Q1: **Chapter Contact Information**

Chapter Name: MONTANA LIBRARY ASSN., INC.
Address: PO BOX 1352
Address 2: 63 RED SHOULDER LANE
City/Town: THREE FORKS
State: MT
ZIP: 59752
Primary E-mail Address: debkmla@hotmail.com

Q2: **Date Completing This Survey**

Month/Date/Year: 07/31/2013

Q3: **Report for Fiscal Year**

Start Date/End Date: July 1, 2012/June 30, 2013

Q4: **Where is the link to your association's page on Facebook found?**

On your association's homepage?

Q5: **What is your Facebook web address?**

http://www.facebook.com/mla

Q6: **Where is the link to your association's twitter account found?**

Respondent skipped this question
Q7: What is your Twitter handle?
N/A

Q8: Where is the link to your association's "Take Action" page (e.g., Capwiz) found?
Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 4: Association Primary Contacts

Q9: Primary Contacts
President
Anne Kish
Executive Director
Debbi Kramer
Chapter Councilor
Suzanne Goodman

Q10: Budget Totals for Year (answer requires a figure rounded to the nearest dollar)
Revenue
$118,858
Expenses
$109,893
Unrestricted Net Assets
$21,496

PAGE 5: Management and Staffing

Q11: Does Your Association Use a Management Company?
No

Q12: List the Titles of Paid Staff
Title 1
Executive Director--Contract Labor

PAGE 6: Membership Information

Q13: Chapter Membership
Calendar

Q14: Chapter Membership Includes
School library association part of Chapter

Q15: Chapter Membership Includes
Does not include ACRL Chapter

Q16: Dues structure for PERSONAL members
Graduated (fee levels based on salary)

Q17: Please List Applicable Fee or Percentage for PERSONAL members
Highest graduated fee
$60.00
Lowest graduated fee
$15.00
### Q18: Please List Number of Chapter Members by Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library/Institution</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Q19: Chapter Membership Compared to Last Year

- Grew

### Q20: If Membership Grew or Declined

- Grew by What Percentage (if known)? 13%

### Q21: Chapter Membership Was at Its Highest...

- In year? 2013
- With how many total members? 999

### PAGE 7: Annual Conference

#### Q22: Please Provide the Following Financial Information about Your Chapter's Annual Conference (answer requires a figure rounded to the nearest dollar)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>$83,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>$53,541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Q23: Please Provide the Following Non-Financial Information about Your Chapter's Annual Conference (if not applicable, insert n/a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Missoula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of attendees</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total booths/tables of exhibits</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of vendor chat tables</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of vendors participating in conference sessions</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Program Offerings</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Q24: Did Your Chapter Meet Its Budget Projections for Its Annual Conference?

- Exceeded

#### Q25: Did Your Association Try Something New at This conference?

- No

#### Q26: If So, Please Briefly Explain What It Was and What Your Association Hoped to Achieve

We tried vendor talks, where vendors had an uninterrupted time to explain and tout their products.
Q27: Was It Successful?  

Maybe

Q28: Will Your Association Offer This Again at Its Next Annual Conference?  

Respondent skipped this question

Q29: List Your Association’s Most Successful Events Held during Conference

The most successful events held during the conference were the Keynote speaker, the Montana Book Awards presentation, and a panel that discussed legislative issues.

The Keynote Speaker was Mary Bushing, a retired librarian and a current library consultant who works in many states and internationally. Her speech embraced the conference theme, Homegrown Inspiration. She talked about taking advantage of all that we have to learn from each other and she gave numerous examples of success when MT librarians have banded together toward common goals and to share knowledge.

The Montana Book Awards presentation was off-site from the conference in the evening at a winery. Free transportation was provided. It was hosted and organized by the Montana Book Awards Committee Chair, Barbara Theroux, who also served as a conference co-planner. Each year the Montana Book Awards Committee reads all nominated books that are either written by Montana authors or set in Montana and they select one Montana Book Award winner as well as a handful of Honor Books. The winning authors are presented with plaques and give speeches. The winner of the Montana Book Award is presented with a piece of locally-commissioned artwork reflective of their book. All of the authors signed books at a reception immediately following the presentation of the awards. The reception included hors d’oeuvres and drinks and live music.

In Montana there was a recent Attorney General Opinion that reduced the powers of Library Trustees and increased the powers of governing bodies, such as Town Councils and City Councils. During the MLA conference, there was a panel discussion regarding what happened and what options exist moving forward. It was well-attended and recorded and posted to the State Library’s website.

Q30: Share Outstanding Keynotes or Speakers (include topics, please)

The Keynote Speaker was Mary Bushing, a retired librarian and a current library consultant who works in many states and internationally. Her speech embraced the conference theme, Homegrown Inspiration. She talked about taking advantage of all that we have to learn from each other and she gave numerous examples of success when MT librarians have banded together toward common goals and to share knowledge.

A notable presenter was Colet Bartow, the Library Information Literacy Specialist for the Montana Office of Public Instruction. She presented a full-day workshop on Saturday, the final day of the conference. She presented about libraries supporting Common Core Standards. Many Teacher Librarians were able to attend that day and a number of them were released from work to attend other days of the conference as well. MLA contacted various District Administrators from around the state to inform them of the opportunities and to encourage them to pay for Teacher Librarians to attend and those contacts did result in significant increased attendance by Teacher Librarians.
Q31: Please Provide the Systems/Vendors Used to Manage Your Association's Transactions and Member Data

Accounting System: Quickbooks Premier Non-Profit 2013
Registration System: Authorize.Net
Database: Access
Web Design/Administration: Stacy Bruhn

Q32: List Major Activities, Accomplishments with Participation (e.g., Library Legislative Day and number of attendees, legislative successes, new strategic plan, trainings, etc.)

The crowning achievement of MLA this past year was the passing of House Bill 203, which revised state aid to libraries. MLA proposed the bill and it was sponsored by Republican Legislator Christy Clark. Previously, the state funded public libraries at just under 10 cents per capita. HB 203 raised the state’s per capita funding of public libraries to 40 cents.

In addition to passing HB 03, MLA assisted in opposing a number of bills detrimental to libraries. Most notably, MLA opposed House Bill 181, a bill that would have eliminated the ratio of school librarians to students that is currently mandated by the department of education. This bill would have given local school boards the right to determine appropriate ratios of certified school librarians to students. With opposition from MLA and other organizations, this bill passed the Montana House, but failed to pass the Senate.

A major activity of the Board this year was to prioritize the budget – to begin to understand the budget better and to budget more sustainably. The Board did balance the budget, did put a plan into place, and the critical members of the Board have received training in best-practices for budgeting for non-profits.

Another notable activity was following through with a strategic plan that was implemented 2 years ago by Past-President Kim Crowley. At the Summer Board retreat, the original strategic plan consultant returned. He analyzed what worked well and didn’t work well with the original strategic plan and helped MLA develop a follow-up to the strategic plan, complete with quarterly duties assigned to individuals to ensure accountability for each task. Each named individual submitted quarterly reports to update the Board on their progress. MLA hosted the Legislative Reception for all legislative members. It was attended by over 100 legislative members and 50 librarians throughout the state.
Q33: List Major Issues Facing the Association (e.g., budget, membership, structure, systems, competition, etc.)

The first major issue facing the association is budgeting and the root of the problem is that most Montana Library Association board members have very little experience with creating budgets and very little knowledge about the budgeting process. At this point in time, the issue has been addressed, the budget has been balanced, and the board members in critical positions have attended some training. The potential problem is that this board has made a commitment to focus more time and energy on the budget and on bringing themselves up to speed, but board turn-over is rapid and the association could face the same problem again in a few years. There are so many interesting things that an MLA President and Board can do and historically they haven’t been inclined to prioritize the budget.

The second major issue facing the association is government affairs. In this past year MLA was more politically active than it has been in the past. It proposed a bill and found a sponsor to carry the bill and the association was successful in passing the bill. Along the way, other parties sponsored bills that were bad for libraries and MLA devoted resources to fighting those bills, mostly successfully. In the past MLA has been inclined to simply support the State Library in opposing or advocating for legislation. In taking a greater leadership role in government affairs, it was clear that MLA is not set up well to devote as much time and money to legislative efforts as it did. The association depends primarily on one person, the Government Affairs Committee Chair, Judy Hart, to carry the workload. She did an admirable job, but she was overwhelmed and our current practice of relying so heavily on one person isn’t sustainable. Part of the MLA strategic plan includes beefing up the Government Affairs committee and it’s clear that the Chairperson needs to be bequeathed with more authority to make quick decisions without going before the full MLA Board. The committee has been improved and increased decision-making authority has been granted. The Government Affairs committee will be better equipped to handle the demands of the next legislative season, but MLA should be structured differently if it is to become more politically involved. Planning the annual conference takes most of the President’s time and the organization would be more efficient in general if the annual conference was a task for the Vice-President, leaving the President adequate time for administrative duties and to focus on government affairs.

Q34: Thank you for completing this Annual Report. If you have any comments or questions, please share them with us. We anticipate sharing some of this information with all Chapters (e.g., conference information). If there are questions you would like us to consider adding, please include them here.

Respondent skipped this question