

Unlimited Possibilities @ Your Library: Celebrate National Library Week Through April 18

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries are joining libraries in schools, campuses and communities nationwide in celebrating National Library Week, a time to highlight the changing role of libraries, librarians and library workers.

Erin Ridgeway, head of public services at the AI Harris Library, said libraries today are more than warehouses for books. Instead, libraries and librarians are change agents within their communities – transforming lives through innovative educational resources and forward-thinking programming. Libraries are doing their part to close the digital divide and level the playing field by providing free access to information and technologies that many in their communities would be hard pressed to find elsewhere.

Whether through offering e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners, programs for job seekers or offering a safe haven in times of crisis, librarians listen to the community they serve, and they respond.

“The library has always been a place of unlimited possibilities,” Ridgeway said.

“Whatever your interest or need, the library and the library staff are here to provide you the resources you need to accomplish your goals and dreams.”

The AI Harris Library is celebrating by asking SWOSU students and employees why they love the library and putting their responses on social media, offering fine-forgiveness to students throughout April 18, and opening the Media Studio on Wednesday and Thursday, April 15-16, from 2-5 p.m. to any faculty, staff and administrators that would like to have their own READ Poster made. For more details, see the SWOSU Libraries' website.

The Oscar McMahon Library on the Sayre Campus had a Dystopian Book Discussion on April 13.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. For more information, visit SWOSU Libraries, call 580.774.3730 or see the library's Web site at <http://www.swosu.edu/library/>.