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### **Four librarians graduate from Library Training Institute**

BROOKINGS, S.D. – Four librarians graduated this year from the Public Library Training Institute, which took place June 4-9 at South Dakota State University in Brookings. The institute, sponsored by the South Dakota State Library, is a four-year program of continuing education for librarian practitioners, support staff and trustees of small to medium-sized public libraries who do not have library degrees.

The following individuals graduated this year with a Certificate of Public Library Management:

- Teri Ewalt, Webster Public Library
- Sandy LaCroix, Lower Brule Community College Library
- Jayne Nieland, Sisseton Memorial Library
- Mary Jo Parker, Lake Andes Carnegie Library

In all, 25 students from across the state, including library directors and staff attended this year's institute. Attendees learned about teen services, programming, makerspaces, understanding the teenage brain and more.

This summer's event marks the 30<sup>th</sup> session of the Public Library Institute. The program started in 1985 at what was then Northern State College in Aberdeen (since then, there were two years when a summer session wasn't held). Financial support is provided by the South Dakota State Library in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington, D.C.

Students attend in-person classes for one week in June and then take additional classes online between summers. No prior formal library science education or previous college attendance is required.

Participants earn a minimum of 120 contact hours over a four-year period and two college credits each year from a South Dakota public university. Librarians who attend all four years receive a Certificate of Public Library Management and are recognized as certified library practitioners. Once someone starts the program, his or her public library is eligible to apply for state library accreditation. Learn more at [library.sd.gov](http://library.sd.gov).

**Editor's Note: Two photos attached**



2017 Photo 1 (l to r): Graduates Sandy LaCroix, Mary Jo Parker, State Librarian Daria Bossman (standing), Teri Ewalt and Jayne Nieland



2017 Photo 2: All Library Training Institute participants