



Supporting libraries serving our communities

September—October, 2021

Sundries - Connections Corner 2021

Connections Corner this issue of the Western Sun concentrates on a sampling of connections to the greater library world through the Associations, listservs and Facebook. These along with other social media, allow library staff to connect and share ideas and knowledge. If you are considering joining an organization and do not have funding, you can apply for a Scholarship from the Western Library System, see page 21 for details.

Associations:

According to their [website](#):

“The Nebraska Library Association (NLA) is a Chapter of the American Library Association (ALA) and a member of the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA).



MISSION: The Nebraska Library Association supports and promotes all libraries, library media centers and library services in the state. Its foremost concerns are the professional development of its members, library advocacy, and open access to information for all citizens.

ORGANIZATION: NLA is divided into sections and round tables to reflect the diverse specializations and interests of its membership.



The Tiny and Mighty Interest Group of the Nebraska Library Association was recently formed to provide a forum to discuss ideas and issues to benefit rural librarians and their communities and effectively disseminate important information that may impact small libraries and their workers.

MISSION: Both small and rural libraries are mightier when helping and supporting one another.

Everyone is welcome to join the Tiny & Mighty Zoom meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 and/or Wednesdays at 2:00 Mountain Time. You do not have to be a member of NLA to participate. Contact Chair Rebecca McCorkindale @ nlatinyandmighty@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Community Quotes

“The Greatness of Community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members”

Coretta Scott King

“We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men”

Herman Melville

“Connection is the energy that is created between people when they feel seen, heard and valued—when they can give and receive without judgment”

Brené Brown

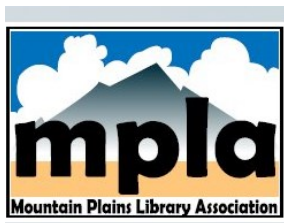


Nebraska School Librarians Association

The purpose of the Nebraska School Librarians Association is to advocate for school library programs, provide professional development opportunities for school librarians, and develop leaders in the school library field.

NLSA plays a strong role in advocacy for school librarians. This year the organization has been active with the proposed changes to Rule 10. They offer professional development opportunities and the annual School Librarians Day which will be held virtually on October 16, 2021. There are excellent advocacy toolkits on their [website](#).

Purchase a Nebraska Needs Librarians shirt from the NSLA store and help support librarians in the school systems.



Big Horizons, Close Community

The Mountain Plains Library Association ([MPLA](#)) is a twelve state association of librarians, library paraprofessionals and friends of the libraries. Its purpose is to promote the development of librarians and libraries by providing significant educational and networking opportunities. MPLA bases its success on an active, enthusiastic, sharing membership. Where our people are so few and distances are so great, each librarian, staff member and library is a vital resource. The monthly “Chew and Chats” are either topic oriented or a time to share current activities at the libraries. The Chew and Chats are on Zoom and are scheduled on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 12:00 Mountain Time.



ARSL Vision : As the premier organization representing rural and small libraries, ARSL recognizes the uniqueness of small and rural libraries and is committed to providing an environment that encourages excellence within this community of practice, supporting their goals of service and speaking on behalf of this important constituency.

ARSL Mission: ARSL builds strong communities through advocacy, professional development and elevating the impact of rural and small libraries.

[ARSL](#) hosts an active and stimulating listserv. Their conferences are excellent. The last Friday in February, ARSL and the Nebraska Library Commission sponsor “Big Talk from Small Libraries” which is a free one-day online conference aimed at librarians from small libraries to learn about innovations from their colleagues.

After a first attempt at forming an organization in 1853, charter members signed the register to create the American Library Association in 1876. The “Convention of Librarians” coincided with the Centennial Exposition held in Philadelphia. The ensuing resolution stated that the organization’s aim was to “to enable librarians to do their present work more easily and at less expense.”

Mission: “To provide leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and Information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.”

There are eight divisions and twenty-one round tables that provide targeted networking and collaboration. The eight divisions are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| American Association of School Librarians (AASL) | Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) |
| Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) | CORE: Leadership Infrastructure Futures |
| Public Library Association | Reference and User services Association (RUSA) |
| United for Libraries | Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) |

ALA’s [website](#) provides extensive resources.

Listsers:

The Nebraska Library Commission hosts eleven listservs. Beginning with the Western Library System, there is the wslistserv. Each of the four Regional systems has their own listserv. You can sign up for any or all of them on the Nebraska Library Commission’s [website](#).

The lists include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| CATEXPRESS | CHILDLIB_L |
| CPLS (Central Plains Regional System) | NebraskaAccess4Lib |
| NebraskaOverdrive | NEDOCS-L |
| NE-ERATE | SELS (Southeast Regional Library System) |
| TRIAL | TRLS (Three Rivers Regional Library System) |
| WLS (Western Library System) | |

Facebook:

Among the many Facebook pages, the Tiny Library Think Tank is one of the most beneficial and invigorating. It is a private group that readily accepts new users.

If you have other favorites associations, listservs or Facebook pages, please share on the WLS listserv WLS@listserver.nlc.state.ne.us or e-mail the Western Library System office wls@westernlibrarysystem.com for distribution.



Calendar

September 2: Nebraska Regional Library Systems Virtual Youth Services Retreat: 12:00-4:00 (Mountain Time)

September 8: World Literacy Day

Remembering the importance of literacy for individuals, communities and societies, and intensify efforts towards more literate societies worldwide.

<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/literacyday>

September 8: Unite Nebraska. 2:00-2:45 (Mountain Time) Emily Lehmann with Unite Nebraska will present information on the services and how libraries can participate. (See page 16)

September 24: Plum Creek Literacy Festival. Concordia University, Seward
[Children's Day:](#) 9:30-2:00 (Central Time)

September 25: Plum Creek Literacy Festival. Concordia University, Seward
[Adult Conference:](#) 7:30-5:00 (Central Time)

September 28: [National Voter Registration Day](#)

September 30: Weed "Em and Weep Virtual Training. Holly Hibner and Mary Kelly presenting. 2:00-3:30 Mountain Time (See page 17)

October: TeenTober

TeenTober is an initiative from the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) that encourages teens to visit their library in October to discover media in all forms, technology, games, STEAM activities, and more. This poster, designed by ALA, encourages participation and shows the many ways teens can learn new skills and fuel their passions in and outside the library. Celebrate anytime during October.

For more information, visit ala.org/yalsa/teentober.



October 13-14: Nebraska Library Association Conference

"The World Turned Upside Down - Reinventing Libraries in Changing Times": Hilton Omaha

October 13: Virtual Day

October 14: In-person

[Full Schedule:](#)

October 16: Nebraska School Librarians Day 8:30-12:30 (Mountain Time) Virtual Conference
"Equity in Educational Technology" Keynote Victoria Thompson

[Registration:](#)

October 20-23: Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Annual Conference, Reno, Nevada

"The Biggest Little Library Conference"

There are virtual and in-person opportunities.

[Conference Page:](#)

Around the Sun

Gering Public Library, Sherry Preston

James J. Kimble Speaks at Gering's Legacy of the Plains Museum

After reading "Prairie Forge" by James Kimble in May, I wrote a book review for the Gering Courier, partially to publicize the book before our library book discussion at the end of June. Two or three days after it came out, I received an email from Mr. Kimble who thanked me for my nice review and mentioned he would be in Nebraska at the end of the month (June). He wondered if I might know of a venue that would be open to hosting a presentation about the book. Of course I did. The Legacy of the Plains Museum in Gering has an extensive antique tractor and equipment collection. I called Dave Wolf there and he agreed it would be a good presentation for them to host with the library.



Photo Courtesy of Olivia Wieseler Star-Herald

Mr. Kimble grew up in Norfolk and was home on a vacation. He gave a really nice presentation. The book is about Nebraska but he tailored his presentation to Scotts Bluff County which was a really nice touch. After his talk, some of the museum members talked about their memories of the scrap drive and discussed its long term effects on antique farm equipment preservation.

Among the 31 attendees, it was about half book group people and half museum folks. It was a nice-sized program for our library. He speaks just like he writes. As one attendee said, "he took a topic that could have been very dry and wrote an interesting book about it, because the subject interested him."

Palisade Public Library, Elle Thompson



Community Book Pantry is Open

Palisade Public Library is proud to announce the opening of its Community Book Pantry.

Inspired by the [Little Free Library](#), a book sharing movement, Palisade community members helped build our book pantry.

Grant County Library, Jennifer Holthus

The Grant County Library held their summer reading program “Tales and Tails” on June 2nd, 4th and 7th at the Grant County Library in Hyannis. We had 44 total children registered. We learned about animal habitats, why animals are different colors and many more facts about all kinds of wildlife. We made paper plate frogs with party blower tongues, parrots with handprint feathers and we also tie dyed t-shirts. On Wednesday June 9th, we were entertained by Dr. Cletus T. Beaker and his nephew in the Hillbilly Science Spectacular held at our community building. They showed us some awesome science experiments along with some comedy. It was a great show!

Our summer readers were able to submit minutes and titles for tickets until the end of July. It was then that we handed out prizes to our top readers and had a drawing for a Samsung tablet. Our readers read almost 37 hours and we had almost 300 tickets in our drawing.

We appreciate all of our volunteers who help us with crafts and donating treats!



Morrill Public Library, Sarah Alfred

Morrill Public Library’s summer reading program was so much fun! We had 68 preschoolers, 40 kids from K-6th 20 teens and 20 adults. The kids and adults played bingo, and the kids and Pre-K read 116.614 pages! We celebrated the Wrap-up party in the park on July 23rd complete with tails.

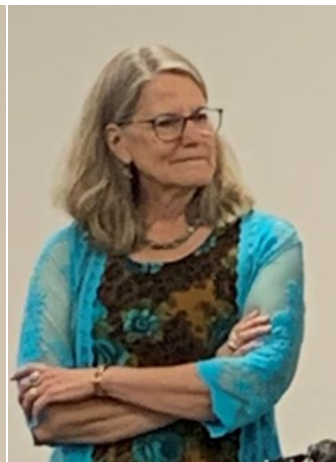




Kathleen Lute Public Library, Chelsea Foust

Album of summer reading programs and the celebration of their new library.

"Well behaved women seldom make history" Adult Summer Reading



"Crossroads of the Western Fur Trade" Adult Summer Reading Program



"Adopt a Pony"



Magician, Adam White



"Build an Animal" Summer Reading and Grand Opening



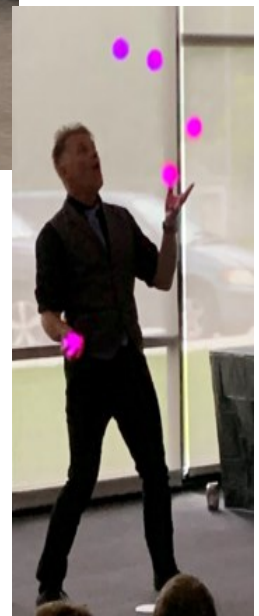
"Build a Giraffe"



"Amazing Arthur"



"Amazing Animal Balloonist"



"Real Reptiles"



Western Library System Board



We are pleased to present the members of the Western Library System Board for Fiscal Year 2021-2022:

Academic/Special: Allison Reisig

At Large: Amber Sweetland

District A: Rossella Tesch

District B: Erin Aschenbrenner

District E: Beth Falla

Public Library: Sarah Alfred

Public Library: Tammy Howitt Covalt

School Library: Judy Starke

The officers elected at the July 20th Board Meeting ~

Allison Reisig, President

Tammy Howitt Covalt: Vice-President

Sarah Alfred: Secretary

In addition to reporting on their areas of representation and participating in six meetings a year, the Board members chair the System's committees. Members of the System are encouraged to participate on a committee. We are currently looking for committee participation for the following committees:

Annual Meeting; Nominating; Public Relations; Awards/Scholarships and Technology

If you have questions or are interested, please contact the WLS Office (308)632-1350 or email wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

Sun Beams

Palisade Public Library, Elle Thompson

Showcasing Your Community's History is Simple

It all started with needing more room and wanting to remember Palisade, NE. What followed is amazing. Our tiny community in Southwest Nebraska, population 356, sadly learned during the pandemic that a story lost is only a dying breath away. As the new librarian, I dashed to gather as much information as I could about our town and the people who homesteaded here. I quickly realized we needed a central location to house these treasures and artifacts.

Time to rearrange! Our one-room library is the former Palisade State Bank. The bank vault still occupies the northwest corner of the library. What a safer place than that!? The vault is repurposed from the storage area to our glorious Heritage and Local History Room. The north wall showcases Nebraska authors, Nebraska history and proudly hangs a map of the former Nebraska territories. On Saturday, July 17, we hosted a [Heritage Room Open House](#) to highlight these exciting changes. Thanks to the help and expertise of Brenda Daniel, it was a huge success.

Now to understand Palisade's place in history...Jeff Barnes, award-winning author, spoke to his book, [Cut in Stone, Cast in Bronze: Nebraska's Historical Markers and Monuments](#). His visit helped reveal the hidden historical monuments in our state and community.

Next, Linda Buck, a local historian, will present a genealogy class during our Saturday workshop series. Join us Saturday, September 11, 2021 from 10:00 AM to Noon. She will help us connect with our beloved past. Loved ones are closer than you think, she says. Find them with this hands-on introduction to online research tools. Attendees will be able to start their 7-day free trial of [newspapers.com](#) with confidence.



VISIT SOON

124 N Main Street
Palisade, NE 69040

PALISADE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

Technology Resources

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/Tech/kits/index.aspx>

This excellent resource contains valuable information in understanding the technology resources. Each of the pages provide the tools to understand digital literacy and technology and apply it to your library.

[Home](#) [Tech Kits](#) [High Tech](#) [Digital Literacy](#) [Policies](#) [Contact](#)

Technology Resources for Libraries

Technology is a tool designed to help people solve real problems. To find technology that matters, start with what matters most to people in your community. Some may be building job skills for a better quality of life, others want to stay connected to friends, and kids trying to define themselves and figure out the world. Many adults are too!

There is no one size fits all solution to technology in every community. The problems that need solving differ from place to place, and person to person. Libraries can help by helping people gain exposure to new technology tools, providing basic skills training, and providing a place to meet and discuss how technology can shape our world for the better.

Every library chooses to help in different ways, based on their own needs and resources. This set of pages is designed to expand the number of resources available to everyone.

Curious and want to explore how new technology options work first-hand? Request Tech Kits through the mail from the Commission. Check out a kit and “hang on to it for up to 30 days, mail it back, and try another.” Here are your option with more to be added in mid to late September. Check the NLC website. The links in the resource descriptions below are not active.



Introduction to Cue

Cue is the robot with personality! Choose between four different robot Avatars who will help learners dive into coding through interactive chat activities, colorful code blocks, and more.

- For ages 11+
- Beginner to Advanced level options
 - Interactive chat games (beginner)
 - Block-based tutorials in Cue App (beginner to intermediate)
 - JavaScript text-based coding (advanced)
- Easy to set up and play right out of the box
- Check out [Wonder Workshop's website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Ozobot Bit

Ozobot Bit fits in the palm of your hand and can be programmed screen free! All you need is a set of markers and a piece of paper. The robot is designed to follow marker lines drawn by students. The robot can change color, turn, move forward, move backward, and more!



- For ages 6+
- Beginner to Advanced level options
 - Start with simple marker lines on paper.
 - Move on to experiment with Color Codes with markers.
 - The truly code curious can pull out a tablet and experiment with OzoBlockly Code Editor.
- Easy to set up and play right out of the box
- Check out [Ozobot's website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Holy Stone Drones

This small quadcopter drone is equipped with artificial intelligence, a 2K camera, and more to help your community learn what drones can really do.



- For ages 16+ (younger audiences require adult supervision)
- Must be used outdoors.
- Experience a drone in real life.
- Great for group demonstrations and activities.
- Check out [Holy Stone's website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Merge Cube

Merge Cube lets you hold and interact with 3D virtual objects. Do get started, all you need is the cube and an app on your smartphone or tablet. Just download and open a Cube app, point your device camera at the Cube, and see a new virtual world on your Cube!



- Grade K-12 and the curious adult
- Activities & Lesson Plans available
- Easy to set up. All you need is the Cube and your chosen app on a smartphone.
- Use of the Virtual Ready headset is optional, but adds an extra layer of interactive fun!
- Check out [Merge Cube's website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Snap Circuits Extreme

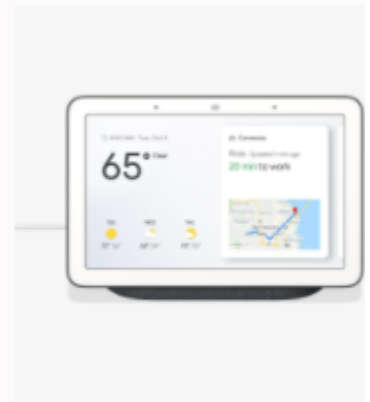
Snap Circuits Extreme is a fun and easy way to learn about electronics. There are over 750 projects with full-color instructions available with the kit.



- For ages 8+
- Beginner to Advanced level options
 - Start with a basic circuit and work your way up.
 - No soldering required. The snaps are real snaps!
 - No computer required for beginner to intermediate.
 - Advanced level project options show how electronics interact with computer software!
- Easy to set up and play right out of the box
- Check out [Elenco's Snap Circuits website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Google Home

Google Home is our window into artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, and a wide collection of different technologies. It's designed to be easy to use and multi-functional.



- Connect it to different sensors to build and control a smart home.
- Explore voice commands and hands-free devices.
- Easy to set up and use right out of the box.
- Test it out and see if it is worth the hype.
- Check out [Google's Nest Hub website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Oculus Go

Oculus Go is a standalone virtual reality (VR) headset that will immerse you in a virtual world. The best way to learn about VR is to experience the full effect.



- For ages 13+
- Immerse yourself in a virtual world.
- Find out how VR can be used in your world.
- Easy to set up and play right out of the box.
- Check out the [Oculus Go website](#) for more details.

Introduction to Oculus Quest

Oculus Quest is a standalone virtual reality (VR) headset that will immerse you in a virtual world. The best way to learn about VR is to experience the full effect.

- For ages 13+
- Immerse yourself in a virtual world.
- Find out how VR can be used in your world.
- Easy to set up and play right out of the box.
- Check out the [Oculus Quest website](#) for more details.



Questions?

Not sure where to start? Contact Amanda Sweet, our Technology Innovation Librarian for a consultation. She will ask a few questions and prepare a resource pack suited to your needs and the needs of your community.

amanda.sweet@nebraska.gov

(402) 471-3106

SEMPER DISCO - ALWAYS LEARNING

Western Library System Community Conversations



Unite Nebraska September 8: 2:00-2:45 (Mountain Time)

Emily Lehmann from Unite Nebraska will talk about how libraries can provide information to agencies on their services and programs. These agencies can relay this information to people who may not think of the library as a resource.

Unite Nebraska is a community data exchange of health and social service providers, sponsored by CyncHealth. Partners in the network are connected through Unite Us' shared technology platform, which enables them to send and receive electronic referrals, address people's social needs and improve health across communities. The Nebraska 211 Contact Center team, acting as the Coordination Center for Unite Nebraska, processes and facilitates network referrals, ensuring clients are connected to the best program to address their needs. The network is supported by a Nebraska-based Unite Us team focused on community engagement, network health and optimization, and customer success. Joining the network is at no cost for community-based organizations and many organizations that are considered part of the safety net, like community health centers, tribal clinics, and mental health centers.

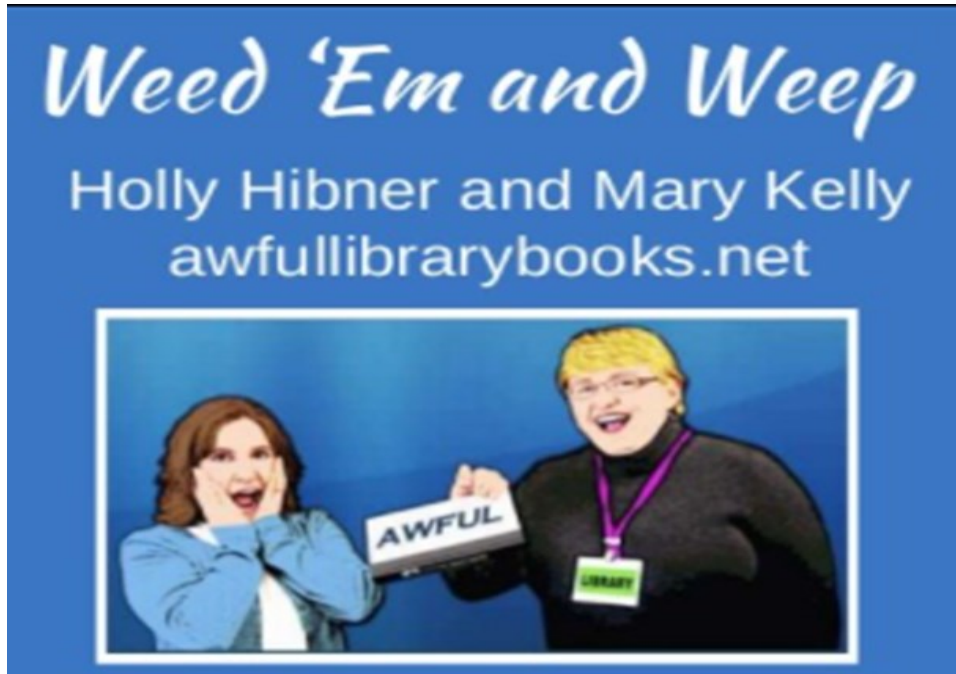


Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85642844253?pwd=Q2FXZ1Z2SzNwOGFGb2tmR2pvWjJNZz09>

Meeting ID: 856 4284 4253

Passcode: 086738



Weed 'Em And Weep: Hoarding is not Collection Development

Virtual Presentation: September 30, 2021

2:00-3:30 (Mountain Time)

1.5 Continuing Education Credits

Reap the benefits of a well-weeded collection! This session will discuss weeding techniques, collection management policies, and how to motivate reluctant weeders. Participants will find the joy in a shelf list that reflects a clean, relevant, and current collection!

The presenters, Mary Kelly and Holly Hibner, are public librarians in Michigan. They have worked together since 1998, and have a passion for books and libraries. They created a website awfullibrarybooks.net to share some of the cool and not so cool books gracing library shelves everywhere. Their repertoire of published books and articles, presentation in-person and virtually is extensive and impressive.

[Register here](#) or

E-mail: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

Phone: 308-632-1350

The Zoom link will be sent to the registered attendees on September 27th.

SEMPER DISCO - ALWAYS LEARNING

Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events: Sessions count for Continuing Education Credits.

NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am, Mountain Time. For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/NCompassLive/>

Title	Date
NLC Grants for 2022	September 1
Manga and Graphic Novels in Your Library	September 8
Library School Now—Library Workers Talk about Their Library Science Coursework	September 15
Pretty Sweet Tech	September 29
The Queer Omaha Archives; The First Five Years	October 6

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
9/20 - 10/1	<u>Community & Library*</u>	Sam Shaw	8/16 - 9/10
10/18 - 10/29	<u>Management/Supervision</u>	Holli Duggan	9/13 - 10/8
11/1 - 11/12	<u>Leadership</u>	Holli Duggan	9/27 - 10/22
11/29 - 12/10	<u>Library Services to Children & Teens</u>	Sally Snyder	10/25 - 11/19

(* Required Class)

2022—Conference of Note

[Power Up: A Leadership Conference for Youth Services Managers and Staff](#): Leading Toward Inclusion

Are you an intentional leader? Do you want to share your passion for strategic planning, collaborative partnerships, or ethical staff engagement? Can you help other youth services professionals solve problems and be more productive? Are you searching for a way to network with other professionals and raise your profile? The University of Wisconsin-Madison Information School is pleased to offer the third Power Up Conference to share your exciting ideas! The conference will take place in Madison, Wisconsin on March 24-25, 2022.



MONEY FOR YOUR LIBRARIES

The American Library Association (ALA) invites library workers to apply for round 3 of the Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Focus on Small and Rural Libraries grant: <https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/focusgrants>

Up to 100 libraries will be awarded in this round of grantmaking, part of ALA's longtime community engagement initiative. **Applications are due Thursday, September 16.**

Participating libraries will receive training in how to lead conversations, a skill vital to 21st-century librarianship. Library workers will complete a free ALA e-course on basic facilitation skills (<https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/online-learning>); host at least one conversation with community members on a chosen topic; and receive \$3,000 to support community engagement efforts. Grant funds may cover a range of expenses, including staff time and collections and technology purchases.

Libraries that previously were awarded LTC: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries grants are eligible to apply for additional funding to expand their previously awarded projects.

Over 500 public, academic, school and tribal libraries representing 48 U.S. states have been awarded in the past year, including 13 Nebraska libraries. View the full list at <https://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/focusgrants/libraries>

Hastings Memorial Library in Grant received one of the grants.

Here are some Nebraska examples:

- St. Edward Public Library is holding a Heritage Fair in celebration of the many ethnic backgrounds that make up their community.
- Ravenna Public Library hosted a conversation about food insecurity in their community and started a community garden.
- Valentine Public Library's project, "Online Snare-Cyber Smart", is a collaborative effort with the Valentine Police Department, Cherry Co Sheriffs Department, and the Valentine Public Library to increase awareness and the sharing of information regarding Cyber Security and Awareness to decrease victimization.

A sampling of projects that libraries across the country will undertake in 2021:

- Pottsboro (Texas) Area Library led talks about emergency preparedness after a winter storm left their community without electricity and water for days.
- Antlers Public Library (Antlers, Oklahoma) will lead a community conversation to raise awareness of suicide and talk about prevention, an initiative they are calling Project Brave.
- The Anne West Lindsey District Library (Carterville, Illinois) facilitated a conversation with local leaders that helped the community keep at-risk young people fed.

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is offered in partnership with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL).

Questions? Contact ALA's Public Programs Office staff at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5045, or publicprograms@ala.org

Nebraska Library Commission Grants

ARPA Big Three

The Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) is pleased to announce the availability of funding provided from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). There is a detailed page on the NLC [website](#) with all the information. ARPA is the result of the federal stimulus bill passed by Congress. The Nebraska Library Commission has received a one-time award of **\$2,422,166**. A portion of this funding has been allocated for the **three projects** described here

In addition to the formula based grants for all legally established public, designated institution and tribal libraries, the annual improvement grants and youth grants for excellence are not requiring accreditation or matching funds. This is the year to apply!

1. To Nebraska public libraries, tribal libraries, and institutional libraries under a [formula based grant program](#), which is noncompetitive, and based on a minimum payment amount and a per capita amount. Online applications opened on July 6, 2021 are due by **December 31, 2021**.
2. NLC [Library Improvement Grants](#). These competitive sub-grants opened on August 19, 2021 and online applications are due by **October 7, 2021**.
3. NLC [Youth Grants for Excellence](#). These competitive sub-grants opened on August 20, 2021 and online applications are due by **October 7, 2021**.

Library Internship Grants

- 2022 Application Cycle Open: September 8, 2021
- 2022 Application Deadline: November 5, 2021 11:59 PM (Central Time)
- Grant Award Amount: \$500 - \$1,000
- Eligible Applicants: Accredited Nebraska Public Libraries

Overview

The Nebraska Library Commission has made funding available to accredited Nebraska public libraries for internships through the 2022 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program. This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission. This internship program works to introduce high school and college students to the varied and exciting work of Nebraska libraries. The internships are intended to function as a recruitment tool, helping the student to view the library as a viable career opportunity while providing the public library with the finances (up to \$1,000 per library or branch) to provide stipends to the student interns. In the past student interns have helped the libraries expand programs, complete projects, improve websites, and expand social media use, while bringing fresh ideas into the library.

This is a tremendous opportunity for a teen to receive meaningful work experience and assist libraries with programs and services, they may not be able to otherwise provide their patrons.

The Western Library System office is here to help with the grant application process. Please contact us.

MONEY FOR YOU!

- * Is this the year for you to.....
Join a library association? (ALA, ARSL, NLA, NLSA, MPLA, PLA)
Attend a workshop?
Attend a conference (in-person or virtually) ?
Sign up for a library related class?
- * Is budget tight and monetary assistance is needed to pay for membership, or tuition or mileage?

The Western Library System is here to assist. All you need to do is apply for a scholarship which will be reviewed by the WLS Board's Scholarship Committee for approval.

[Online Application:](#)

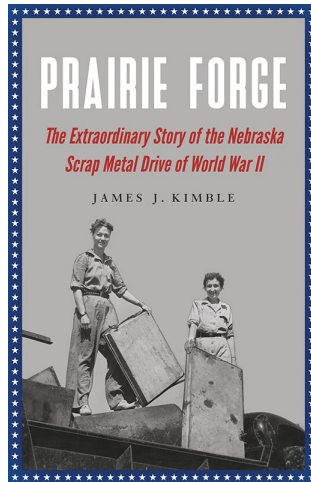
Or e-mail or mail the information below to:

Western Library System
615 S. Beltline Hwy West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Email: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

Name:	
Library/School Agency:	
Phone and Email:	
Event Date:	
Requested Amount:	

Please describe the activity, why you want to attend this activity, and how it will contribute to your professional growth. Be as specific as possible with the date, location, and function of the activity:

2021 One Book One Nebraska



About the book:

In the wake of Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt called for the largest arms buildup in our nation's history. A shortage of steel, however, quickly slowed the program's momentum, and arms production fell dangerously behind schedule. The country needed scrap metal. Henry Doorly, publisher of the *Omaha World-Herald*, had the solution. *Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Metal Drive of World War II* tells the story of the great Nebraska scrap drive of 1942 - a campaign that swept the nation and yielded five million tons of scrap metal, literally salvaging the war effort itself. James J. Kimble chronicles Doorly's conception of a fierce competition pitting county against county, business against business and in schools across the state, class against class - inspiring Nebraskans to gather 67,000 tons of scrap metal in only three weeks. This astounding feat provided the template for a national drive. A tale of plowshares turned into arms, *Prairie Forge* gives the first full account of how home became home front for so many civilians.

Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Support materials to assist with local reading/discussion activities will be available <http://onebook.nebraska.gov>. Updates and activity listings are posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.

Book a Speaker

Host a scholar listed on the [Speakers Bureau](#) of Humanities Nebraska. Apply for a grant from Humanities Nebraska to finance your event. Public programs sponsored by not-for-profit organizations may be eligible for funding assistance from Humanities Nebraska. See <https://humanitiesnebraska.org/speaker-bureau-policies/> for details on their Speaker's Bureau General Public Programs Eligibility requirements and for steps to book a speaker and to access application forms.

Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II (Virtual Program Only) by James J. Kimble

Sharpie: Nebraska's Queen of the Air by Diane Bartels

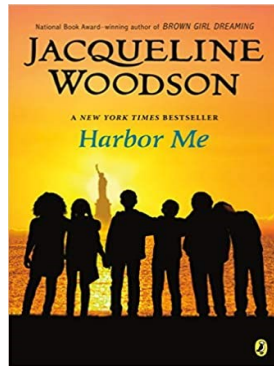
Allied Invasion of Japan by Jack Campbell

Nebraska Spirit: The North Platte Canteen by Charlotte Endorf

Four Blue Stars in the Window: A Story of WWII by Barbara Eymann Mohrman

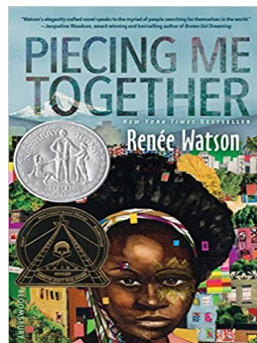
Nebraskans Remember World War II by Doug Rung

2021 One Book For Nebraska Kids



Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson

Six kids are invited to spend the last hours of school on Friday in the ARTT Room (A Room To Talk). Their only assignment is to talk to each other about anything. It starts slowly but before long they are sharing their private concerns and hopes with each other. And all agree to keep to themselves whatever is said on Friday afternoon. Haley's father is in prison, and she has never told anyone until now. Esteban is worried both about his father being deported, and about what that might mean for the rest of his family. Each of them has something they don't want other people to know, but by sharing with their group, they learn more about themselves and their worries, hopes and dreams.



2021 One Book For Nebraska Teens

Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson

Jade (16) loves collage art and photography. She is a scholarship student at a mostly white prestigious private school and lives in what others consider a questionable area of Portland, Ore. She is invited to join the Woman to Woman program and if she stays with it for her last two years of high school she is guaranteed a college scholarship. During her junior year Jade makes friends with Sam (Samantha) who rides the same city bus to school. It isn't long before things begin to chafe her, how her white friend makes excuses for prejudiced behavior and how she feels sometimes like the school, and even her mentor, Maxine (who is black), thinks she needs saving. She finally works on speaking up for herself. When she hears about a black girl at a pool party who was beaten by police, she has trouble dealing with it, but finally finds a positive way to respond (with others) and make a difference.

[The One Book for Nebraska Kids and Teens 2021 page provides discussion guides and activities.](#)

To borrow the book bags from the Commission, contact the Commission Reference Services, 402-471-4016, 800-307-2665 or use this [form](#). Another source for book club kits is the [wiki](#) which lists libraries that share their kits.

Western Library System Resources



Available to Check Out
Blocks Rock
Breakout Kits - One Platform - Escape Room
Cricut and Heat Press
Dragon Puppets - 1 red and 1 green
EVO Ozobot
Frog Guiro
Gizmos and Gadgets
LEGO Boost and Book
Makey Makey Classics
Makey Makey STEM Kits (12 projects)
Star Punch (3 1/4 inches across)
Star Wars Droid and R2-D2

In Office Use
Book Repair System (Self-serve)
Disc Repair System (WLS staff will do this for you)

The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Only .50¢ per book.

Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment. 308-632-1350, Toll-Free 888-879-5303.

The ECO AUTOSMART DISC REPAIR SYSTEM is a full service machine, not just a buffer. It cleans and repairs your valuable discs. As long as the discs are not cracked or the scratches too deep we can fix them!

From July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

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