



## *Rockin' Around the Clock!*

Put your dancin' shoes on and cut the rug with DJ Craig Estudillo! Enjoy food reminiscent of your youth and a silent auction of unique treasures!

**Saturday, March 28, 2015 | 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.**  
 Pla Mor Ballroom | 6600 West O St.  
 Silent Auction 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

\$60 per person (\$35 tax-deductible)  
 Cash bar

All proceeds benefit the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries | Call 402-441-0164  
 Please respond by March 13 | [www.foundationforlcl.org](http://www.foundationforlcl.org)

## INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN TROMBONIST PERFORMED AT LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

Lincoln native and trombonist extraordinaire, Andy Strain performed for families at Anderson and Walt Branch Libraries in January. His musical program told the story of "The Bremen Town Musicians," by the Brothers Grimm, playing each musical character to the tune of When the Saints Go Marching In. As a special treat, he allowed the children to try their hand at playing a bright red trombone.

Andy, son of Bill and Betsy Strain, received his BA in Music Performance from UNL and then spent 5 years in Germany earning a master's degree in trombone literature and performance. During this time, he also performed with various orchestras and ensembles in Germany, Mexico, and Switzerland.

Currently, Andy lives in the San Francisco area, sharing his passion for music and his instrument with 4th and 5th graders, directs after-school middle school Shout Bands, and performs regularly in public parks, libraries, and schools for family audiences and with symphony orchestras.



*Andy Strain and Child*

# CINDY LANGE-KUBICK: LOVING THE LIBRARY FOR SO MANY REASONS



Cindy Lange-Kubick

Published: Feb. 1, 2015

This fall, the Lincoln City Libraries launched an ad campaign that went south.

The social media-based endeavor, “Libraries are more than books,” featured library lovers of every stripe. Young and old, black and white and brown, men and women, people of various political persuasions, gay and straight.

People here loved it, in the same way they love libraries.

And when they saw the campaign ads on Facebook and Twitter and YouTube, they shared them. And eventually, a library man in Chile -- friends with a bibliophile in Portugal -- saw the ads, too.

Wow, thought Alvaro Soffia Serrano, I’d like to do that here.

Serrano is the reading promotion coordinator for his country’s national public library system. He emailed Lincoln in November. A few days later, he sat down to Skype with Brendan Wamstad-Evans at Research Associates and Michele Tilley of Chocolate Cake Communication Design -- folks who helped craft the campaign -- along with Gail McNair from the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries, which funded it with local grant money.

They explained their methods, and Serrano wrote them down.

In a few months, he hopes to implement a similar campaign in Santiago.

“The campaign communicates credibility and shows people so friendly and close,” Serrano said by email. “I love the diversity of profiles selected and how they all bring a fresh look at the role of libraries.”

The library people in Lincoln could not be more pleased.

They are happy the campaign has been noticed by our South American neighbors. That it was retweeted in Hungarian and Russian and French and Spanish and reposted by Facebook users in 35 countries.

And that Serrano, who also heads a library association for the continent, may one day spread the campaign beyond the Chilean border, if it is a success inside it.

They are also happy it’s created a stir here.

“We have had nothing but a tremendous positive reaction,” McNair said. “It has really brought to the forefront the positive feelings people have for libraries.”

And I thought it was just me lusting after the library all of these years, in love with the smell of ink and paper, the free vacations between the pages, the newspapers hanging like drapes along the wall, the reference librarians who were like wizards with the world at their fingertips.

But no.

Almost all of us -- 87 percent, according to a 2013 poll conducted by the library foundation -- support public libraries. We use them.

The ad campaign in Lincoln told us how, and why, with individual portraits set off with a line of clean blue type, each one the same yet different.

There was Betty Brasch, director of the Center for People in Need, holding a copy of “Great Expectations.” Literacy is the key to escaping poverty ...

Darryl White, professor and musician, dressed in white. Libraries are better than Google ...

Phil Heckman, retired Doane College president. I was too young to drive, and too poor for a plane ticket. I got a library card and that was my ticket to the world ...

Mark Fahleson, attorney. Libraries are a public good, and as a conservative Republican, I think that it is a legitimate use of the public dollar ...

A preschooler in a blue shirt, holding a piece of blue plastic, like it was made of gold. I got my own library card and a sticker ...

A fashioner designer, a dentist, a mom, a middle-schooler, a speech coach, a father and daughter, an artist.

Campaign coordinators learned a lot about their subjects during the process.

Like Molly Nance, who attempted to swim the English Channel after reading a library book, and Margaret Berry, who learned a new method of painting at the library, and Andrew and Angie Norman, who started Hear Nebraska, an organization promoting the state’s music, after researching the idea at the library.

And they were amazed at all the ways a library is used, Wamstad-Evans said.

“Teenagers are hanging out there, people are looking for jobs on the computers, students are being mentored, people are learning literacy, there’s storytime.”

Which is how they came to their campaign name: Libraries are more than books.

They rolled out the portraits last fall. People saw them and shared them. People wanted to be in them.

“So many people wanted to be engaged,” Wamstad-Evans said. “I think we ended up with more than 60, and we still had people wanting to be a part of it.”

And they found a way, posting their own library-related photos and linking them to the campaign’s social media headquarters on Facebook.

The campaign continues. Posters are on display at all the branch libraries, there’s a billboard up along West Van Dorn and radio spots have begun -- people featured in the campaign reciting quotes from their print ads.

I met Nancy Drew in a Lincoln library, and she’s been a friend and role model ever since ...

Libraries are the great equalizer ...

Libraries don’t care if you are rich or poor, young or old, tall or short ...

When you can’t make it to Rome, go to your library ...

You can see all the spots on Facebook at Idea Place LNK.

And, if you don’t have a computer? It’s OK.

Go to the library.

## THANKS, DAVID HOWAK!

David Howak loves Gere Branch Library – the staff, the programs, AND the books! Thanks to Mr. Howak's generous donation, Gere Branch was able to add much needed titles to its collection. He asked the Gere staff to recommend books that would enhance the collection and provided the funding to purchase these books. Brenda Ealey, Gere Branch Manager said, "Gere Branch Library is grateful for this generous donation that meant the addition of a wonderful



*Left to right: Pat Leach, Director of Lincoln City Libraries, Brenda Ealey, Gere Branch Manager, David Howak, and Pat Sloan, Gere.*

mix of books to the nonfiction collection. Mr. Howak's gift is certainly one that will be appreciated into the future as customers continue to check out and enjoy.

Our patrons were eager to browse and delighted to find that the books could be checked out immediately when displayed."

This result fits perfectly with Mr. Howak's motivation as he wants to encourage others to read and enjoy books as he does. He loves to read books about his Native American Heritage, and also loves westerns and mysteries. A special interest of his includes books about health, and he frequently conducts research on health issues at Gere Branch Library.

An avid reader, he remarked that as he gets closer to reading the last of the books from his pile of library books, he goes into panic mode (he said with a chuckle) that he is running out of books. The good news is that Lincoln City Libraries will NEVER run out of books. Gere Branch will also not even run low on books, thanks to David Howak and others who have made a commitment to ensure the continuing growth of our libraries. Thank you, Mr. Howak, and thank you all for your commitment to our Libraries!

## SPRING 2015 AUTHOR ADVENTURE

Everyone receiving this newsletter is invited to the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association's Spring 2015 Author Adventure.

This year, the University Archives and Special Collections at UNL will host two identical sessions on resources on Nebraska authors that complement the collections in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library.

The UNL University Archives and Special Collections have extensive manuscripts, photographs, drafts of literary works, memorabilia, and research resources on Nebraska authors, including Willa Cather, Mari Sandoz, Wright Morris, Loren Eiseley, Weldon Kees, Ted Kooser, John Neihardt, Lowry Wimberly, and others. Special Collections also holds interesting artists' books by Nebraska artists and presses. In addition to literary writers, Special Collections has papers of

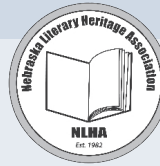
noted scientists, including John Janovy, Paul Johnsgard, and Charles Bessey. Social sciences collections include the Grace and Edith Abbott Papers and Alvin T. Johnson Papers.

Please join us – Tuesday, March 24, 2015 (If the University closes due to inclement weather, the programs will be held on Friday, March 27 instead.), 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 3:00-4:30 p.m. Both sessions will cover the same information, including viewing an extensive display of examples from these collections, accessing finding aids, and arranging to use the collections. UNL Love Library, 13th & R Street - Archives & Special Collections, 29 Love Library [This is in Love South, on the Lower Level.]

Questions? Please contact Kathy Johnson, Chair of NLHA Author Adventures Committee. Telephone: 402-472-2553 or email: [kjohnson6@unl.edu](mailto:kjohnson6@unl.edu)

## MARY CARPER, LINCOLN, SHARES HER LOVE OF SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY!

"I love this "little gem" and the neighborhood that it serves. I used to go there when the girls were little and check out books every week. My daughter, Courtney lives in Denver now and takes Willa (her daughter) to the library every week. My second daughter, Whitney checks out books often from the Basalt, Colorado library. I really do believe their use of libraries stems from the little South Street Branch."



## CURATOR'S CORNER

By Meredith McGowan

It's interesting to be writing a column for the joint FLCL/NLHA newsletter!

Here are a couple of my favorite recent Heritage Room stories.

During September and October, 2014, we had a Chinese graduate student, who is studying at the University of Toulouse in France, visit Lincoln and the Heritage Room because of her interest in Loren Eiseley. China, France and Loren Eiseley, a unique combination! I suggested that she consider translating Eiseley's work in to Chinese; we'll keep our eyes on her as she just might do that.

In October, 2014, I had a call from Lisa who works for the National Park Service. She explained that she was "working on a Historic American Buildings Survey report for Battle Mountain Sanitarium.

The site is now Black Hills Veterans' Affairs Medical Center. My office is doing HABS documentation (drawings, reports and photographs) at the request of the VA preservation office." She discovered an item in the Heritage Room collection, saying that "the document in your collection was the best example I have found for any of the Soldiers' Home sites I have worked on." She went on to say that she had discovered in our collection "a fabulous document that I have



Pat Leach and Meredith McGowan

not found anywhere else." That fabulous document, National Homes of Uncle Sam's Vets: Battle Mountain Sanitarium: Inside and out by an Inmate, by W.H. Johnson, M.D., Past National Surgeon General G.A.R., Lincoln, Nebraska.

I will definitely miss some of these great stories as I retire on Friday, December 12, 2014. However, there are many stories out there; I may be back to visit on occasion and hear a few more. Thanks for your support during the almost ten years that I've spent in the Heritage Room.

*The editors asked Meredith to reflect on her time in the Heritage Room.*

### **What have you most enjoyed about working in the Heritage Room?**

I think that what I've enjoyed most about working in the Heritage Room and working with the NLHA group for almost ten years has been meeting many talented, motivated, and interesting people. As a result, I learned a lot, especially about Nebraska's literary heritage, which I've been able to share in a number of ways. I've made a lot of friends and connections. I do look forward to having more time to read the many books that I've added to my list over the years!

Thank you, Meredith, for your years of service to the Heritage Room and your stellar work with the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association! From all of us at the NLHA.

## SAVE THE DATE! THE 31ST NLHA SPELLING BEE IS THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD

The 31st NLHA Spelling Bee  
Thursday, April 23, 2015  
Single Barrel, 10th & P

Social hour starts at 6PM, the Spelling Bee begins at 7PM

Emceed by John Baylor

Questions about the Spelling Bee: contact Jenni Jex at 402-420-0852 or [jennijex@hotmail.com](mailto:jennijex@hotmail.com)

## LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY 2014



Join us for Lunch at the Library! The next two months offer books and authors for a variety of readers.

March 4: Larry R. Bradley, Voter and Electoral Reform Advocate, *The Election Monster Will Be Back (Unless You Kill It)*.

April 1: Lucy Adkins and Becky Breed, authors of *Writing in Community: Say Goodbye to Writer's Block and Transform Your Life*, and *The Whoosh Factor: The Amazing Power of a Generative Writing Group*

### More about author Larry R. Bradley:

Throughout his varied work career, Larry R. Bradley saw one of the keys to success repeated over and over. He saw that organizations and individuals progress and prosper when they are willing to honestly look at how they are doing things, find the flaws in their current processes, and fix those flaws with new processes. These insights led him to evaluate the American electoral system. Through his speaking and writing Voter and Electoral Reform Advocate Larry R. Bradley is committed to educating Americans on why the two party system isn't working anymore—and what to do about it.

### More about authors Lucy Adkins and Becky Breed:

Lucy Adkins grew up in rural Nebraska, attended country schools, and received her degree from Auburn University in Alabama. Her poetry has been published in journals which include *Midwest Quarterly*, *Red Wheelbarrow*, and *Rhino*, as well as several anthologies; and her chapbook, *One Life Shining: Addie Finch, Farmwife* was published by Pudding House Press in 2007. She has led and worked with writing groups in the Lincoln area for many years.

Becky Breed is a veteran educator, poet, and essayist, she attributes the support of her writing community for inspiring her to craft the most honest and authentic writing of her life. She has an Ed.D. in Education, has taught at the university level, and served as principal at an alternative high school. Reading and storytelling are passions in her family. She has four granddaughters who can tell a good yarn!

## RECAP OF FALL 2014 LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY



Jamison Wyatt.

Did you miss Lunch at the Library this past fall? Here's a brief review of the events:

**Oct. 1:** Jamison Wyatt entertained a large crowd with some new facts about Mari Sandoz and her life, especially in Lincoln.

**Oct. 22:** The library staff hosted a book discussion on the One Book One Lincoln selection of *The Light Between Oceans*.

**Nov. 5:** Laura Madeline Wiseman discussed how poets and artists could collaborate to create books, broadsides, digital media and more examples.

**Dec. 3:** Vicki Wood opened our eyes to books for all ages, sharing ideas for books as holiday gifts or for checking out of the library.

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