

PLA Daily

news

PREVIEW ISSUE



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APRIL 5 - 9, 2016

#PLA2016

DENVER

Make It Extraordinary: How to Have the Best Conference Ever

BE EXTRAORDINARY

Planning to join us for PLA 2016? PLA conferences offer an unparalleled opportunity to immerse yourself in the world of public librarianship. From the hundreds of educational programs to the exhibits (also tailored to the public librarian's needs and interests), to author events and the Virtual Conference – this is *the* event for public librarians, public library workers, trustees, and anybody interested in the public library scene. To help you make the most of your conference experience, we've assembled some tips. Got any great tips for first-timers? Send those to pla@ala.org. We'll share in the onsite daily newspaper.

Make It Extraordinary Sessions

Surprise! You're getting an awesome Make It Extraordinary Guide when you check in at the registration desk. You can use it to plan your days and make the most of the learning and connections available at PLA 2016. Double Surprise! It contains a 30-Day Challenge to keep the learning going after conference. Also, plan to attend a "Make It Extraordinary" session, our guest speaker Kari Chapin will inspire and motivate you with her tangible tips to maximize your experience at PLA 2016.

Have a Plan

The PLA 2016 website, www.pla-conference.org, the PLA conference app (more info at www.placonference.org), the onsite conference program, and the *PLA Daily News* (available onsite Wednesday-Saturday) are all excellent resources to use when planning your schedule. In the morning, check the onsite *PLA Daily News* for new programming or any last minute room changes. When outlining your schedule, give yourself a couple of program options for

each time slot to guard against room overcrowding or the unexpected diversion. Be sure to plan time for visiting the exhibits hall, the products and demonstrations offer yet another educational opportunity.

The Show Before the Show

While general programming doesn't begin until Thursday morning, there are numerous events and activities held on Tuesday and Wednesday, including several pre-conferences. On Wednesday, in addition to morning preconference programming, there are a number of other events as well:

- **Book Buzz:** Presented by *Booklist* - 9:30–10:30 AM "Book Buzz: Presented by *Booklist*" will highlight some of the best upcoming books for adults. Get the inside scoop from a panel of premier publisher representatives, including: Jen Childs, Penguin Random House; Golda Rademacher, W. W. Norton & Company; Talia Sherer, Macmillan; Virginia Stanley, HarperCollins. Moderated by Donna Seaman, Booklist Editor, Adult Books.



Anderson Cooper

- **Opening General Session** - Opening Session with Anderson Cooper - 2:00–3:30 p.m.

Join us for the Opening Session with Anderson Cooper, anchor of CNN's Anderson Cooper 360°, a nightly newscast that goes beyond the headlines—keeping politicians and policy makers honest with in-depth reporting and investigations. The show airs weeknights at 8:00 PM ET on CNN. Since the start of his career in 1992, Cooper has covered nearly all-major news events around the world, often reporting from the scene. Most recently, he has extensively covered the conflicts in Syria and Egypt, the NSA surveillance programs, the Boston Marathon bombing, and the Sandy Hook shootings. Cooper has also played a pivotal role in CNN's political and election coverage and has anchored from conventions and moderated several presidential debates. In October 2012 Cooper moderated CNN's Republican debate from Las Vegas. In addition to his shows on CNN Cooper is also a regular correspondent for CBS's 60 Minutes. At CNN and 60 Minutes Cooper has won numerous major journalism awards. Cooper helped lead CNN's Peabody Award winning coverage of Hurricane Katrina and DuPont award winning coverage of the 2004 tsunami. Additionally, he has been awarded 8 Emmy Awards, including two for his coverage of the

Continued on page 5

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Download the PLA 2016 Conference App!

Attendees will be able to access full event schedule, evaluate sessions, and customize their own agenda with personal appointments on the PLA 2016 mobile app. Available for Android, iOS, and other mobile devices. Visit www.placonference.org/mobile-app on your mobile device to download and install the app, or download the app directly from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android).



Kari Chapin

- **Make It Extraordinary!** - 10:45–11:45 AM Grab your "Make It Extraordinary" notebook (provided at registration) and join us at this new event to learn tips for making this your best conference ever! Our guest speaker Kari Chapin will inspire and motivate you with her tangible tips to maximize your experience at PLA 2016.

Click here to register by February 26 and save!

 innovative

See ad on page 3.

Planning for Denver

Important Deadlines and Conference Digest

Deadlines

Advanced Registration Deadline:
February 26, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. You can still register after this time but will be at the higher “onsite” rate.

Housing Reservation Deadline:
March 8, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

Virtual Conference Registration Deadline:
March 25, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Conference Digest

ALA Bookstore @ PLA 2016

Plan to shop the onsite PLA Store for great values on ALA Editions publications, ALA division publications, conference t-shirts, celebrity READ posters, and much more. The PLA Store will be located in the registration area.

Store hours:

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Career Center

The Career Center will have coordinated events at select times, but will remain open during conference hours to enable job posting or impromptu interviews.

Career Fair:

Thursday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Resume Review and Interview Coaching:

Friday, 10:45 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Speed Mentoring Event:

Friday, 4:00–5:15 p.m.

Exhibits

Visit hundreds of booths in the Exhibits Hall of the Colorado Convention Center and see the latest in publications, audio-visual materials, technology, equipment, supplies, and services.

Exhibits Hours

Wednesday, April 6

Exhibits Opening Reception:
3:30–6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Gale, a part of Cengage Learning

Thursday, April 7

9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Coffee Breaks: 9:30–10:45 a.m. and 3:00–4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 8

9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Coffee Break: 9:30–10:45 a.m.

Closing Reception: 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Ingram

Film Night

Thursday, April 7, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Plan to join us for this special one-time Screening of Emmy Award-Winner Laurie Kahn’s documentary film, “Love Between the Covers,” about the global community of romance novel writers and readers. Love stories are universal. Love stories are powerful. And so are the women who write them. For three years, the filmmakers follow the lives of five published romance authors and one unpublished newbie as they build their businesses, find and lose loved ones, cope with a tsunami of change in publishing, and earn a living doing what they love—while empowering others to do the same. Romance is the behemoth of the publishing industry; it outsells mystery, sci-fi, and fantasy combined. Yet no filmmaker has ever taken an honest look at the amazing global community that romance writers and readers have built. Until now. We also will feature a preview of the new film “Free for All – Inside the Public Library,” a documentary by filmmakers Dawn Logsdon and Lucie Faulknor, which examines the history, spirit, and challenges of the American Public Library. Light refreshments will be provided.

How-To Festival

Join in the fun by participating in our first-ever mini How-To Festival, based on the wildly successful How-To Festival that attracts 4,000 individuals to the Louisville (Ky.) Free Public Library every May. The PLA 2016 How-To Festival is a cooperative learning experience, teaching practical, hands-on skills that can be learned in short, 20-minute sessions. How-To Festival will be located in the Exhibits Hall.

Wednesday, April 6:

4:00–6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 7:

9:45–10:30 a.m. and

3:15–4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 8:

9:45–10:30 a.m. and

3:15–4:00 p.m.

Make It Extraordinary!

Grab your “Make It Extraordinary” notebook (provided at registration) and join us at this new event to learn tips for making this your best conference ever! Our guest speaker Kari Chapin will inspire and motivate you with her tangible tips to maximize your experience at PLA 2016.

Message Center

A message board is located in the registration area. Attendees may post messages for each other and post buy/sell notices for meal tickets.

Registration Area

To make badge corrections, replace a lost badge, or for any special assistance, visit the onsite registration counter.

Tuesday: 7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00–10:00 a.m.

Social Media

If you’re planning to use Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram during or after the conference, remember to use the unique hashtag #PLA2016. PLA asks that you use discretion and be respectful of speakers and fellow attendees when posting publicly.

Spark Talks

Thursday, April 7 & Friday, April 8, 4:00–5:00 p.m.

Ready, Set, Go! You’ve got five minutes to ignite some new ideas. Using a combination of innovative slides and lightning-fast talk, share a personal passion inspired by your work and fire-up an audience of public library colleagues. The trick is to keep it short and sweet because if you go over five minutes, we’re using the big hook. Have an idea that you’ve wanted to shout out to the world? Can you talk fast and clear? The clock starts... NOW! Spark Talk spots are limited, so the PLA Conference Program Subcommittee is collecting submissions online (<http://www.ala.org/pla/education/placonference/spark-talk-proposal>) through 11:59 PM Eastern on March 18. Selections will be announced on March 25.

New Program Tracks @ PLA 2016

We’re shaking things up by introducing extraordinary new program tracks for 2016!

• BROADCAST – Tell your story

Programs in the BROADCAST track will provide participants with tools, strategies, and ideas for effective marketing, advocacy, and diffusion of information.

• CHALLENGE – Push boundaries

Programs in the CHALLENGE track will show participants how to use risk to their advantage and provide ways to overcome fear and achieve positive results.

• COLLABORATE – Share success

Programs in the COLLABORATE track will offer participants inspiration, examples, and the how-to(s) of successful connections both within and outside of the library.

• IMAGINE – Think big

Programs in the IMAGINE track will examine current trends and emerging realities to explore the larger questions and issues about the future of libraries.

• INVENT – Design, test, repeat

Programs in the INVENT track will provide participants with ideas to invoke the creative spirit in their libraries and inspire innovation and solution-focused thinking.

• LEAD – Inspire, listen, empower

Programs in the LEAD track will provide participants with the information and tools needed to build healthy organizations that innovate and excel.

• PLAN – Invest with purpose

Programs in the PLAN track will provide participants with insight, guidance, and support for setting and tracking goals and initiatives.

• PLAY – Energize and engage

Programs in the PLAY track will provide participants with the opportunity to discover new concepts, skills, and fun ways to build better libraries.

Preconferences will be held on Tuesday, April 5 and Wednesday, April 6. Click here for more information.



Share your #PLA2016 photos on Instagram (ala_pla)!





The Innovative Users Group (IUG) is a powerful community of forward-thinking professionals who come to the IUG website, email list, clearinghouse database of documents and best practices, and annual IUG conference in order to network, learn from each other, and share ideas, tips, and procedures. The secret of IUG's strength and success is its members' search for excellence in serving their communities in partnership with Innovative!



– Eeva Stierwalt, IUG Chair
Integrated Library System Solutions Specialist
London Public Library

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Can't make it to Denver? Check out the PLA Virtual Conference

PLA is offering a great way to participate in and enjoy the PLA Conference, even if you can't be there in person. The PLA 2016 Virtual Conference will consist of live programming on Thursday, April 7, and Friday, April 8, including five hour-long programs each day, plus author interviews and opportunities for networking. Programs are chosen from among the highest rated in PLA's session preference survey. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of PLA 2016, even if you can't be there in person!

Register and get more information about the Virtual Conference at <http://www.placonference.org/virtual-conference/>.

Thursday, April 7*

8:45–9:00 AM – Introduction and Welcome
 9:00–10:00 AM – How Two Libraries Quit Summer Reading and You Can, Too
 10:15–11:15 AM – TBA
 11:30 AM–12:30 PM – Design Thinking at Your Library: Try Try Again
 12:30–1:45 PM – Lunch Break with Author Interview (1:00–1:30 PM): Guest TBA, interviewed by Brendan Dowling
 1:45–2:45 PM – Bite-Sized Staff Training: Transform Staff Development for Busy Employees
 3:00–4:00 PM – Designing for Patron Behaviors
 4:00 PM – Wrap-up

Friday, April 8*

8:45–9:00 AM – Introduction and Welcome
 9:00–10:00 AM – Extraordinarily Engaged: How Three Libraries are Transforming Their Communities
 10:15–11:15 AM – Libraries = Education: Reclaiming Our Purpose for the 21st Century
 11:30 AM–12:30 PM – 52 Weeks of STEM at Your Library
 12:30–1:45 PM – Lunch Break with Author Interview (1:00–1:30 PM): Guest Lindy West, interviewed by Brendan Dowling
 1:45–2:45 PM – TBA
 3:00–4:00 PM – Play Your Way to an Engaged Staff
 4:00 PM – Wrap-up

* All times are Mountain.

Rise and Shine with the Big Ideas Series

Because our goal is to send you home from conference bursting with new ideas and knowledge, we're featuring something special each day – a BIG IDEA. These are ideas and messages that can impact and empower the way you think, act, and work. Don't miss these thought-provoking sessions:

Thursday, April 7 – [Vernā Myers](#), 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.

Friday, April 8 – [Sherry Turtle](#), 8:15-9:15 a.m.

Saturday, April 9 – [Anand Giridharadas](#), 8:15-9:15 a.m.

Housing Deadline:
March 8, 2016

Click here to make
hotel reservations.

PLA Conference Partners

PLA thanks our conference partners for their generous support.

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The PLA 2016 Conference offers great opportunities for your company to show its support to thousands of public librarians. If you are interested in sponsoring an event or service or increasing your company's visibility through banners or ads, please contact Mary Michalik (312-265-9650 or mary@corcexpo.com) or Matt McLaughlin (312-265-9655 or matt@corcexpo.com).

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Extraordinary

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earthquake in Haiti, and an Edward R Murrow award.

Dispatches from the Edge, Cooper's memoirs about covering wars and disasters, topped the New York Times' bestseller list and other bestseller charts. Before joining CNN, Cooper was an ABC News correspondent and host of the network's reality program *The Mole*. Cooper anchored ABC's off-beat overnight newscast *World News Now*, and was a correspondent for *World News Tonight* as well as *20/20*. Cooper joined ABC from Channel One News, where he served as chief international correspondent. During that time, he reported and produced stories, often on his own, from conflicts in Bosnia, Cambodia, Haiti, Israel, Myanmar, Russia, Rwanda, Somalia, and South Africa. Channel One News was a school television network seen daily in more than 12,000 classrooms nationwide. Cooper graduated from Yale University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. He also studied Vietnamese at the University of Hanoi. Cooper is based in New York City.

PLA thanks HarperCollins for its support of this event.

- **Exhibits Opening Reception** 3:30–6:30 p.m. Get a first look at the products and services offered by more than 300 exhibiting companies and enjoy some food and drink while you're at it. PLA thanks Gale, a part of Cengage Learning, for its support of this event.

- **How-To Festival** 4:00–6:30 p.m. Exhibit Hall. Join in the fun by participating in our first-ever mini How-To Festival, based on the wildly successful How-To Festival that attracts 4,000 individuals to the Louisville (Ky.) Free Public Library every May. The PLA 2016 How-To Festival is a cooperative learning experience, teaching practical, hands-on skills that can be learned in short, 20-minute sessions.

- **Dine Around Denver** 7:00 p.m. Get a taste of Denver with local librarians and other PLA colleagues over a delicious meal. The Local Arrangements Committee has graciously arranged dinners in a number of restaurants throughout the city on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Dinners are pay-your-own-way, and space is limited. The restaurant list and sign-up sheets are available onsite at the Local Information Desk.

Have a Back-Up Plan

Program room assignments are

Got any great tips for first-timers? Send those to pla@ala.org. We'll share in *PLA Daily News*, the onsite daily newspaper.

made in advance based on the results of the session preference survey. From this data, we place what looks to be the most popular programs in the largest rooms. When planning your day, make sure to include two or three alternate choices for each time slot. That way, if your first choice is too crowded for your liking, you can go to your back-up plan. Alternatively, you can use this time to visit the exhibits hall, which is significantly less crowded during programming.

Convention Center Temps

Plan to dress in layers and bring a light sweater that you can put on or take off as needed in the convention center. We work hard to ensure that each room is comfortable but please know that as soon as you feel cold, someone else in the room has



More than 300 companies will be displaying books and product lines in the PLA Exhibit Hall.

remarked that it is too warm. There is no way to guarantee that everyone is comfortable temperature-wise, but we will do our best to accommodate. Find a PLA staff member or volunteer who will then contact the proper building authorities to have the temperature adjusted.

Exhibits 101

Visiting the exhibits is a crucial part of the conference experience and may seem overwhelming. To make your

visit productive and stress-free, follow these tips:

- Wear comfortable shoes. The exhibits hall is large so you'll be doing a lot of walking. Shoes that are comfortable to stand in are essential.
- Make a plan. Look through the list of exhibitors and make a list of those you'd like to visit. Also plan to stop by and say hello to any vendors you are already doing business with.
- Bring a big bag. Wheeled carts are not allowed in the exhibit hall.

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Unable to make it to Denver? Register for the Virtual Conference!

Click here to register for PLA 2016!

Denver and its Library: A 127-Year Love Affair

By Lisa Flavin, Reference Librarian,
Denver Public Library

Our library system had a modest beginning – we opened on June 8, 1889, in a wing of Denver High School, at 19th and Stout, when Denver’s population was just over 100,000. John Cotton Dana, Denver’s first City Librarian, declared, “The worth of a book is in its use.” There were open shelves, a separate children’s library (the first in the country) and some early library marketing; Dana used broadsides, leaflets, reading lists, and bookmarks to publicize his beloved library.

The library moved during the early years, at one point temporarily occupying four once-fashionable, adjacent residences that were complete with bats and peeling wallpaper. Andrew Carnegie came to the rescue in 1902, when he offered the city \$200,000 to build a new library. Patterned after a Greek temple and located at the north end of Civic Center Park, the new building opened in 1910, with a final cost of \$425,000.

Meanwhile, people living in outlying sections of town grew tired of traveling trunks of books and small book stations, so Carnegie donated \$80,000 for four branch libraries, which all opened in 1913. A third Carnegie gift was made in 1918, resulting in four more branches. All were designed by Denver architects, and attracted national attention for their charm and functionality. In addition, branches were opened in community buildings, along with deposit and delivery stations in various schools and businesses.

The lengthy campaign for a new main library succeeded in 1947, when Denver voters passed a \$2.5 million bond issue. After first considering an addition to the existing building, which would have encroached on the park, library commissioners selected a site on Broadway between 13th and 14th, largely financed by the sale of the Carn-



Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales branch.

egie building to the City of Denver.

The \$3.3 million modern structure was designed by Fisher and Fisher and Burnham Hoyt, and upon completion in 1956, books were moved to the new building via a mechanized conveyor system, which stretched across Civic Center and over 14th Avenue. The structure featured two basements with 16 miles of shelving, where pages wore roller skates and used a pneumatic tube system for receiving requests which were sent up on a vertical conveyor.

An early modular system was in place with the complete absence of fixed interior walls and shelves throughout the building. It was during this era that library workers began to notice paranormal activity in the basement - a “lady ghost” reportedly shoved several employees, leading to speculation that it was the restless spirit of a librarian.

Denver experienced an explosive population increase from the 1950s to the 1970s, and although neighborhood branches were opening throughout the sprawling city, the Central Library ran out of space. By 1990, surplus books (and employees) had been relocated to makeshift locations, and a proposed \$91.6 million bond issue, (spearheaded by City Librarian Rick Ashton) to expand Central was approved by a whopping 75% of Denver voters. The 540,000 square-foot post-modern structure was designed by architect Michael Graves, and received national acclaim when it opened in 1995.

These days, visitors flock to the Level 5 Western History and Genealogy Department, which is recognized for having one of the best collections of Western Americana and genealogy in the country, including a Digital Image Collection of over 100,000 images. The Children’s Department, the ideaLAB and a vast array of free computer classes are also big draws.

The library system currently has 25 branches, including Blair-Caldwell, which houses the African American Research Library, and our newest addition, the Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales

The Yearling

On the lawn outside the Children’s Library at Central is one of Denver’s most distinctive and treasured pieces of public art: a red, 21-foot-tall chair with a 6-foot-tall pinto pony standing on the seat. The Yearling was originally commissioned for an elementary school in upper Manhattan, but also spent some time in New York’s Central Park before finding its permanent home in Denver in 1998. “I wanted to give kids something that would really be a cause for wonder,” remarked artist Donald Lipski about his creation, which was generously donated to former Denver Mayor Wellington E. Webb and the people of Denver by the NBT Foundation. Not only was The Yearling on the cover of the phone book and a road atlas, it was a \$1200 Jeopardy! answer: “This Donald Lipski sculpture outside the Denver Public Library shares its name with a Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings work.”

location, which opened in 2015 and features bilingual storytimes, a community learning plaza and a music studio.

Last year, more than 4 million customers walked through our doors and

we had more than 12 million online visits. In addition, some 400,000 people of all ages came to programs and a record-breaking number of kids –44,000—participated in Summer of Reading.

Walking Tour of Downtown Denver

By Lisa Flavin, Reference Librarian,
Denver Public Library

Denver has around 300 days of sunshine per year, so it’s almost always a good day for a walk. This tour highlights some places unique to downtown Denver, and the best part is that you can take the free 16th Street Shuttle at any point.

To stay oriented, remember that the mountains are to the west, and please be mindful of the light rail trains at all times. Here’s a handy map of the journey.

- Starting at the Convention Center, head away from the Big Blue Bear, via Stout St., to the [16th Street Mall](#). On 16th (where you’ll see Walgreens and Rite-Aid), turn left, toward the mountains, and walk three blocks to Arapahoe St. to view the Daniels & Fisher Tower, a Denver landmark that was the tallest building west of the Mississippi River at the time of its construction in 1910, and was built to house the May Co., an early department store.

- Continue west for two blocks to Larimer St. Turn left at the Overland Sheepskin Company, and walk two blocks to [Larimer Square](#). Stop by the [Market](#) for some great coffee and a bakery or deli item and window shop (or real shop) the fun boutiques, such as the Cry Baby Ranch and Gusterman Silversmiths.

- Come back to 16th, and continue west for three blocks to Wazee St. This time, head north to 1626 Wazee for a visit to [Rockmount Ranch Wear](#), where fashion pioneer Papa Jack Weil opened shop back in 1946. The distinctive diamond-snap shirts are worn by celebrities that include Reese Witherspoon, Bob Dylan and Pierce Brosnan.



The 16th Street Mall.

- One more block north to 1743 Wazee, and you’re at [City Stacks](#), downtown’s newest indie book store. In addition to a thoughtful selection of books, they’ve also got an espresso bar, fantastic hot chocolate, and a nice array of gift items.

- It’s 5:00 somewhere, so why not make a stop at the granddaddy of microbreweries, the [Wynkoop Brewing Company](#), which was founded in 1988 by the now-governor of Colorado, John Hickenlooper, along with his three buddies. You’ll find it at 18th and Wynkoop, one block north of Union Station.

- After leaving the Wynkoop Brewing Company, head west on 17th for half a block to Wynkoop St., turn left and go a couple of blocks to the beautifully renovated [Union Station](#), which was originally built in 1881. Not just for travelers, it’s a gathering place with lots of shops, bars, and restaurants.

- For your final stop, as you go back to 16th St., check out the [Tattered Cover book store](#) at 16th and Wynkoop, right across from Union Station. A Denver legend, this independent is large, yet cozy, and has a coffee shop. They sell new and used books in addition to pre-discounted bargain editions. The Tattered Cover hosts over 400 live literary events annually.



Denver Central Library.

Denver Dining Guide

Mile High Microbrews and More

By Sherry Spitsnaugle
Writer/Editor, Denver Public Library

Denver's restaurant scene is much like the city itself—friendly, forward-thinking and fun-loving. In a city where the former mayor—now governor—founded downtown's first brewpub, eating and drinking rank up there with spending time outdoors.

Choices abound, from the über-hip, martini-mixing Corner Office to Cuba Cuba which offers a taste of Havana and is a favorite of City Librarian Michelle Jeske. "If you can find a better mojito in town," Michelle says, "I'd like to know about it!"

Beer connoisseurs will have a field day. With dozens of fine ales, bitters, stouts and lagers brewed in the city, Denver has been called the Napa Valley of beer. Swirl some RailYard Ale and get ready to grin.

Nuts and Bolts

The majority of the restaurants mentioned are within walking distance of the Convention Center. Denver dining attire is casual; jeans are acceptable at all but the finest spots. Thin air in the Mile High City—at 5,280 feet above sea level—can make visitors feel light-headed, and the altitude can also increase the effects of alcohol consumption. One Molly's Titanic Brown Ale here might equal two at sea level.

Downtown

Downtown Denver boasts some 300 restaurants, five thousand hotel rooms, a large performing arts center, businesses, shops, and a vibrant atmosphere. Areas are walkable and connect seamlessly. The [16th Street Mall](#) shuttle maneuvers visitors to and from some of Denver's finest restaurants.

Corner Office. It's always quittin' time here, where a collection of clocks are stuck on 5. Hummus with toasted pita gets rave reviews, as well as the mini office burgers. Retro décor. The ladies'

restroom has a disco ball. 1401 Curtis St.; 303-825-6500.

Rock Bottom Brewery. Location, location, location. The ultimate spot to observe the hustle bustle of the 16th Street Mall. Buffalo wings, pizza, burgers, BBQ ribs and grilled mahi tacos. Cool beer gear for sale. Thumbs up to staff who answer the phone, "You've hit rock bottom." 1001 16th St.; 303-534-7616.

Sam's No. 3. Feels like a truck stop diner in the middle of downtown. With plates clanking and servers zipping around, don't count on having an intimate conversation. But, if you're hungry for grits, corned beef hash and eggs, you'll be content. 1500 Curtis St.; 303-534-1927.

Larimer Square

With twinkling lights and piped-in music, [Larimer Square](#) feels cozy anytime of the year. Located between 14th and 15th streets, Larimer Street charms.

Bistro Vendôme. Your own little corner of Paris. Tucked in an inviting nook off Larimer Street, this bistro serves items such as quiche with black truffles for brunch, and salmon grill with artichokes, capers, and sundried tomatoes for dinner. Out-of-this-world frites. Best of all, they serve French press coffee. 1420 Larimer Street; 303-825-3232.

Crêpes'n Crêpes. An authentic crêperie and bar so petite you could easily miss it. That would be a shame. The cook prepares delicate wafer-thin crêpes in an open kitchen. Tucked between Larimer Square and 16th St. Mall. 1512 Larimer St.; 303-534-1620.

Rioja. This swanky spot swarmed with celebrities during the Democratic National Convention in 2008. Superb artichoke tortelloni. 1431 Larimer St.; 303-820-2282.

Tamayo. Modern Mexican cuisine. Tamayo leans toward pricey but the fare brims with flavor and the margaritas pack a wallop. Spectacular rooftop ter-



Larimer Square.

race, weather permitting. 1400 Larimer St.; 720-946-1433.

The Market. Self-serve market with exposed brick, hardwood floors. Yankee pot roast, poached salmon, sandwiches and soup. And, oh, the Spring Fling cake! Eight dollars brings a slice of fluffy white goodness covered with mango-kiwi-strawberry-glazed cream cheese frosting. 1445 Larimer St.; 303-534-5140.

Lower Downtown

The twenty-square block area known as LoDo brims with historic buildings which have evolved into microbreweries, lofts, businesses, galleries, and restaurants.

McCormick's Fish House & Bar. Order oysters on the half shell or a blue-plate special such as Wazee Street meatloaf with mushroom gravy. Step into the Cruise Room (across from the main dining room) to find Denver's art deco at its finest. If you love a good martini, imbibe here. 1659 Wazee St.; 303-825-1107.

Tattered Cover Bookstore Coffee and Tea Shop. Before browsing the two levels of floor-to-ceiling shelves of books, lunch at the self-serve Coffee and Tea Shop. Salads, sandwiches, soups. Then experience this paradise for literature lovers. 1628 16th St.; 303-436-1070.

Wynkoop Brewing Company. This place hops. Classic pub grub, including burgers, fish and chips and shepherd's pie. Hot artichoke and Parmesan cheese dip with toasted garlic beer bread is listed as an appetizer, but you can make a meal out of it. Governor John Hickenlooper founded this brewpub in 1988. 1684 18th St.; 303-297-2700.

Golden Triangle

The neighborhood known as the Golden Triangle south of downtown is home to museums, fine-art studios and the [Denver Central Library](#). (Come visit us!) Hop on the free 16th Street shuttle and take it to the end of the line at Civic Center Park. The Museum District begins on the opposite side of the park.

Cuba Cuba. A bit of Havana in Denver. Located in two Caribbean-style homes painted in Crayon colors with a metal palm tree near the entrance. Inside, bongo bar tables and Cuban music create a tropical mood. Scrumptious plantains and black beans. Add killer mojitos and stir. 1173 Delaware St.; 303-605-2822.

Dozen's. Such a friendly, funky café you'll want to eat here more than once. This neighborhood gem offers hearty breakfast and lunch at rock-bottom prices. What librarian doesn't love the Literary Club—a triple-decker club sandwich with no late fees? I've eaten here fifty plus times and rarely deviated from the Brown Palace (the perfect BLT). Be sure to tell John I sent you. 236 13th Ave.; 303-572-0066.

Palette's at the Denver Art Museum. Steps from the Denver Central Library, this artsy restaurant's velvety rigatoni and cheese with toasted bread crumbs tempts. White linens and elegant setting. 100 W. 14th Ave. Parkway; 303-534-1455.

The ART Hotel. This swanky new addition to the Golden Triangle offers drinks/dining somewhat on the pricey side (tip: ask about happy hour) but a setting worth every cent. Bump elbows with the city's elite and lounge on the open-air terrace near the fire pit as you gaze onto the city lights! 1201 Broadway; 303-572-8000.



Rioja.



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Exhibits Hours

Wednesday, April 6

Exhibits Opening Reception:
3:30–6:30 p.m.

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Thursday, April 7

9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Coffee Breaks: 9:30–10:45 a.m. and
3:00–4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 8

9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Coffee Break: 9:30–10:45 a.m.
Closing Reception: 3:00 p.m.
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