

World of Possibilities—2025

The March/April Western Sun offers a variety of possibilities with grant opportunities, conferences and event to look forward to attending and a variety of resources. The Artificial Intelligence (AI) column covers the websites we already use that may have never been considered as AI and information on AI education for school and public libraries.

Patron Respect and Confidentiality in Libraries

A time-honored value of libraries is their strict adherence to the confidentiality of patrons records and library visits.

Library staff in public libraries does this daily as we remember not to say things to other patrons such as “Mrs. Smith, just returned that book and said how much she liked it” or Mr. Miller comes in every week at the same time”

The American Library Association (ALA) Council and the ALA Code of Ethics address this issues. The ALA Code of Ethic states in Article III, "We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received, and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted"

Libraries need to consider the following:

1. Provide a formal statement in the policies and procedures on confidentially. In addition to other patrons, confidentiality is protected from any local, state or federal agency without a warrant or subpoena showing just cause.
2. Develop the process of handling confidentiality matters if an agency wants information regarded as confidential. The Director needs to be involved as soon as possible. If the village or city has legal counsel, they should be informed too. If the crime or incident happened on library grounds, agencies can be brought in and appropriate information shares. This excludes patron circulation history and in many cases their computer activity.
3. Ensure the agency requesting information is producing acceptable paperwork that shows good cause has been made in a court of competent jurisdiction. ALA provides this statement. Upon receipt of such process, order, or subpoena, the library's officers will consult with their legal counsel to determine if such process, order, or subpoena is in proper form and if there is a showing of good cause for its issuance; if the process, order, or subpoena is not in proper form and if there is a showing of good cause for its issuance; if the process, order, or subpoena is not in proper form or if good cause has not been shown, they will insist that such defects be cured.



Mark Your Calendar

March 11: Library System Board Meeting; 10:00 Riverside Business Plaza and Zoom

March 17: Advocacy Day, Nebraska Library Association Advocacy Committee sponsored. Lincoln State Capital and downtown Lincoln. Page 11

March 19: Western Library System's Summer Reading Workshop: 9:30-2:00 Alliance Public Library .Page 9

March 20: Western Library System's Summer Reading Workshop, 930-2:00 Ogallala. Page 9

March 28: National AI Literacy Day. Page 10

June 26-30: American Library Association Conference, Philadelphia. Page 12

July 31: Western Library System's Annual Meeting. Page 11. Details coming a later date

August 28-29: Joint Services Youth Services Retreat (Tentative) Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE. Page 12 Details coming at a later date

September 17-20. Association of Rural and Small Libraries Annual Conference, Albuquerque. Page 12



The world of possibilities and Artificial Intelligence (AI) requires understanding how it is beneficial and how it can be AI is a service that utilizes AI technology to perform specific tasks, like analysis, prediction, or automation, It uses technology to run tedious work and business processes io focus on task efficiency and reducing errors in manual work. We have been using AI for years without realizing it was artificial intelligence working for us. Examples include: Online Shopping; Google mapping; Alexa and Suri; spell check; E-mail filters; Spotify, as well as:

!ChatGPT Provide instant research help, create bibliographies, or craft engaging event descriptions with this powerful generative AI tool.

Grammarly Improve your communications with AI-powered writing assistance— perfect for crafting newsletters, reports, and policies

Otter.ai Automate meeting transcription and take notes during library programming or staff planning sessions with this time-saving AI tool.

Canva with Magic Design Canva's AI-powered tools help staff create professional-quality posters, flyers, and social media graphics in minutes. Its AI even generates layout suggestions based on uploaded content

Quillbot Quillbot's summarizer tool condenses long reports or academic texts into digestible summaries for patrons or staff training.

AI Education

Educational resources for libraries and the public are becoming readily available Here are a few examples.

Among other first-rate resources to help you learn and understand AI better is, [Amazon Web Services](#). This site offers free introductory courses and certification classes and classes available for purchase.

[WebJunction](#), one of the best resources for library training , offers several webinars and courses on AI.

Another favorite of library staff is Library 2.0 Library 2.0 is offering a series on "AI Essentials"

Courses being offered in March include:

March 7th: Grant Writing Using AI; A Step-by-Step Guide

March 13th: AI & Library Literacy, Ethics and Responsible Use.

Educational Service Units (ESU's) in Nebraska are diligently working with school librarians and teachers to support their understanding an knowledge on how best to use AI.

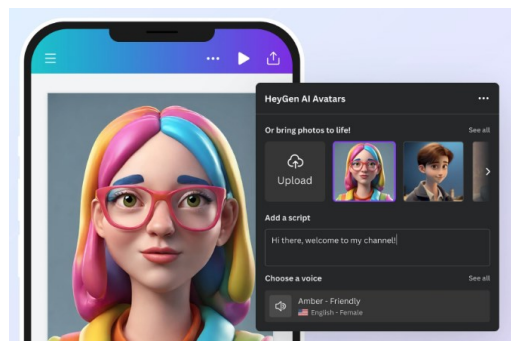
ESU #13 hosts quarterly librarians meetings. The meetings serve a source of education as well as networking. Meetings the last few years have focused on Digital Literacy and Citizenship and EI. At the October meeting, a list of school staff AI favorites included the following sites.

- ChatGPT
- Perplexity (research included)
- Diffit
- Canva
- Curipod
- Quizizz
- School AI



The Nebraska Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) offers several resources on AI. One of the resources is their Writing and AI series. It is “designed to help K-12 educators understand artificial intelligence can support and enhance the writing process for students. Throughout their YouTube [playlist](#), education experts and thought leaders discuss a range of topics, including AI-assisted prewriting, teaching AI literacy, accessibility, and the ethical considerations of integrating AI tools in ways that complement critical thinking, promote student agency and maintain academic integrity. Viewer will gain practical strategies for leveraging AI tools in ways that complement critical thinking, promote student agency and maintain academic integrity. Explore how AI can coexist with traditional writing instructions to foster deeper learning experiences and prepare students for an AI future.

What is Nebraska ESUCC? On their website it says that it is a dynamic organization that works closely with each of Nebraska’s seventeen educational service units. The ESUCC Board is made of each ESU Administrator. Together, the ESUCC provides critical cost-effective services to Nebraska students, teachers, school leaders and school districts. The ESUCC does this in a variety of ways. First, it employs professionals that address statewide projects such as Cooperative Purchasing Instructional Materials, Digital Education Training, Grant Management, and an Online Special Education Student ESUCC also works closely with the Nebraska Department of Education (ND) to develop comprehensive plans, leveraging its resources to address challenges confronting Nebraska schools.



Would you like to create a video using AI? There are several available free services including one provided by [Canva!](#)

HeyGen offers a free service that translates in a multitude of languages.

One video service shown at a recent ESU#13 quarterly librarians demonstrated a video service that featured an avatar “talking head” translating a book in Spanish. One of the librarians was eager to go back to her city and test it out. She immediately thought of one of her second graders. This young, promising student was trying to learn English along with her other subjects. The school librarian, with limited time and Spanish skills wanted to make a video of herself reading the book in English and Spanish. This way the 2nd grader could watch as often as she wanted while she followed along with the book in hand.

Grant Opportunities

Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award

School librarians are invited to apply for a \$5,000 annual award recognizing outstanding humanities programming in kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Nominations for the 2025 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award will be accepted until May 1, 2025.

Applications, award guidelines and a list of previous winners are available at www.ala.org/jaffarian.

U.S. school libraries, public or private, that serve children in any combination of grades K-12 are eligible, provided a state-certified librarian staffs the library. Libraries are encouraged to self-nominate. Nominated programs must have occurred during the current school year (2024-2025).

The award intends to recognize humanities programs that expand student horizons beyond “basic education.” A humanities program can focus on many subject areas, including but not limited to social studies, poetry, drama, art, music, language arts, foreign languages and culture. Programs should focus on broadening perspectives and helping students understand the wider world and their place in it. The humanities program should be initiated and coordinated by the school librarian and exemplify the role of library programming in advancing the overall education goals of the school.

Nominations for the 2025 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award will be accepted until **May 1, 2025**.

Recent Jaffarian Award-winners have included:

Freedom Walk, a program at Tom C. Clark High School in San Antonio, Texas, centered on the freedom to read and engaged the school community in understanding students' fundamental rights to access diverse information and literature in their school library.

Growing Readers, Growing Leaders, a program that prepared students to be “Bi-literate, Bi-Cultural, and Bi-Lingual” as it transitions into a Spanish Immersion Magnet elementary school.

Empathizing with Teens in Trauma: An Exploration of the Terezin Ghetto/Camp, a program where students researched the artwork, poetry and music created by teenagers in the Theresienstadt/Terezin Nazi concentration camp during World War II.

Named after the late Sara Jaffarian, a school librarian and longtime ALA member, ALA's Jaffarian Award was established in 2006 to recognize and promote excellence in humanities programming in elementary and middle school libraries. In 2024, the award expanded eligibility to high school libraries. It is presented annually by the ALA Public Programs Office in cooperation with the American Association of School Librarians (AASL).

The award is selected by a committee comprising members of the ALA Public and Cultural Programs Advisory Committee (PCPAC), AASL and the Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC).

Funding for the Jaffarian Award is provided by ALA's Cultural Communities Fund (CCF). To contribute to CCF, visit www.ala.org/ccf.



National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Challenge America and Grants for Arts Projects (GAP).

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is pleased to announce that grant guidelines and application materials are now available for **Challenge America** and **Grants for Arts Projects (GAP)**.

The grant guidelines for FY 2026 grant guidelines were upgraded, with deadlines in March and July 2025. These changes impact organizations applying in the Grants for Arts Projects or Challenge America categories.

These grants to organizations support specific projects in any part of the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. jurisdictions. See below for additional information and access the full guidelines at <https://www.arts.gov/grants>

Eligible applicants include nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) U.S. organizations, units of state or local government, and federally recognized tribal communities or tribes. Eligible organizations that received American Rescue Plan (ARP) or CARES funding are also eligible to apply to Challenge America or GAP. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the NEA's goals.

Cost share/matching grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Designated local arts agencies that are eligible to subgrant may request from \$30,000 to \$150,000 for sub granting projects. A minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount is required.

The Challenge America opportunity is canceled for FY 2026. Organizations that have applied or were planning to apply to the FY 2026 Challenge America grant opportunity are encouraged to apply to the Grants for Arts Projects category at the March or July, 2025 deadlines instead.

Grants for Arts Projects

The National Endowment for the Arts has revised the FY 2026 Grants for Arts Projects guidelines. A set of Frequently Asked Questions addressing the changes is available in the guidelines.

As part of these changes, **the first deadline is March 11, 2025, for GAP 1 and July 10, 2025, for GAP 2.** Organizations that have already submitted an application must submit a new application under one of these deadlines.

Application Deadlines: March 11 and July 10, 2025 for projects taking place beginning in 2026.

For more grants like this one, check out the NLC's Grant Opportunities for Nebraska Libraries at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/index.aspx>

Celebrations and Milestones

New World of Possibilities:

Amanda Eastin, Sidney Public Library

Richard Landreth, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Gov. Pillen Announces Jewel Rodgers as Nebraska State Poet

Governor Jim Pillen designated Jewel Rodgers of Omaha as Nebraska's new state poet. Rodgers said she hoped to use her role as state poet to expand on her experiences using the spoken word to make poetry accessible and relevant to all Nebraskans.

"Jewel has received numerous honors and awards for her presentations. As someone who excels at speaking, as well as writing, she will be a great ambassador for Nebraska in the role of state poet," said Gov. Pillen. "Jewel joins the ranks of other notable writers and poets from Nebraska who have distinguished themselves and inspired future generations through their creativity."

Rodgers follows a relatively short line of designated state poets, which began with John G. Neihardt becoming the Nebraska poet laureate in 1921. State poets appointed by governors have included William C. Kloefkorn (1982), Twyla M. Hansen (2013) and Matt Mason, who was named in 2019.

The selection process is coordinated through the Nebraska Arts Council, Humanities Nebraska and the Nebraska Library Commission. A committee oversees the criteria, submission requirements and selection procedure, from which finalists are selected and interviewed.

The state poet serves a five-year renewable term as an advocate for poetry, literacy and literature in Nebraska. Duties include giving public presentations and readings, leading workshops and discussions, and providing outreach in schools, libraries, literary festivals and other venues in communities throughout Nebraska.

"To me, this appointment is not about being the best poet there ever was, but rather, expanding where, how and to whom poetry can matter," said Rodgers.

She said she has three key initiatives: education through poetry, increasing access to diverse communities and nurturing more Nebraska writers.

"The three initiatives I aim to achieve during my tenure will expand Nebraska's proximity to poetry while showcasing and elevating our talented multi-generational Nebraska poets," added Rodgers.

Rodgers received a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. She has a master's degree in real estate development from New York University.

Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute—Estes Park, Colorado, May 4-8,



Libraries are at the heart of our communities, and strong leadership is essential to their success. The MPLA Leadership Institute is dedicated to empowering library professionals to drive innovation, enhance services, and build stronger partnerships. Through a combination of expert instruction, hands-on projects, and peer collaboration, you will develop the skills and confidence to lead your library into the future.

Anne Price, Children’s Librarian from the North Platte Public Library was chosen to attend this prestigious institute. Anne demonstrates her leadership skills, which is required for consideration for acceptance to the Institute.

Other required elements are:

- Current member of MPLA or an MPLA - affiliated **state library association**
- Minimum of 5 years in a library-related job with progressive experience
- Record of experience that demonstrates leadership potential

Congratulations Anne. The Western Sun looks forward to your article sharing your experience.

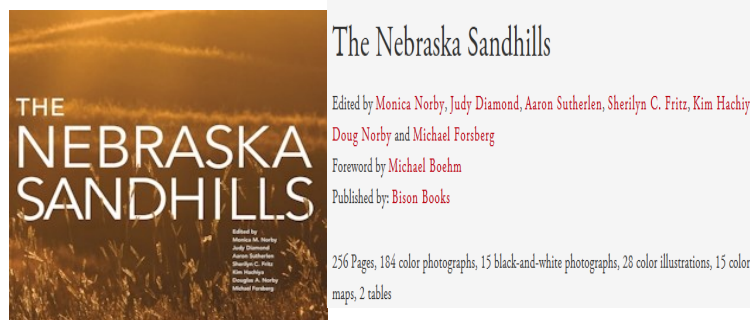
Consider applying for the next Institute in 2027! You could be providing a testimonial like this one. “What an extraordinary opportunity for learning, laughing and leadership!”

Around the Sun



Maryruth Reed contributed pictures of the Mitchell Public Library’s dragon sculpture which was included in the November ~ December, 2023 Western Sun. The creation was made by local artist Doeg Hoebet.

Last year, Ms. Snail joined him at the library. As you can tell she is very happy to be located in the library garden



“Like a rumpled wool blanket, the Nebraska Sandhills spreads out over twenty thousand square miles of north central Nebraska and is the largest stabilized dune field in the Western Hemisphere. It is also the largest intact mixed-grass prairie left on the continent.”

This description by photographer Michael Forsberg alludes to the exceptional physical geography of the Nebraska Sandhills, a place of rolling grasslands, rivers, and wetlands created by the Ogallala Aquifer that underlies the region. Home to abundant wildlife, from pronghorn antelope to sandhill cranes, the Sandhills are an ecological treasure. Dotted with ranches and small towns, the Sandhills are rich with deep cultural history, including those of Indigenous peoples, settlers, Black homesteaders, immigrants, ecotourists, and some adventurous golfers.

The Nebraska Sandhills features nearly forty essays about the history, people, geography, geology, ecology, and conservation of the Nebraska Sandhills. Illustrated with hundreds of remarkable color photographs of the area, this is the most up-to-date and illuminating portrayal of this remarkable yet largely unknown region of the United States.

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
NCompass Live: Breaking Barriers: The Importance of Digital Accessibility	March 5
NCompass Live: Family & Community Programming: Major Successes & Epic Fails	March 12
NCompass Live: Pretty Sweet Tech	March 19
NCompass Live: Creating Connection in Library Events	March 26
NCompass Live: One Book For Nebraska Kids & Teens 2025	April 2

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

One of the requirements for Public Librarian Certification is training in the basic skills of librarianship. This requirement may be fulfilled by completion of formal education in an institution of higher learning or completion of approved continuing education or certification courses, including the Nebraska Library Basic Skills Training Courses. Basic Skills training is presented as a series of online courses through *NCampus*. Basic Skills participants are required to complete at least thirteen modules - six requisite modules and seven electives. These must be completed during the first three-year certification period.

For each course successfully completed, participants will earn 2 CE credits. These count toward the 45 CE credits that all participants must earn during each three-year recertification period. The courses for 2025 are listed below:

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
open	Communication*	Self-paced	available any time
3/17 - 3/28	Library Technology	-	2/3 - 3/7
4/1 - 4/30	Introduction to Cataloging	Self-paced	2/17 - 3/21
4/14 - 4/25	Library Finance	-	3/3 - 4/4
5/5 - 5/16	Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*	-	3/24 - 4/25
6/2 - 6/13	Readers' Advisory	-	4/21 - 5/23
7/7 - 7/18	Reference	-	5/26 - 6/20
7/28 - 8/8	Library Policy	-	6/16 - 7/11
8/18 - 8/29	Collection Management*	-	7/14 - 8/8
9/8 - 9/19	Programming & Outreach	-	7/28 - 8/29
9/22 - 10/3	Community & Library*	-	8/11 - 9/12
10/20 - 10/31	Management/Supervision	-	9/8 - 10/10
11/3 - 11/14	Leadership	-	9/15 - 10/24
12/1 - 12/12	Library Services to Children & Teens	-	10/20 - 11/21

(* Required Class)

The Nebraska Library Commission provides this Certification Program Planner.

<https://nlc.nebraska.gov/CE/BasicSkills/NBSplanner.pdf>

Nebraska Librarian Certification Program

BASIC SKILLS

Planned	Requisite (6)	Completed
	Collection Management	
	Communication	
	The Community and The Library	
	Customer Service	
	Intellectual Freedom and the Core Values of Librarianship	
	Organization of Materials	
Planned	Elective (Choose 7)	Completed
	Leadership	
	Library Finance	
	Library Governance	
	Library Policy	
	Library Services to Children and Youth	
	Library Technology	
	Readers Advisory	
	Reference	
	Management & Supervision	
	Programming and Outreach	

You are required to successfully complete 6 requisite modules and 7 elective modules during your provisional certification period.

Statement of Support to our Community Association of Rural and Small Libraries, (ARSL) Board of Directors and Advocacy Committee February, 2025

Our nation is divided, and this has been an increasingly trying time for libraries. Across the country, library staff, volunteers, and trustees are working tirelessly to provide essential community services, foster connections, and safeguard the rights and freedoms of all library users. The Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) remains committed to supporting these efforts by providing resources, advocacy, and a network of peers who understand the unique strengths and challenges of providing library service to America’s small towns and rural communities.

No matter the difficulties faced, rural and small libraries are not alone. The heart of a professional association is the connections built between peers, and that is nowhere more true than within ARSL. The community we have built together over the past 40 years is more critical to our success as a profession than ever before. We will need to rely on one another in the days to come, sharing knowledge, cultivating friendships, and working together to build stronger, more resilient communities. ARSL will continue to advocate for the critical role of your libraries and provide the support you need to help you succeed. Together, we remain steadfast in our belief that all libraries should have the tools and resources they need to serve their communities effectively, with excellence and integrity. Look for additional resources in our Advocacy Center. ARSL’s mission is to build strong communities through advocacy, professional development, and elevating the impact of rural and small libraries. That starts with building and maintaining a strong professional community for the people who do the work. Whatever the future may have in store for America’s libraries, know that ARSL will be there to help you keep that work going.

Conferences ~ Events

2025 Summer Reading Workshops



Sally Snyder presents her book recommendations.

Amanda Sweet demonstrates Tech Tools to enrich your programs.



Creative. Colorful Program Ideas and Presentations



Both Free Workshops:

9:30 Registration Begins

10:00 Program Begins



Enjoy Nebraska Library Commission staff ~ Amanda Sweet and Sally Snyder



Presentations and Attendee Sharing of Program and Craft Ideas



Craft Tables and Take Home Projects



Lunch included.

Wednesday, March 19

Alliance Public Library

1750 Sweetwater Avenue

In-person, Virtual and Recorded

Thursday, March, 20

Kathleen Lute Public Library

Ogallala

610 W. A Street

In-person only

3.5 Continuing Education Credits

"This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission."



March 28, 2025

This is a nationwide day of action focused on exploring the fundamental question, “What is AI?” [The National AI Literacy Day](#) provides the following information along with a descriptive video.

We invite students, parents, educators, and other community members across the country to examine this technology shaping our world. This event will offer valuable lessons for classrooms and after-school programs, as well as professional development opportunities for educators.

How to Get Involved

From activities to events, PD to curriculum, sign up today to get the latest updates and information on how you can participate in the first National AI Literacy Day!

How to Contribute

- Host an event in your area
- Submit curriculum materials for grades 1-12 or for an afterschool program for our team to review
- Contribute professional development materials or recorded webinars for the day.
- Become a sponsor

How to Participate

- ◇ **Build a network for National AI literacy**
From exploring student data privacy to conversations about how AI is shaping the education experience, Communities across the US will host parent and student engagement events to deepen understanding and build an AI literacy groundswell.
- ◇ **Curriculum and Lesson Plans to answer our anchor question: “What is AI?” for all grade levels**
Lesson plans created by partners in our network are designed to cover essential questions about AI, safety, and ethics for grades K-12. There are options for full-day activities as well as shorter 30-minute lessons.
- ◇ **Local and National Events to Spur Connection in Communities**
A series of affiliate events across states and districts nationwide will unite organizations for learning and showcase important work. National AI Literacy Day will feature Washington, D.C. and Silicon Valley in-person events.

A Day of Learning for Educators Everywhere

With on-demand access to professional and learning and a range of special webinars, events and AMA’s throughout the day, this is the perfect opportunity for educators at all levels to expand their knowledge and skills.

March 17



ADVOCACY DAY ~ MONDAY, MARCH 17th. All Day
STATE CAPITAL AND DOWNTOWN LINCOLN

Visit your State Legislator and/or Representative. Participate in activities that illuminate the legislators on the work and value of libraries and staff to Nebraska residents.



July 31, 2025

The Western Library System's Annual Meeting
Oshkosh

Historic Oshkosh is home to colorful murals, fascinating stories and

[Mark Ferrari's Specialty Coffees](#)

Hawaii's Famous Kona Coffee! Roasted in Oshkosh

Sold in Oshkosh and online.

Exciting Details for the Annual Meeting coming later!

Story from Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Hawaii to the Heartland: Coffee roastery makes its home in Oshkosh, Nebraska

Building Nebraska, February 13th, 2025

A journey that started on the big island of Hawaii's Kona Coast now finds itself on main street of Oshkosh, Nebraska.

The dream of Mark Ferrari Specialty Coffees began with Mark Ferrari's childhood, where he grew up working on his family's coffee farm. Ferrari became a student of coffee roasting, learning from valued mentors and accepting the process of trial and error.

His experiences in Hawaii truly gave Ferrari an appreciation for the art of making good coffee, from seed to cup.

After teaming up with business partner Mark Piva, Ferrari began exploring opportunities to open a coffee roastery on the mainland of the United States. Piva's desire to give back to his hometown of Oshkosh lead him to pitch the rural community as the place to plant their roots.

Beyond being centrally located for coffee distribution, Piva knew the benefits of small town living firsthand. However, he knew Ferrari would take some convincing.

"If I was him, I'd be like this makes no sense," said Piva. "But we found this building and we've been here for 18 years."

Today, Mark Ferrari Specialty Coffees is a roastery with national acclaim, but to the residents of Oshkosh, it serves as a community hub.

"We wanted to create a little Hawaii shop oasis, and hopefully tastefully done," said Ferrari. "It has really exceeded my expectations."

ALA 2025 Annual Conference & Exhibition

Philadelphia | June 26 – 30, 2025

Join us for top-quality education and best practices; featured thought-leaders; and special programming for library professionals looking to further develop their libraries, communities, and careers!



August 28 and 29 (Tentative) Joint Youth Services Retreat

Tentative Dates for the Joint Youth Services Retreat designed expressly for library staff serving children and teens, are August 28th and 29th is a time to spend a bit of time connecting with and learning from fellow colleagues in a beautiful setting. at Camp Carol Joy Holling near Ashland.



#ARSL2025 is *the* conference for rural and small libraries. The conference planners and presenters understand the constraints of shoestring budgets, small spaces, and limited staffing within small and rural libraries, as well as the unique opportunities for innovation and collaboration. The conference is packed full of information you can take right back to your library—no scaling down required.



October 1 - 3, 2025. Attend the Mountain Plains Library Association Tri-Conference with **North Dakota and South Dakota** The event will be held in Grand Forks North Dakota at the Alerus Center.

October 22-24 2025. Nebraska Library Association Conference

York , Nebraska. Holthus Convention Center.



Save these 2026 dates

April 1~3, 2026 Public Library Association Minneapolis Minnesota.

Public Library Association (PLA) sponsors a conference every two years. In non-conference years, PLA offers limited programs at the American Library Association Annual Conference. This premier event is designed for public library librarians, support staff, trustees and vendors. More than 100 curated education sessions, inspiring speakers and authors, networking opportunities and endless possibilities.

October 14~16 Nebraska Library Association (NLA) and Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA), La Vista Nebraska

Every year, the Mountain Plains Library Association plans their conference with one of the twelve states included in the Association. The exception is North Dakota and South Dakota who combine their resources when the states join MPLA for a tri-conference. The last time the NLA and MPLA met together was in 2012! This is a value-added conference



Resources for Librarians and their Communities

Edible Books

Excerpts from WebJunction's Crossroads Newsletter. "Check out the [Kearney Public Library's video](#) from 2022. (Making edible books has been a group effort I look forward to each year. The process is challenging and fun and results in lots of giggles, mess and great memories. The books are beautiful, unique and delicious!— Julie Bartlett



WLS Author Tour—2024
Kathleen Lute Library, Ogallala

Judges come up with creative award categories, and after the award presentations, everyone gets to eat the entries. If you want to make it a fundraiser, you can charge to attend or to submit an entry. But money doesn't need to change hands to have a successful Edible Book event. And if your library doesn't allow food consumption, you can hold the event in a nearby venue.

Entries have included a *Lord of the Fries* made out of French fries; a *Catcher in the Rye* made out of vegetables, dip and rye bread; a world atlas figure represented by a globe carved from a whole watermelon; a *Very Hungry Caterpillar* fashioned from cupcakes; Dr. Seuss's *Green Eggs and Ham* made of green eggs and ham; and a fantastical Emerald City from *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* made of green ice cream cones, translucent green candy, and yellow Pez-like bricks. While entries usually come from one or two kids or adults, groups from halfway houses and elementary schools have also collaborated to create their amazing edible entries.

Hosting an Edible Book event is a fun, creative way to blend creativity, community, and a shared love for stories. Whether you're crafting clever interpretations of literary classics or just looking for an excuse to gather with fellow book lovers, this event offers something for everyone. Best of all, it can be adapted to suit your library's space, budget, and audience. So, why not bring this tasty tradition to your library? Some create. Some attend. Everybody eats! This WebJunction article was inspired by the Food for thought: Library Kitchens and Cooking Programs



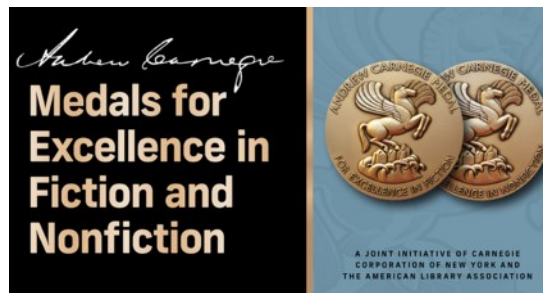
Teen category winner at the Kearney Public Library 2022. Edible Book Contest.



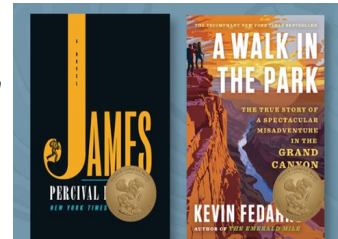
Pictures (below) from Linda Breazeale, President of the Chappell Hill Memorial Library & Art Gallery Board published in the Western Sun earlier. Their successful fundraising event "A Book Adventure Tasting" event in the Art Gallery of the library. All the recipes came from the Hannah Swensen Mystery Series by Joanne Fluke. Each

Friends member picked 3-4 recipes to make, there was everything from Breakfast to cookies. Including these, Corn Beef & Pepper Jack Quiche from "Coconut Layer Cake Murder", Lakeside Stew from "Pink Lemonade Cake Murder", Magic White





The American Library Association (ALA) selected *James* (Doubleday) by Percival Everett as the winner of the 2025 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, and *A Walk in the Park: The True Story of a Spectacular Misadventure in the Grand Canyon* (Scribner) by Kevin Fedarko as the winner of the 2025 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction.



2025 Youth Media Awards Winners



John Newbery Medal

Honors author of the most distinguished contribution to American Literature for children.

The *First State of Being* by Erin Estrada Kelly

Randolph Caldecott Medal

Awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Chooch Helped

Theodore Seuss Geisel Award

Honors to the author(s) and illustrated of the most distinguished American book for beginning readers published in English in the United States.

Vacation by Ame Dyckman, illus by Mark Teague

ALSC Children's Literature Lecture Award

Given to an author, critic, librarian, historian, or teacher of children's literature, of any country, who shall prepare a paper considered to be a significant contribution to the field of children's literature.

Cynthia Leitich Smith

Pura Belpré Awards

Presented to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.

Illustration

The Dream Catcher, illustrated and written by Marcelo Verdad

Children's Author

Lola by Karla Arenas Valenti

Young Adult Author

Shut Up, This Is Serious by Carolina Ixta

Michael L. Printz Award

Presented to a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature.

Brownstone by Samuel Teer, illus. by Mar Julia

Odyssey Award

Given to the producer of the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States.

Children's (0-14) Award

A Plate of Hope: The Inspiring Story of Chef José Andrés and World Central Kitchen, produced by Andy T. Jones for Dreamscape Audio, written by Erin Frankel, illus. by Paola Escobar

Young Adult (12-18) Award

How the Boogeyman Became a Poet, produced by Abigail Marks for HarperAudio, written by Tony Keith Jr., narrated by Tony Keith Jr.

YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults

Honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults (ages 12-18) during a Nov. 1 – Oct. 31 publishing year.
Rising from the Ashes: Los Angeles, 1992. Edward Jae Song Lee, Latasha Harlins, Rodney King, and a City on Fire by Paula Yoo

William C. Morris Award

Honors a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens.

Not Like Other Girls by Meredith Adamo

Margaret A. Edwards Award

Honors an author, as well as a specific body of his or her work, for significant and lasting contribution to young adult literature

Tiffany D. Jackson

Alex Awards

Books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18

Beautiful People: My Thirteen Truths About Disability by Melissa Blake
Big Jim and the White Boy: An American Classic Reimagined by David F. Walker
Daughters of Shandong by Eve J. Chung
Dead Cat Tail Assassins by P. Djeli Clark
How to Solve Your Own Murder: A Novel by Kristen Perrin
I Feel Awful, Thanks by Lara Pickle
I Was a Teenage Slasher by Stephen Graham Jones
The Witch of Colchis by Rosie Hewlett
The Witchstone by Henry H. Neff
Woman, Life, Freedom by Marjane Satrapi

Coretta Scott King Book Awards

Recognize outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values.

Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement

Carolyn L. Barnes

Coretta Scott King Author Award

Jason Reynolds for *Twenty-four Seconds from Now...*

Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award

C.G. Esperanza for *My Daddy is a Cowboy*, written by Stephanie Seales

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award

Craig Kofi Farmer for *Kwame Crashes the Underworld*

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Illustrator Award

Jamiel Law for *Jimmy's Rhythm & Blues: The Extraordinary Life of James Baldwin*

Stonewall Book Awards

Given to English-language works of exceptional merit for children or teens relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience.

Children's Literature

Lunar Boy by Jes and Cin Wibowo

Young Adult Literature

Canto Contigo by Jonny Garza Villa

Schneider Family Book Awards

Honors an author or illustrator for a book that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.

Younger Children

A Little Like Magic by Sarah Kurpiel

Middle Grade

Popcorn by Rob Harrell

Young Adult

Chronically Dolores by Maya Van Wagener

Sydney Taylor Book Awards

Recognizes titles for children and teens that exemplify high literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience.

Picture Book

An Etrog from Across the Sea by Deborah Bodin Cohen and Kerry Olitzky, illus. by Stacey Dressen McQueen

Middle Grade

The Girl Who Sang: A Holocaust Memoir of Hope and Survival by Estelle Nadel and Sammy Savos with Bethany Strout

Young Adult

Night Owls by A.R. Vishny

Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature

Honors and recognizes individual works by Asian/Pacific American authors that highlight Asian/Pacific American cultures and experiences.

Picture Book

Aloha Everything by Kaylin Melia George, illus. by Mae Waite

Children's Literature

Continental Drifter by Kathy MacLeod

Young Adult Literature

Everything We Never Had by Randy Ribay

The **American Indian Youth Awards** are presented biennially. The next winners will be announced in January 2026.

CONNECT WITH NEBRASKA PUBLIC MEDIA

Nebraska Public Media established a family engagement service to curate free, high quality family engagement resources and activities for regular family events to support Nebraska children, families, and caregivers learn and grow together.

Bimonthly this program provides:

- Event guide with learning goals that support intergenerational learning with a suggested book list.
- Electronic resources, games, and activity guides
- 30-minute Zoom training on upcoming themes

As a part of our family engagement pilot libraires are asked to track and share the following information:

- Date and time of your planned event shared in advance of the event
- Attendance numbers
- Photos to share with us! We want to celebrate your great work. With permission to share the photos on social media.
- Share the audience survey with attendees.
- Complete a short event report to share attendance numbers, feedback, and your favorite photo..

Here is the [resource page](#) for all the resources for children and their parents.

Contacts with this program:

Jessica Mitchell-McCollough, Director of Education

jmccollough@nebraskapublicmedia.org

Amy Cassner, Early Childhood Education Specialist



Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

According to the [Nebraska Library Commission Library Data Service website page](#), the Commission collects statistical data about public libraries and produces a variety of data products. Library Data Services is responsible for implementing the annual Public Library Survey, assisting Nebraska libraries in submitting data, and reporting some of this information to the appropriate federal agencies. Library Data Services also provides information and data in support of Library Commission administrative, planning, and evaluation activities. Public Library Directors are familiar with a major source of the data which is submitted by February of each year.

<https://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/>

State Aid to Public Libraries

The Nebraska Library Commission annually provides direct state aid payments to eligible public libraries. State aid payments are not intended to replace local funds for the library, but are granted to provide for enhanced services over and above those provided through local funding. Continued local support is an essential component of state aid eligibility.

Dollars for Data 2024

46 unaccredited public libraries qualified for 2024 "Dollars for Data" payments by completing the annual Public Libraries Statistical Report using *Bibliostat™ Collect*. The Library Commission instituted the payments in 2005 to encourage unaccredited libraries to take an additional step toward achieving accredited status by reporting the data online. Libraries that participate in completing the survey give the Library Commission and the Institute of Museum & Library Services a truer picture of library service in the state.

Sam Shaw, Planning and Data Services Coordinator for the Commission, works with all the Directors on the Survey and compiles the data which is available on the website. This valuable resource when saved on an Excel document can be sorted and used to document reports to your Board, City or Village Councils and patrons.

<https://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/Downloads/20222023stats/index20222023.aspx>

IMLS' purpose for surveys: <https://www.ims.gov/research-evaluation/surveys/public-libraries-survey-pls>

The Public Libraries Survey (PLS) examines when, where, and how library services are changing to meet the needs of the public. These data, supplied annually by public libraries across the country, provide information that policymakers and practitioners can use to make informed decisions about the support and strategic management of libraries. Browse research briefs and over 25 years of research publications about the Public Libraries Survey (PLS).

Purpose: The survey provides statistics on the status of public libraries in the United States.

Coverage: The data are collected from approximately 9,000 public libraries with approximately 17,000 individual public library outlets (main libraries, branches, and bookmobiles) in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and outlying territories.

Content: Data includes information about library visits, circulation, size of collections, public service hours, staffing, electronic resources, operating revenues and expenditures and number of service outlets. Learn more about PLS data element definitions.

Frequency: Collected annually since 1988. (Data files are available since 1992.)

Methods: At the state level, PLS is administered by Data Coordinators, appointed by the chief officer of the state library agency from each state or outlying area. State Data Coordinators collect the requested data from local public libraries and report these data to us via a web-based reporting system.

Use: PLS data are useful to researchers, journalists, the public, local practitioners, and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels, and are used for planning, evaluation, and policy making. Download the datasets in multiple formats below, or use our online Library Search & Compare tool to find a library and browse the latest available data.

Literary Destinations—Denver and Colorado

Several school and public libraries in the Western Library System relate to Colorado either with being a short distance away from the border or enjoying the shopping in Northern Colorado.

In the December 22, 2024 New York Times Book Review Peter Heller, author of *The Dog Stars* and *Burn*, contributed an article in the Literary Destinations column titled “Read you Way Around Denver...The title is misleading as Mr. Heller highlights from the Colorado sweeping plains to the rugged mountains along with descriptive paragraphs about the book and authors.

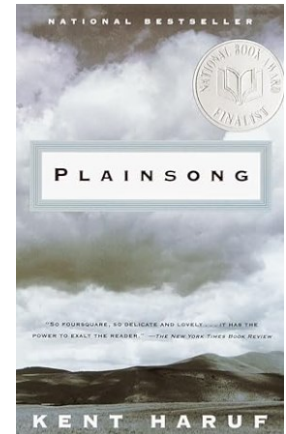
Here is his list of books he recommends to appreciate the state with fiction and non-fiction reading.

Woman of Light and *Sabrina & Corina* by Kali Fajardo-Anstine

The Meadow by James Galvin

Plainsong by Kent Haruf

Set in the eastern plains of Colorado this National Book Award Finalist and National Best Seller is described as. “The poignant novel weaves together the lives of a high school teacher, a pregnant teenage girl, and two elderly bachelor brothers, capturing the essence of human resilience and community across four generations.” *Plainsong* was The One Book ~ One Lincoln selection in 2002.



One the Road: The Original Scroll by Jack Kerouac

The Ballad of Rocky Ruiz by Manuel Ramos

Dark. Sweet: New and Collected Poems by Linda Hogan

Stars Go Blue by Laura Pritchett

Cowboys are My Weakness and *Deep Creek* by Pam Houston

Cheap Land Colorado: Off-Gridders at America's Edge by Ted Conover

Butcher's Crossing by John Edward Williams

Go As A River by Shelley Read

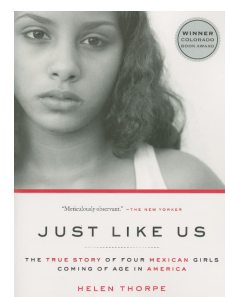
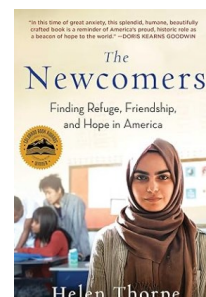
House of Rain: Tracking a Vanished Civilization Across the American Southwest by Craig Childs

The Water Knife by Paolo Bacigalupi

Broker: A Love Story by Lisa Jones

The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier and More Creative by Florence Williams

Not included in Mr. Heller's list are two non-fiction books, *Just Like Us* and *The Newcomers* written by Helen Thorpe. The books chronicle the lives of teenage refugees going to school in Denver. Written in 2014 and 2017, the books chronicle the “efforts of undocumented immigrants to gain legal status and a sense of belonging in American society and the experiences of families with refugee status as they attempt to resettle in the United States.”



COMMUNICATION DOS AND DON'TS WHEN INTERACTING WITH PATRONS

Here are a few tips to ensure welcoming and clear communication in the library.



DO

Greet with warmth and professionalism.

Listen actively and show empathy. Maintain eye contact, nod, and reflect back patron's needs.

Use clear, simple language, especially when explaining resources and technology.

Offer alternative solutions when a request isn't possible.

Maintain a professional but approachable tone.



DON'T



Invade personal space or speak too loudly with sensitive questions.



Interrupt or rush patrons. Give them time to express their needs fully.



Use overly technical, complex terms or jargon.



Say "I don't know" or dismiss patron concerns.



Engage in personal conversations while assisting patrons.

The Nebraska Library Commission recently sent this excellent resource for civic engagement. It is never too early to assist people with an understanding of the voting process. The guide is designed to assist libraries with educating the public on voter information and resources to promote and stimulate this valued democratic process.

“Nebraska Public Libraries and Civic Engagement Outreach: A Guide”
Created by Fiona Bryant
With Civic Nebraska, League of Women Voters of Nebraska, and
Omaha Public Library

The guide is located in NebraskAccess on the [Elections and Politics - NebraskAccess](#)

Fiona Bryant explains the guide in her forward.

Thank you for using this resource to improve civic engagement outreach at your library! This guide was created as part of my Girl Scout Gold Award service project with the goal of encouraging voter information and other civic opportunities at more Nebraska public libraries. I hope to make public libraries’ civic outreach easier to achieve and more collaborative with community organizations.

My work began with creating voting resources for the Omaha Public Library during the 2024 election. I created social media posts, wrote a blog post, compiled book lists, conducted surveys, and distributed FAQs to support library staff. This resource provides the information and guidance to promote civic engagement through these measures and others.

The American Library Association and other national groups have some resources for promoting voting and other civic opportunities through the public library. Yet, there is a lack of information specific to Nebraska libraries and the state’s political processes. This guide provides a timeline for executing civic outreach, background information about political processes in Nebraska, suggested programming, and Nebraska civic groups to collaborate with.

Public libraries have a mission to form an informed and involved public. Equipping patrons to not just vote, but vote knowledgeably, and to not just be part of the community, but to engage with community decision-making, is invariably a role of the public library. And as Nebraskans face increased barriers to the booths from voter ID laws, as voter suppression persists nationwide, this work is needed more than ever.

Thank you for joining me in this mission,
Fiona Bryant

Here are the sections of the guide with selected examples from each section.

Overview

- Suggested timelines
- Important Dates
- Frequently Asked Questions

Background Civic Engagement Information

- Voting Basics
- Completing a Voter Registration form
- Using library resource for civic engagement

Helping Patrons

- Social Media Guide
- Book Lists and Displays
- Contacting a State Senator

Suggested Programming

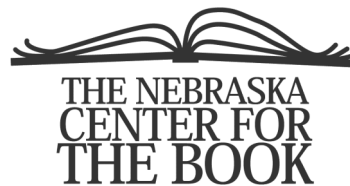
- Presentations from local candidates or civic organizations

Connecting with Community Groups and Resources

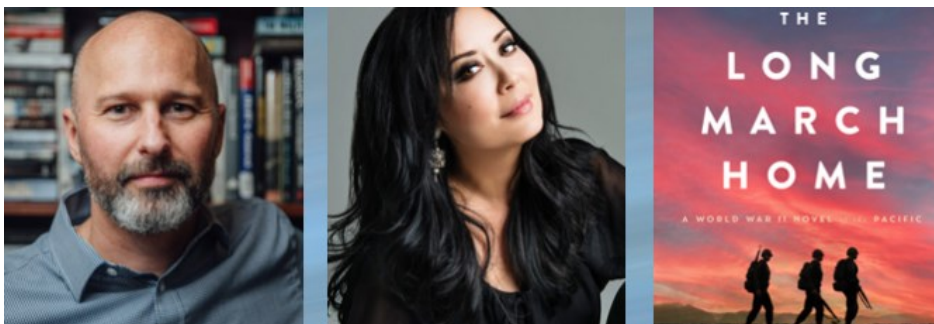
- This section include information on the League of Women Voter’s Guides, Civic Nebraska and a Directory of Nebraska Civic Organizations.



and the



2025 One Book One Nebraska



The Long March Home is a historical fiction novel inspired by true stories of friendship, sacrifice, and hope on the Bataan Death March. From the Inside Cover:

Jimmy Propfield joined the army for two reasons: to get out of Mobile, Alabama, with his best friends Hank and Billy and to forget his high school sweetheart, Claire.

Life in the Philippines seems like paradise—until the morning of December 8, 1941, when news comes from Manila: Imperial Japan has bombed Pearl Harbor. Within hours, the teenage friends are plunged into war as enemy warplanes attack Luzon, beginning a battle for control of the Pacific theater that will culminate with a last stand on the Bataan Peninsula and end with the largest surrender of American troops in history.

What follows will become known as one of the worst atrocities in modern warfare: the Bataan Death March. With no hope of rescue, the three friends vow to make it back home together. But the ordeal is only the beginning of their nearly four-year fight to survive.

Marcus Brotherton is a *New York Times* bestselling author and coauthor, with five *New York Times* bestsellers, seven national bestsellers, and four books have been optioned for movies. He was born in British Columbia and earned degrees at Multnomah University in Portland and Biola University in Los Angeles. He currently lives in the Pacific Northwest with his wife and children.

Tosca Lee is the award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of twelve books. Those awards include three International Book Awards, and a Nebraska Book Award for her thriller *The Line Between* and its sequel *A Single Light*. She received her B.A. from Smith College and currently lives in Nebraska with her husband, three of four children still at home, and her 160-lb. German Shepherd, Timber.

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 after January 1, 2025. Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page.

2025 will mark the twenty-first year of the One Book One Nebraska reading program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. The Nebraska Center for the Book invites recommendations for One Book One Nebraska book selection year-round.

One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and Nebraska Library Commission. The Nebraska Center for the Book brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission.

As the state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services, "bringing together people and information."

One Book For Nebraska Kids and Teens ~ 2025

The chosen books for One Book for Nebraska Kids and Teens are *Lions and Liars* by Kate Beasley and *Where You See Yourself* by Claire Forrest,

Kids: *Lions and Liars* by Kate Beasley

Frederick Frederickson is tired of being at the bottom of the schoolyard food chain. When a series of missteps lands him in a disciplinary camp where no one knows who he really is, he has a change to start over at the top - but can he pull it off?

Links

[Author Information](#)

[Book Club Kit](#)

[Discussion Questions](#)

[Read-Alikes](#)

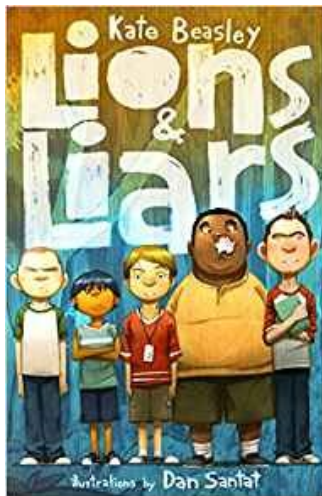
Activities

[Alphabet Soup](#)

[Learn to Tie Basic Knots](#) from Animat-

[Paracord Survival Bracelet Craft](#) from

[Mini Book Review](#)



Teens: *Where You See Yourself* by Claire Forrest

Born with cerebral palsy, Effie uses a wheelchair to navigate the mostly-accessible halls of her high school. With college on the horizon, she struggles to picture herself in the typical campus experience. When she does find her dream school, she is afraid to tell her parents, knowing they will be against this choice. Effie's mom is always pushing her to advocate for herself at school; can she stand up to her mom as well?

Links

[Book Website](#)

[Author Information](#)

[Discussion and Activity](#)

Book Club Kit Coming Soon!

[Read-Alikes](#)

Activities

[Mad Libs](#)

[Mini Book Review](#)

Money for You or Your Library

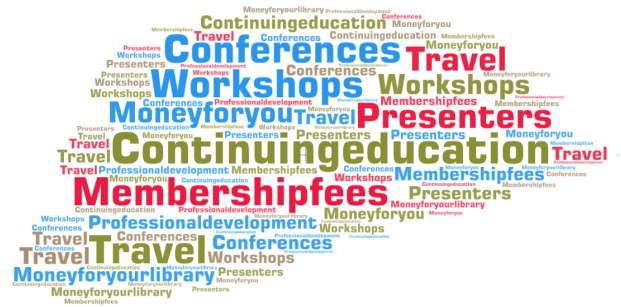
Funding from the Western Library System

All member libraries and staff are eligible.

- Eligible requests include: Dues for library association membership; registrations and travel expenses for conferences, workshops and presenters.
- Up to \$300.00 per person every two years.
(More than one person in a library can apply if applying for their own professional development.)
- Up to \$300.00 per library for library events every two years.
- Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article for the Western Library System's Western Sun within a month of completing the activities.

Send all requests to: Western Library System
615 S. Beltline Hwy West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Email: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com



Western Library System Board of Directors News



The WLS Board is comprised of eleven-members. The Board is elected by the libraries in the 21 county of the Western Library System's service area. Different geographic and library types present multiple view points when developing policies and budgets. The Board consists of:

- 2 members - Public Librarians
- 2 members - School/Media Librarians
- 1 member - Academic or Special Librarians
- 1 member - At-large
- 1 member - District A: Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan, Sioux
- 1 member - District B: Banner, Morrill, Scotts Bluff
- 1 member - District C: Cheyenne, Deuel, Kimball
- 1-member - District D: Arthur, Garden, Grant, Hooker, Keith, McPherson
- 1-member - District E: Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins

Representation may also include users or potential users of library service, who are not employed by a library or serving on a library board, who bring specialized expertise, such as finance, legal and business owners.

Board members are elected for three year terms with a two term limit. Terms begin on July 1 and end on June 1st.

This June there will be four available positions. The first term expires for the first three positions listed. The fourth one is term limited.

1. At large
2. Academic/Special
3. District D
4. School Libraries

You may be contacted by a member of the nominations committee in March. An e-mail to nominate someone will be sent in March, too. Nomination forms need to be submitted by April 1st. The WLS Office will prepare the ballot and send to all libraries by April 15. Ballots will be due May 1. Nominees will be announced after that time,

Western Library System Equipment Resources

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. You make your own repairs. The office offers print and YouTube instructions for this self-service. Call the office for an appointment.



The Eco Autosmart Repair System is a full service machine, not just a buffer. It cleans and repairs your valuable discs. The machine repairs scratched (not cracked) discs. The office will repair your discs for you. Bring your items to the office or mail them to us.



Western Library System Board of Directors

Amber Sweetland, President
Becky Henkel
Beth Falla, Vice President
Cheryl Hamilton
Dana Morgan
Ethan Nelson, Secretary
Jennifer Holthus
Judy Starke
Rossella Tesch
Sarah Alfred
Sharon Schluterbusch

Western Library System
Cindy Osborne, Director
cindy.osborne@nebraska.gov
Cell Phone: 308-637-2060

Richard Landreth,
Interim Administrative Assistant
wlsadmin@nebraska.gov
WLS E-mail
wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

615 S. Beltline Highway West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308-632-1350
Toll Free: 888-879-5303

Webpage:
<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>

“This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.”