summer Reading – weekly events & as presenters, such as our "Mad Scientist" or teaching hula dancing,
- Boys from local Youth-in-Custody group homes: general service needed – (one home helped us out and back in for our renovation – around 12 separate sessions of moving)
- Local missionaries: plant & weed flowerbeds
- Friends of the Library: ongoing book sale, manage money & book flow, purchase books & for other library needs, helping hands with everything
- Local artisans & specialists for programs: cowboy boot maker, Civil War buff, dancers, gymnasts, athletes
- Local artists: donate or allow use of artwork for Library display
- Grants: USL Organization Resource Grants, UPLIFT Professional Excellence Grants, Dia Multicultural Mini Grants
- High School classes: photography contest
- Staff members' spouses, children, parents: **EVERYTHING** from building parade floats to bringing a tarantula, snakes & lizards for storytime



SURVEY RESULTS: 101 responses

Statements based on the results of the

2016 Rural & Small Library (RSL) Committee Survey: 11/28/2016

- **The 4 biggest challenges rural and small libraries face are:**
 - Budget: staff and operations (c=65, 64%)
 - Space: materials and programs (c=54, 53%)
 - Training: expense, distance, effectiveness (c=50, 50%)
 - Budget: collection development (c=47, 47%)

- **The top 4 ways in which people currently receive training are:**
 - Webinars: real-time or archived (c=81, 80%)
 - In-person training: local area (c=69, 68%)
 - Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=67, 66%)
 - In-person training: outside local area (c=63, 62%)

- **The top 4 ways people prefer for getting training are:**
 - In-person training: local area (c=77, 76%)
 - Webinars: real-time or archived (c=76, 75%)
 - In-person training: outside local area (c=67, 66%)
 - Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=52, 51%)

- **The top 4 obstacles that influence participation in training are:**
 - Time: balancing work duties and training opportunities (c=88, 87%)
 - Budget for training and travel: funds to register for and attend the training (c=81, 80%)
 - Budget for staff: payroll costs for staff to attend training or to replace trainee's absence (c=65, 64%)
 - Distance: transportation arrangements or don't like to travel (c=65, 64%)

- **The top 4 broad categories of training people need help with are:**
 - Technology and digital literacy (c=68, 67%)
 - Programming: children, teens, adults (c=55, 54%)
 - Collaboration with other libraries, schools, businesses (c=52, 51%)
 - Finance, budgets, writing grant proposals (c=51, 51%)