

A GUIDE TO LINC LIBRARY INNOVATION CENTER



High Plains Library District

MAY 2023

Community

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 highplains
Library District

**Opening
May 13!**

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LINC

BIG & Beautiful

Growing up a Greeley kid wasn't easy.

When you met kids from other places, you always heard the same thing:
Greeley...isn't that the smelly place?

In Eric Schlosser's much-read *Fast-Food Nation*, Greeley is mostly profiled by its smell, and it's given the label "rural ghetto."

When I went to college at UNC, most of the people I met asked me the same thing: Why didn't you get out of Greeley?

I always had a few things in my back pocket, stuff about Greeley that I'd bring up.

I'd show someone some of Distortions' stuff, and I'd say, "That happens in Greeley!"

Some of the best breweries in the nation? Yep, Greeley.

I visited my sister in New York City, and when her friends all decided we should go out for Mexican food, my sister pulled me aside and said, "Lower your expectations. This isn't going to be like Greeley's Mexican food."

Lately, I've had more to choose from when it comes to telling people that there's a lot to love about Greeley.

And LINC is poised to be one of the

things I bring up.

But in a different way.

It's kind of hard to explain.

LINC is big and beautiful, and that helps. LINC has so many things that extend the idea of library service way beyond the normal boundaries, and that helps, too.

Yes, I look forward to using some of the stuff in the woodshop. Who has space for a planer? Who has the cash for a SawStop?

And, of course, shooting my own videos and recording my own podcasts in the studio? Awesome.



I'm excited to point to LINC as an example of what Greeley really is. To tell people, "Check this out." To bring out my phone and show them pictures, and to hear that phrase, that music to my ears: *Wait, that's in Greeley?!*

All of that wonderful stuff still doesn't express what LINC's opening means to me, though.

The Lincoln Park Library I went to as a kid was the one where the Double Tree stands now, and that old Lincoln Park holds a lot of great memories for me. The huge tree in the storytime circle, the Rattlesnake Kate dress.

The Lincoln Park Library we've had since 2016 has served wonderfully, but it's also kind of felt like a promise to be fulfilled, a temporary solution, a way to provide library service downtown for now.

I always felt like it was a brick and mortar I.O.U.

Which is a nice metaphor for living in Greeley.

Because living here does mean living in a place that has promise, that has potential.

Some days, it feels like Greeley will never escape its status as an underdog, specifically, an underdog that could use a bath.

I've stuck it out my entire life so far, and there are days I get tired of waiting for tomorrow. You start thinking how you could move 25 miles north and be in a tomorrow that's a little closer to what you'd like. 50 miles south, and you could be in another tomorrow. Just a short drive away, you could live somewhere a lot more metropolitan, or you could live somewhere a lot more rural.

But I have to say: When something great happens in Greeley, when it's years in the making, and when there are times it's not a sure thing—when you see something big come together, and it's better than you expected, it sure is satisfying.

It's taken me a long time to figure out what I love about Greeley.

If someone asked me about moving to Greeley, I'd probably tell them that it's a great place to live. I'd probably tell them that it's a little more expensive than they think.

And I'd probably tell them that moving to Greeley isn't like moving to Fort

Collins, Denver, or Boulder.

If you move to one of the bigger surrounding cities, you're moving into a place that has fulfilled its promise. It's achieved a lot, and you'll have a good time.

If you want to take part in those good times, those other cities will be a great fit.

But.

If you want to live in a place where you get to be a part of creating the good times? If you want to shape the future of a place that's still not quite set?

You want to move here. And I want you to move here.

That's what I love about Greeley. It's a place we still have to build, a place where we have to make our own art, where we have to make our own fun.

LINC is a gateway. It's a toolbox we can all dig into to build the city we want to see, touch, and, okay, smell.

What I love about LINC is what I love about Greeley: it's ours to make wonderful.

Summer Reading Adventure



After another indecisive spring, summer is finally upon us. Get ready for warm days, nature walks, water balloon fights, and brilliant sunsets.

For the staff of the High Plains Library District, summer means something else, too. That's right! We've been working since last fall to bring you the next iteration of the Summer Reading Adventure! We spend three seasons preparing for this, and we've got a slew of exciting programs, challenges, and—of course—prizes to tell you all about!

But you don't want to hear it from me. That's why I brought in a special guest to tell us all about why SRA 2023 is going to be so special.

Please welcome my very special guest, the Chief Executive Officer of Summer, The Sun!

Me: Hello, The Sun. Thank you so much for joining us.

Sun: It's great to be here. I was worried I might incinerate the planet if I got too close, so I'm glad everything seems all right. Come to think of it, why isn't everything going up in flames right now?

Me: Our crew coated the studio in sunblock. It's SPF: A-Billion. What can you tell me about the Summer Reading Adventure this year? What has you, The Sun, most excited?

Sun: For starters, I want to talk to you about the theme.

This year, the Summer Reading Adventure is all about unity. We're calling it All Together Now. It's about friendship, coming together, and meeting new people. This year's adventure will be full of opportunities to connect with other summer readers and enjoy some adventures together. It's got me so excited; I may just go supernova!

Me: Please don't. So, how do you think the Summer Reading Adventure could bring people together?

Sun: I got a sneak preview of the Summer Reading log a few days ago. That little page is full of activities, challenges, and ideas to inspire all kinds of fun, a little teamwork, and great opportunities to make some new friends. Some of them are about reading books that inspire unity. Some of them are about just making the world around you a little brighter. And if you know anything about me, I'm all about making the world a brighter place.

Me: Yes, we all appreciate that. I'm a big fan of how you sustain life on our planet. But back to the topic, who are you going to enjoy the Summer Reading Adventure with this year?

Sun: I was thinking I might invite The Moon to try some challenges with me. We always see each other in passing, but we don't get a lot of opportunities to hang out. She's really into the nightlife. I'm more of an early riser. But this is an excellent chance for us to learn more about each other. And what is All Together Now about if not learning about people who have different experiences? It's so exciting!

Me: What else can you tell me about the Summer Reading Adventure?

Sun: Let's talk about the programs! These libraries are hosting all kinds of crazy events. There are murder mystery parties, engineering challenges, opportunities to break world records, miniature golf courses that run through the libraries, a spaceship escape room, fun with raptors, and big summer foam parties. It's going to be a blast! Bigger than solar flares!

Me: That sounds like a lot of events.

Sun: It's so many! And those are only the beginning. Participants will want to be sure and grab a program schedule from any of their favorite locations to find a full list of the summer reading events. Then, if that's not enough, we've got a massive scavenger hunt and take-and-make kits so you can enjoy library programs when you're not even in the library. We've got so much going on this summer, you'll need extra-long days to get through it all. Fortunately, I can help you out with that.

Me: We appreciate it. But you haven't said anything about my favorite part of the Summer Reading Adventure. What about the prizes? For me, the only thing better than doing a bunch of awesome summer reading activities, discovering a ton of incredible books, and having so much fun in a library that I can't believe nobody is shushing us, is to do all of those things and then get a prize for it.

Sun: Do you really think we'd forget about those? We have tons of prizes! We have so many prizes we could fill a black

hole with them. The more activity and reading challenges you complete, the more sweet summer reading prizes you win. And if you really want to shine, you can complete all of the challenges and walk away with a snazzy Summer Reading tote.

Me: Like yours? Wow, that is snazzy! What do you carry in there?

Sun: You can use it to carry anything. I have some gamma rays, a little extra plasma, some fission reactions. Typical Sun stuff.

Me: This all sounds so exciting! I can't wait for Summer Reading to begin. What else can you tell us about the Summer Reading Adventure?

Sun: The fun starts May 21st, and it goes all the way to August 13th. We're packing as much fun into this summer as it can take. If you don't pace yourself you might get funstroke. And that's not just a Sun pun. We are going to rock this summer. We are going to put the soul in "solstice." So, don't miss out. Keep an eye on our website, mylibrary.us/sra for updates and information, and grab a friend or two. Because, all together, we're going to make this a summer to remember.

Me: We appreciate you joining us, The Sun.

Sun: It was a pleasure to be here. ...I think I incinerated one of your trees on the way in.



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Mobile printing, now available. Visit www.mylibrary.us/print for more information.

Date Night

at LINC

When I was a kid, I thought adults doing “date night” sounded BORING.

As a younger adult, I thought it was silly, it was cheesy, and that it was unnecessary.

As an adult-adult, I get it.

You have to carve out a little time for the people in your life.

Which is why I’m going to suggest Date Night at LINC.

I’ll lay it all out for you. It’s simple, it’s cheap, it’s right down the street.

And if you can delete this newsletter from your partner’s email before they can read it, feel free to pretend you came up with this yourself. I don’t mind.

Step 1: Grab a bite

Downtown Greeley has an awesome selection of options on this front. Take your pick!

Step 2: Check out LINC

Weekday evenings are going to be the perfect time to wander LINC as a couple of adults. Weekends and after school, it’ll probably be less quiet, but a Tuesday at 7:00 p.m? You’ll probably have a chance to play with the paper airplane launchers without feeling like you’re stealing time from a kiddo.

You might even get a little competitive. Loser buys drinks.

And make sure to check out the incredible art installation as well.

LINC is going to be incredibly fun to explore and check out, and a weeknight, just a

little later into the evening, will be the perfect time for adults to do it.

Step 3: Browse

Browse the River of Books the way you might a bookstore, the way it’s meant to be experienced.

There’s a trick to this, a rule: You HAVE to pick up something off the shelf, no fair looking something up in the catalog or checking your phone for the name of that book you want to read.

The idea here is to find something by chance. Maybe take a very small risk on something you’ve never considered before.

Wander. Explore. Discover.

Now, if this is a first date, there’s an alternate version: Pick up a book that fits that same criteria, but try and find something that would be fun to share with someone. Maybe a book of photography, or



something super odd, something that appeals to your interests. Pick something that'll spark conversation.

Step 4: Have a Drink

Hit any of the breweries, distilleries, or any of Greeley's great coffee shops, sit down together, and just read for 15 minutes or so.

If you're on a first date, flip through your selections together. Talk about them. Sometimes, a first date needs a little extra input to keep the conversation flowing, right? This gives you both something to chat about just a bit, a topic over which you can get to know each other.

If you've been in a relationship for a while, this small bit of spontaneity

is a lot of fun. I know, it's not exactly skydiving or jumping in the car at 2:00 a.m. to take an unplanned road trip to Wall Drug for no particular reason. But it'll do.

LINC opens May 13th, so you can plan your next date night right now!

Did YOU have a great library experience? Like, ever?

If you're reading HPLD's newsletter, we're betting the answer is "Yes." Or possibly even "YES!"

To let our staff know that they're having an impact in your community, we're proposing a quick letter-writing campaign. Write your favorite HPLD staff member a letter, and if they're up for it, we'll ask them to read it out loud for the first time on video. That way, they can see how much you appreciate them, and you can see how much your words mean to them!

The Tiniest Glimpse

We've got this incredible art installation going in at LINC, and here's the thing: We want you to come and see it for yourself after it opens on May 13th.

We took pictures, we have video, but it doesn't quite do it justice. It just doesn't compare to being here, embedded in this world that feels like it couldn't possibly exist inside a library.

What we've decided to do, just to give you a taste, is show you the color palette.

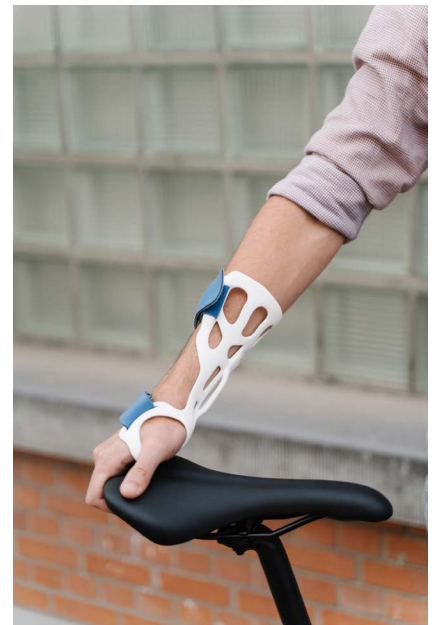
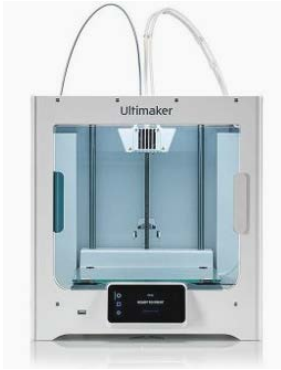
And if you decided to show up to LINC in clothes that match the scene, your picture game will be extremely strong.



Quiz Time!

We've got a lot of great stuff in our maker spaces at LINC. Can you match the finished project with the most useful tool? If you can, you know exactly how exciting all of this

is. If you can't, you'll want to get into LINC and learn how you can put this great stuff to use!



A Crash Course In Filmmaking

Lots of folks have at least one idea for a movie. Maybe a short film, maybe a 5-minute YouTube clip, maybe a 30-second gag, maybe a commercial for their business. LINC's studio is here to help you move those ideas out of your head and into the real world.

It's got high-end recording equipment, a VERY fancy camera, a large studio, soundproofing, and it comes with access to Adobe Suite, the software used to make big-budget action/effects movies like *Deadpool*!

There's a setup called a cyclorama, which is a seamless, curved surface that allows you to set up backgrounds that appear infinite. You can shoot on green screen.

You can do just about anything.

All of this is WAY more than a lot of the biggest indie filmmakers had when they got their start. And all of it is available for free.

But it's not available until after LINC opens, so in the meantime, why not take some inspiration from some great indie movies?

He was 98lbs. of solid nerd
until he became...



The Toxic Avenger

Troma is known for making inexpensive, shocking, truly weird films. Chances are pretty good you've stumbled across a Troma film here or there, likely accompanied by a caption that expresses disbelief with some abbreviated swear words.

Toxic Avenger is probably their most famous. It's weird, gross, and Toxie himself has become Troma's primary mascot.

What people might not know is how many big stars got their start with Troma. James Gunn, Trey Parker, Eli Roth, J.J. Abrams, Samuel L. Jackson. The list goes on.

Lloyd Kaufman, head of Troma, is a huge supporter of indie film. He's truly one of the greats, and people who don't know him but have seen some Troma flicks might be surprised to learn what a nice, genial guy he is.

Kaufman believes you can make art without a big budget. In fact, he believes it's unethical to make a movie that costs millions and millions of dollars:

If someone offered me a hundred million dollars to make a movie? I would first remind him that there are 850 million people in the world who don't have enough to eat.

American Movie

This documentary about filmmaker Mark Borchardt and his attempt to make a horror movie on almost no budget and with very little access to actors and sets is a great reminder: you can make a movie if you want it bad enough.

Indie film fans make some sport of *American Movie* and some of the bumbling, including Borchardt having to drag his elderly mother into the production in order to have enough bodies, and the mispronunciation of the word "coven" throughout.

But you'll never see a movie with as dedicated a filmmaker as *American Movie*.

If you're as passionate about filmmaking as Mark Borchardt, you'll be okay.

Evil Dead

At the time *Evil Dead* was made, horror was the way to get your start as a filmmaker. Why? Because studios didn't really care about it, it was cheap to make, and it usually made everyone a little money.

There's certainly an advantage to making a huge movie that brings in tons of money, a *Star Wars* or an



Avengers, but there's also something to be said for making a movie that lets you make all the choices, make the movie you want to make.

Consider seeking out the corners of the film world that there's less concern over, less attention paid to. Those might be the places that will let you make YOUR movie.

Clerks

The Big lesson from filmmaker Kevin Smith's life?

Surround yourself with "Why not?" people.

When Smith decided to make a movie, most people had the same reaction: Why?

Those were the people he stopped hanging out with, and he replaced them with people who were more likely to say, "Why not?" They were more fun. They were more interesting. They helped him bring his films to life.



Petey Wheatstraw

Rudy Ray Moore made some very strange Blaxpolitation movies, and *Petey Wheatstraw* is probably at the top.

Rudy Ray Moore is also one of the most charismatic on-screen performers of all time. He's just compulsively watchable.

If you're a filmmaker, you have to find your Rudy Ray Moore, the person who just needs to be seen by the wider world.



Tangerine

Reportedly, after filmmaker Sean Baker showed *Tangerine* at Sundance, and then revealed the entire thing was shot in iPhones, a "collective gasp rose from the audience."

You don't need to sink a ton of money into fancy equipment to tell a great story.



Want to show our staff some love?
Want to tell everyone you've got the best libraries in the world?

When we do a storytime, we're used to seeing smiling faces looking back at us! We miss the waves and greetings we get when you all come in to check out an armload of books!

We're collecting photos and videos that show HPLD making a positive impact in your communities. If you have a moment, send us a picture of your curbside pickup or the items that've kept you busy and happy while you've been stuck at home. We'd love a picture of your family cozying up for a movie night with an HPLD-provided movie. A peaceful moment reading on the porch. Whatever your style, and whether our impact is big or small, we want to see it!

Anything you have, post it and tag us online. **We're @myhpld on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.**

A Helpful Guide to Your **Kid's Birthday Party** *at LINC*



Our library meeting rooms have become popular spots to have birthday parties, and while it was kind of confusing at first (libraries didn't traditionally fit the image of "party central"), we've embraced it.

Library meeting rooms are a good size, so you've got room for a few more kids in one space.

You know how you have to clean your house before AND after the party? Not the case in a library meeting room! Okay, you have to clean up after, and with most kids' parties, that means a little bit of work, but we've cut your cleaning in half! Plus, we've got large garbage receptacles. If you've ever hosted a party for kids, you know this is a BIG deal.

Nobody has their priceless family heirlooms in library meeting rooms.

Libraries have large, clean bathrooms. The less said about the horrors of cleaning a bathroom after a kid's party, the better.

With LINC having an incredible children's museum and art installation perfect for kids, we're anticipating a good number of birthday parties booking up LINC spaces before too long.

So here are a couple tips from folks who have seen a whole lot of parties in library meeting rooms:

1. Recruit a Couple of Adults

If at all possible, get a couple of the other parents to stay for the party, or bring a friend or a relative. With a group of 10-year-olds all in one space, it might seem pretty easy to keep track of everyone, but you're going to want some assistance. Plus, you want to be able to enjoy some of the party, and you'll be able to do that if the wrangling isn't all up to you!

2. Ramp Up Activity Levels

Start the party with the parts that are a little more chilled out, like opening presents and that sort of thing. Once the kids have gotten started on the paper airplane launcher, it's going to be hard to get them back in a room, seated, and, well, not a complete tornado of activity.

3. Book A Longer Block

Lots of people will book the meeting room for the exact timeframe of their party, and you'll be a lot happier and less stressed if you give yourself a little extra time in the room before guests arrive and a little wiggle room on the end of your reservation.

4. Saturdays and Sundays

Just being honest, with all library business being compressed into a 4-hour block on Sunday, you'll probably have a little less crowding and a little more ease getting in and out of the meeting room on a Saturday.

5. Less Is More

A party that's a little too short is better than a party that goes on a little too long. A 1-hour party makes it a lot easier on you, and it's easier on the kids, too. It decreases the chance of meltdowns. And, hey, when parents come to pick up their kids, they are always free to continue exploring the library!

6. Before You Ask

Yes, if you have extra treats after the party ends, we will take them. This is one of the many services we provide.



LIBRARIES

Visit www.MyLibrary.us/locations-and-hours for library hours

Administration & Support Services

2650 West 29th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Carbon Valley Regional Library

7 Park Avenue
Firestone, CO 80504
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Centennial Park Library

2227 23rd Avenue
Greeley, CO 80634
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Eaton Public Library

132 Maple Avenue
Eaton, CO 80615
(970) 454-2189

Erie Community Library

400 Powers Street
Erie, CO 80516
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Farr Regional Library

1939 61st Avenue
Greeley, CO 80634
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Fort Lupton Public & School Library

425 S. Denver Avenue
Fort Lupton, CO 80621
(303) 857-7180

Glenn A. Jones, M.D. Memorial Library

400 S. Parish Avenue
Johnstown, CO 80534
(970) 587-2459

Milliken Location of the Glenn A. Jones, M.D. Memorial Library

1109 Broad Street
Milliken, CO 80543
(970) 660-5039

Hudson Public Library

100 S. Beech Street
Hudson, CO 80642
(303) 536-4550

Keenesburg Branch of Hudson Public Library

140 Main Street
Keenesburg, CO 80643
(303) 349-2982

Kersey Library

332 3rd Street
Kersey, CO 80644
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Lincoln Park Library

1012 11th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Nantes Library

703 Birch Street
Gilcrest, CO 80623
(970) 737-1035

Northern Plains Public Library

216 2nd Street
Ault, CO 80610
(970) 834-1259

Outreach

2650 W. 29th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
1-888-861-READ(7323)

Platteville Public Library

504 Marion Avenue
Platteville, CO 80651
(970) 785-2231

Riverside Library & Cultural Center

3700 Golden Street
Evans, CO 80620
1-888-861-READ(7323)

AFFILIATED LOCATIONS

Hazel E. Johnson Research Center at the City of Greeley Museum

714 8th Street, Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 350-9220

Poudre Learning Center

8313 West F Street, Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 352-1267

PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTERS

Briggsdale Community Library

210 Main Street
Briggsdale, CO 80611

Milliken Public Computer Center

1109 Broad Street
Milliken, CO 80543
(970) 660-5045

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