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About the Cover

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Portland Community College

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I approached Moore about doing a cover design for this issue because I am interested in librarianship as an art and intrigued by the intersection of creative and professional communities. Sharing acts of art socially energizes Moore’s professional persona by implying a certain daringness, and a willingness to communicate and to take risks. To understand the theme of this issue, Moore conducted a reference interview with me — another intersection of arts. Here’s what he had to say about the design.

— Michele Burke

I like this theme of creativity and librarianship and how it creates community, because I find as a librarian my creative side doesn’t shut off, it activates in different ways. Often it manifests through problem solving, thinking of ways to frame a student’s research question “outside the box” or listening with empathy as the student articulates his or her struggles. My illustration tries to encompass the many creative ways Oregon librarians have sought to solve problems through innovative services, all while maintaining the traditions of librarianship. I thought a bookmobile that provided more than books, but all sorts of things — tools, iPads, etc. — would express that concisely. Also, I love bookmobiles. I wish I could drive one of my own.

Kevin Moore is part-time reference librarian at Portland Community College and a freelance cartoonist and illustrator. He is best known for his online comics, In Contempt and Wanderlost. You can see more of his work at www.mooretoons.com.