



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OUTSIDE THE LINES: LIBRARIES WORLDWIDE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK

International library initiative underway

DENVER –Sept. 12, 2016–More than 250 libraries and organizations from 45 U.S. states, Canada, Croatia, Puerto Rico, England and Denmark are participating in [Outside the Lines](#), a weeklong celebration – Sept. 11-17, 2016 – demonstrating the creativity and innovation happening in libraries. Currently underway, Outside the Lines aims to help shift perceptions of libraries and showcase how these organizations are more relevant than ever.

Participating libraries sign up to host at least one event or campaign that gets people thinking and talking about libraries in a new way, with an emphasis on interacting with individuals out in the community. Follow the [#getOTL hashtag online](#) for a full picture of all the ways organizations are celebrating.

Here's a glimpse of what's in the works:

Orange County Library System (Orlando, Fla.): In the wake of the recent Pulse shooting at an Orlando nightclub, Orange County Public Library wanted to host an event that would continue to help the community heal, while also putting the city's strength on display in a public way. OCLS partnered with local business Sam Flax, who donated free art supplies to anyone willing to create a piece of art in response to the shooting. OCLS will host [Paint Strong Orlando](#), a public art exhibit and reception featuring the hundreds of submissions from community.

Aarhus Public Libraries (Aarhus, Denmark): Aarhus Public Libraries (APL), globally recognized as one of the leading library systems in the world, will take to the streets with their "MoBib" motorbike. This traveling mobile library will reach people in the places where they live and work, providing an opportunity to learn about library services and offer a cup of coffee. APL's Dokk1 urban mediaspace was awarded [Public Library of the Year](#) by the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

San Francisco Public Library (San Francisco, Calif.): During the week of Outside the Lines, San Francisco Public Library will participate in both the San Francisco's [Sunday Streets](#) neighborhood festival, as well as the California Academy of Sciences' popular [NightLife series](#). From a family-friendly street fair to an engaged urban adult nightlife event, these outreach efforts help reach San Francisco's diverse and changing community.

More events underway:

- The **Colorado State Library** has partnered with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to provide [adventure backpacks and state parks passes](#) available for check-out at libraries across the state.
- The **Mahopac Public Library** in New York is [setting up shop along bike trails](#) with water, dog treats and library services.
- **Theatre Alberta**, a non-profit theatre society and resource center in Alberta, Canada, hosts the [Purple Play Club](#). The group will mail three contemporary plays by Canadian playwrights directly to any interested individuals to help spread the word about their theatre library and resources.
- **Virginia Tech University Libraries** will connect with students across their campus with photo booths and special [surprise pop-up events](#) that highlight resources like the library's 3D printer and innovative coworking spaces.
- **Vermillion Public Library** in South Dakota will host a drive-in movie night, as well as a [Books & Brews happy hour](#) with live music, refreshments and craft beer to get their community thinking and talking about the library in a new way.
- **Jackson District Library** in Michigan is connecting artists, literature and local businesses through the [Pages to Projects art contest](#).
- Indiana's **Bloomfield-Eastern Greene County Public Library** will celebrate the state's bicentennial with a [Landmark Tour](#). Participants take photos at landmarks throughout the area and collect stamps in their special library passports for a chance to win "Made in Indiana" prizes.

ABOUT OUTSIDE THE LINES

Outside the Lines is an R-Squared initiative designed by Colorado library marketers and directors that gets libraries "walking the walk" – taking action to show our communities how important libraries are and how they've changed. This celebration takes many of the concepts discussed at R-Squared – The Risk & Reward Conference, such as creativity, customer curiosity, culture, community and creative spaces, and puts them into action where they count – in our local communities. Learn more at getoutsidethelines.org.

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