

# HISTORY & FOUNDATION OF LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANSHIP

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES: LIBRARIANSHIP

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# Professional Development: History & Foundation of Libraries & Librarianship

## History of Libraries

### Part 1 of 2 History & Foundation of Libraries & Librarianship

Intended Participants: Library Associates, Library Clerk

Time Commitment: 8 hours



**Goal:** Participants will be able to identify the 5 major types of libraries, the role of public libraries in the United States, as well as current issues in the modern library. Participants will also consider the history of Grand County Library District, its stakeholders, and strategic framework

- Public libraries are held up as a great equalizer, providing access and resources to all as well as defenders of freedom of information and
- What role does Grand County Library District have as a public library? How can we continue to be relevant?

### Articles, webinars, documents (as many as needed based on goal and time frame)

- [First Lady Dr. Jill Biden: "Loving to read means loving to learn"](#) (Video: 2:22)  
Abstract: At the 2021 ALA Midwinter Virtual Conference, First Lady Dr. Jill Biden shared her deep appreciation for libraries, library professionals, and the power of literature and learning.
- [Types of Libraries](#) (webpage)  
Abstract: A brief overview of library types  
What to get out of it: Consider who the patrons & stakeholders are for each library and how that would impact collections and services offered.  
Impact on practice: Different types of libraries have different types of patrons
- [Public Library Standards from the Colorado State Library](#) (web document)  
Abstract: The Public Library Standards define what it is to be a Colorado Public Library as well as best practices and means to better achieve best practices.  
What to get out of it: As you review the standards, discuss with your fellow branch staff, changes that have occurred over the years regarding GCLD as a public library.  
Impact on practice: What areas do we still have growth needed?
- [What to Expect from Libraries in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Pam Sandlian Smith at TEDxMileHigh](#) (Video: 11:24)  
Abstract: Why do we still need libraries in the age of digital, real-time information?  
In this emotional talk, Pam Sandlian Smith shows how she works to use the library as a hub for community-based knowledge creation and discourse.

What to get out of it: The role of the public library has changed through time.  
Impact on practice: What keeps GCLD relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?

- ["Most Americans – especially Millennials – say libraries can help them find reliable, trustworthy information"](#) (Article)

Abstract: An article from the Pew Research Centers FactTank: News in the Numbers series highlighting the trust the American people have in libraries.  
What to get out of it: Importance of public libraries to the American people  
Impact on practice: How do we maintain the role of trustworthy and reliable?

- [State of American Libraries \(web document\)](#)

Abstract: American Library Association's highlights of top 3 trends in public libraries.

What to get out of it: Libraries are evolving.  
Impact on practice: Are these trends relevant to our GCLD community?

- [Trends](#)

Abstract: From the Center for the Future of Libraries, trends are identified in seven categories: society, technology, education, environment, politics (and government), economics, and demographics.

What to get out of it: Libraries are evolving  
Impact on practice: Are these trends relevant to our GCLD community?

- [Library Corner: 25 Years as Grand County Library District](#)

Abstract: A brief history of GCLD and before GCLD existed  
What to get out of it: Cultural understanding for the roots of our public libraries  
Impact on practice: Patron is defined as a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, cause or activity. Stakeholders is defined as those who have a "stake" or interest in the decisions and fate of your organization. Consider why people feel passion for our libraries.

- [Friends of Grand County Library, Inc.](#)

Abstract: The Friends is a membership organization dedicated to the provide funds to enhance library programs and services as well as encourage broad-based public support, use and enjoyment of Grand County libraries.

What to get out of it: Knowledge of our supporters  
Impact on practice: Compassion and appreciation for our advocates

- [Grand County Library Foundation](#)

Abstract: The Foundation builds an endowment with private donations to ensure the long-term financial health of GCLD.

What to get out of it: Knowledge of our supporters  
Impact on practice: Compassion and appreciation for our advocates

- [GCLD Strategic Framework](#)

Abstract: 2021-2025 Framework guiding the decision-making process for what

GCLD is actively working towards

What to get out of it: Knowledge of GCLD's focus

Impact on practice: Vision and direction for work

## Suggested Conferences or Memberships

- NA

### Network (ListServ, Social media, or library(-ies) to visit)

- [Colorado Association of Libraries \(CAL\) Interest Groups](#)

Abstract: Through our institutional membership through Marmot, CAL Interest

Groups provide an opportunity to meet fellow librarians centered on a specific area of interest.

What to get out of it: Consider joining one of the many interest groups.

- Friends, Foundation, Trustees, Volunteers

Abstract: The Friends, Foundation, Trustees, and Volunteers are our most ardent supporters.

- Grand County Library District

Abstract: With 6 physical facilities, consider visiting one or two to view how these different facilities meet the needs of the different regions of Grand County. Set up an appointment to discuss the library with one of the branch staff members.

What to get out of it: How do these different facilities serve the needs of the public in these different regions of Grand County?

## Now what?

Piece for reflection and discussion with your team: How does Grand County Library District put the public in public library?

# Professional Development: History & Foundation of Libraries & Librarianship

## Librarianship

Part 2 of 2 History & Foundation of Libraries & Librarianship

Intended Participants: Library Associates, Library Clerks

Time Commitment: 5 hours

**Goal:** *Participants will be able to explain the roles librarians have in the public library*



### Articles, webinars, documents

*Jeanette McQuade, branch manager of Fraser Valley Library*

- [Beyond Books: A look into what public libraries really are](#) (Video: 6:05)

Abstract: Librarians do more than just sort books. In this talk, Tara Franzetti shares about how her duties as a public librarian are busier than ever, as public libraries are more vibrant than ever. Tara also shares how libraries are not outdated, and that young people are the most common users of public libraries, more than any other age group.

What to get out of it: Consider the role Grand County libraries have in our community and what we do to be relevant as well as an essential service.

Impact on practice: What role do you serve as a librarian in a public library?

- [Core Values of Librarianship](#) (web document)

Abstract: A list and brief description of the essential values that define and guide professional librarianship as determined through American Library Association (ALA) policy and practice.

What to get out of it: Consider what it means to be a professional librarian.

Impact on practice: What values will you need to further focus and what are already embedded in your practice?

- [Freedom to Read](#), [Freedom to View](#), [First Amendment and Censorship](#) and [Library Bill of Rights](#) (4 web documents)

Abstract: These documents provide the cornerstone of why public libraries exist and what we must protect.

Impact on practice: Review our collections policy, library use by children, and programs policy, and reconsideration for library materials ([GCLD Policy Manual](#): Section 5 & 3).

- [Understanding Fair Use through Case Law](#) (Webinar 1:01:07)

Abstract: Librarians are tasked with being mindful that patrons (and ourselves) follow copyright law. This webinar provides a look at what is acceptable use with copyrighted materials

Impact on practice: What must you consider when putting together programs, marketing materials, displays, as well as overseeing the copier and scanner?

## Suggested Conferences or Memberships

- CLiC Spring Conferences

Regional conference that particularly engages small and rural libraries (public, school, academic, prison, etc.) to share ideas, resources, and opportunities.

What to get out of it: Ideas and network

## Network

- [Western Slope Interest Group](#)

Abstract: Promote librarians in the western slope to collaborate and engage in the greater library community.

What to get out of it: Librarians in similar geographic and economic regions share and problem solve.

## Now what?

Write your mission librarian mission statement: a brief description of what is important to you, what you want to focus, what you want to accomplish and who you want to be as a librarian. Include your what is important, why it is important, what your values/principles are, what you appreciate and finally what you treasure above all else.