



# Southeast Signal

*News, Events, and Information from Around the System*

## From the Director



There has been some news lately about book challenges in libraries, some local and some outside of the state. An extreme example of this is the Campbell County Library in Gillette, Wyoming that

received 35 reconsideration forms in the span of around 2 months recently, including a span of two weeks with 22 challenges submitted.

This highlights the need for a policy and procedure to handle these types of issues. If you don't have these, you should work on getting some lined up soon. If you already have one, you may want to review it and make sure everyone knows who does what and when.

If you are just now creating policy and procedure to cover these issues, you will want to work out who would be involved in the process. That will depend on the type of library you have, the people who decide policy for your library, and the mission of the library. As a rule of thumb, it generally starts with the head librarian, and then the policy makers above them, if necessary.

Once you have that figured out, the next step is how to handle a challenge. Many start the process with the head librarian talking with the person challenging an item as a more informal step. For some that discussion is why that material is being questioned

and why the library believes it should be there, as well as handling mistakes such as a book cataloged and labeled for the adult area accidentally being shelved in the children's area. Other libraries move any content related questions to a more formal procedure right away.

Whatever steps you use, eventually you will want something in place for more formal challenges. I strongly urge you to have a form the challenger must fill out. This level of challenge is often handled by a group, such as the board of the library in question, or a collection committee, or other relevant group. Some of these meetings invite the person to come before the group to discuss the issue, others rely on the form submitted about the material.

Something you will want to do, no matter what your procedure is or will be, is to get the policy and procedure in writing, and get it passed by whatever board or committee needs to do that. Make sure everybody knows what the duties and responsibilities are of the library side of things. Do that before it becomes an issue in your community, not after a problem arises.

For more guidance & samples you may want to look at ALA's toolkit on Selection and Reconsideration found here: <https://www.ala.org/tools/challengesupport/selectionpolicytoolkit>

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# Calendar



- October 13, National Train Your Brain Day
- October 16, [Nebraska School Librarians Day](#)
- October 17-23, [National Friends of Libraries Week](#)
- October 17, Black Poetry Day
- October 29, [CASTL, Via Zoom, "Patron Behavior Policy"](#)
- October 31, Halloween
- November, Picture Book Month
  - National Native American Heritage Month
- November 1, National Author's Day
- November 5, [Read Aloud Nebraska Workshop](#)
- November 7, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
- November 8, National STEM/STEAM Day
- November 7-13, [International Games Week](#)
- November 11, Veterans Day, SELS Office Closed
- December 3, [SELS Summer Reading Program Workshop](#)

# Photo of the Month



Long delayed due to the pandemic, the Grand Opening of the new Crete Public Library was held on September 15 at 1:30 pm and was a big success.

# CASTL Wrap-up

## Upcoming CASTL Meetings

October 29  
Via Zoom  
"Patron Behavior Policy"

November 19  
Gilbert Public Library  
Friend  
"Bibliostat"

On September 24th 12 people met for the SELS in person CASTL at Kilgore Memorial Library in York, and an additional 9 people joined via Zoom in the morning. Our host was Deb Robertson, and we had two topics: "Dolly Parton's Imagination Library" and "How are You Using Your ARPA Funds?"

Pam Hunsaker of the Dollywood Foundation spoke to us about Dolly Patron's Imagination Library. The Imagination Library mails one book a month for children birth to age 5. Currently the Dollywood foundation mails 1.9 million books annually to children in English speaking countries.

The Dollywood Foundation partners with a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in the community that wants to establish a partnership. The nonprofit (and potentially its partners) raise \$25 per child enrolled per year. The \$25 pays for 12 new age appropriate books and the mailing of those books directly to the child's home.

The youngest children receive boardbooks. After that, they receive a combination of hardcover and softcover books. The softcover books come with reading tips for families, in recognition of the fact that not all families know how to read to their children.

The Imagination Library partners (affiliates), besides raising money, are also asked to market the program, enroll the children, manage the Imagination Library database (e.g. if a family moves), and choose a coverage area within which they will sponsor the Imagination Library program.

The Imagination library does not have a collection of Spanish books, but it does send out two bilingual books per year. There also is a partnership with the American Printing House for the Blind to offer Braille and audio books to children who need those instead of regular print books.

For more information, contact Pam Hunsaker at [phunsaker@imaginationlibrary.com](mailto:phunsaker@imaginationlibrary.com)

Librarian Lois Kotas recounted the process of establishing the Imagination Library at Milligan Public library. They used the Fillmore County foundation as their non-profit. They enrolled 20 children, which are most of the children in their service area. The books will start arriving in October. To market the program, they distributed fliers throughout the community.

Finally, the participants discussed their various ideas for using ARPA funds.

# Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

To see the list of basic skills classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration</u>
November 1—November 11	Leadership	September 27—October 22
November 29—Dec. 10	Library Services to Children & Teens	October 25—November 19

# News Around the System

## Auburn Public Library Celebrates Banned Books Week

*Provided by Heather Koenecke*

Below is the recent Banned Books Display at Auburn Public Library. It generated lots of discussion!



## Morton-James Public Library Wins Front Porch Award

We are happy to announce that Morton-James Public Library, serving the community of Nebraska City, is the 2021 Southeast Library System Front Porch award recipient.

The Front Porch Award is presented annually to a library in the 20 county area of southeast Nebraska that displays ingenuity in creating an atmosphere that welcomes citizens and helps community members connect with each other, much like the front porches of our homes do for our neighborhoods, friends and families.



The letters received supporting the nomination mentioned how the library continued to serve the community during the uncertain times of the pandemic, providing services and materials in many ways, while continuing to emphasize individual connections to the people who use the library. The Morton-James Public Library is also participating in national level projects to bring the community together.

Morton-James Public Library has served the community of Nebraska City in good times and in tough times, and we applaud all those who have helped in that effort. In recognition of this – we happily award them the Front Porch Award.

# News Around the System

## SELS to Hold Summer Reading and Aquatic WILD Workshops



The Summer Reading Workshop “Oceans of Possibilities” will be held December 3, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm via Zoom. Presentations will cover topics such as great books for next summer’s theme, aquatics resources from Nebraska Game and Parks, programs by UNL Extension, how to create a great summer reading storytime, and a demonstration of a balloon program which you can book. [You can register for the Summer Reading Workshop here.](#)

Building off the Summer Reading Workshop, Grace Gaard of Nebraska Game and Parks will be conducting a workshop called Aquatic WILD on January 14 from 10 am to 12:30 pm via Zoom. The Aquatic WILD workshop is designed to provide further resources for those ages K-12.

Aquatic WILD is an award-winning curriculum guide. It focuses on aquatic habitats including rivers, lakes, oceans and wetlands. While we will record the workshop and make it available to all registrants, Nebraska Game and Parks has specified that only those attending on the day of the program will receive the curriculum guide. [You can register for the Aquatic Wild Workshop here.](#)



## Call for Nominations for SELS Board

The time is near for the next election to choose SELS board members. If you would be interested in serving on the board or know someone who you feel would be a good board member, I would love to hear from you!

If you work in a library, are a library board member or user of a library in our service area; you are eligible to be a SELS board member. We serve all types of libraries, and we strive to have that diversity in our board as well.

The board governs the Southeast Library System. Board member responsibilities include approval of policies, plans, and budgets, as well as evaluation of the System Director.

Board members serve a three year term. We meet four times a year for regular business meetings, plus the annual meeting in January. The term would begin on January 1, 2022.

The deadline for all nominations is October 31. To self-nominate, please send your name, library and role with said library, and a short (under 100 words) biography to [scott.childers.sels@gmail.com](mailto:scott.childers.sels@gmail.com). To nominate someone else, please send their name, contact information, and if you have already approached that person or not.

Thanks so much for your consideration!



# Fall 2021 Art Show

**Photography** *by Bernadette Korslund*

**Paintings** *by Nelson Dungan*

**Lathe Turnings** *by Marvin Camacho-Cook*

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**Library Hours**

**Monday-Thursday 10-7**

**Friday – Saturday 10-5**

**Beatrice Public Library – The Vette Cultural Art Center**

**100 N 16<sup>th</sup> St – 402-223-3584 – [www.beatrice.ne.gov/library](http://www.beatrice.ne.gov/library)**



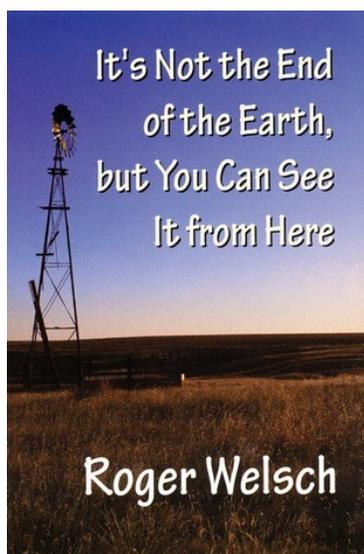
# More News

## Shortlist for 2022 One Book One Nebraska Announced

What book will all Nebraskans be encouraged to read in 2022? We will all find out on October 23rd. A historical fiction set in the Sandhills, nonfiction work on refugees resettled in Nebraska, a book of humorous essays on small town life—all stories with ties to Nebraska and the Great Plains—are the finalists for the 2022 One Book One Nebraska statewide reading program. The three books are:

- *The Bones of Paradise* by Jonis Agee, William Morrow (2016)
- *The Middle of Everywhere* by Mary Pipher, Mariner Books (2003)
- *It's Not the End of the Earth But You Can See it From Here* by Roger Welsch, Bison Books (1990)

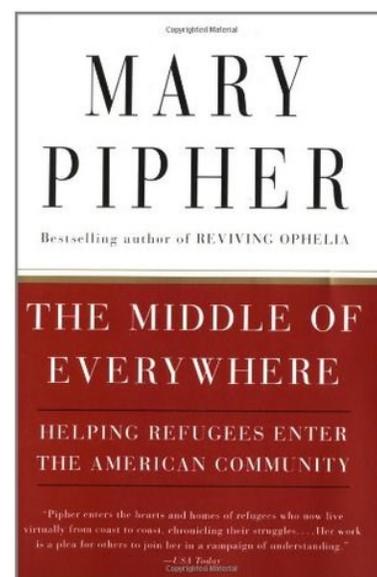
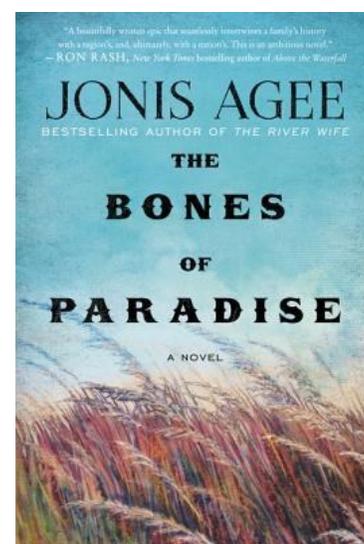
The One Book One Nebraska reading program, now in its eighteenth year, is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and Nebraska Library Commission. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss the same book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska



theme or setting. A Nebraska Center for the Book committee selected the three finalists from a list of twenty-four titles nominated by Nebraskans. In the coming weeks, Nebraska Center for the Book board members will vote on the 2022 selection.

The Celebration of Nebraska Books, on October 23rd, will also honor winners of the 2021 Jane Geske and Mildred Bennett awards. The 2022 One Book One Nebraska will title will be announced. This year's (2021) One Book One Nebraska selection will be featured in a key note presentation by author James J. Kimble on *Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II* (Bison Books, 2014.) See <http://onebook.nebraska.gov> for more information about ongoing 2021 One Book One Nebraska activities.

The Celebration of Nebraska Books will include readings by the winners of the 2021 Nebraska Book Awards emceed by Nebraska State Poet Matt Mason. A list of Nebraska Book Award winners is posted at <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/awards.html>.



# OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES



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## Summer Reading Workshop

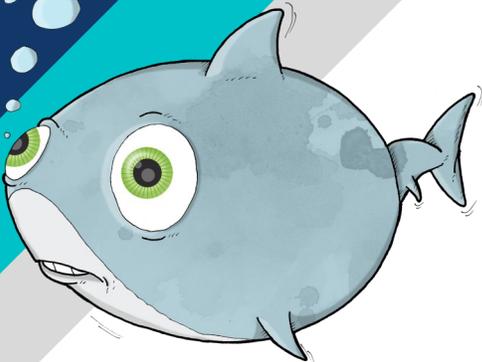
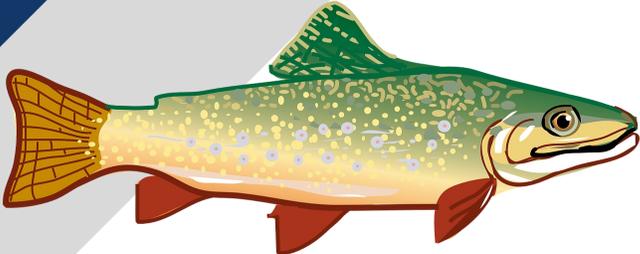
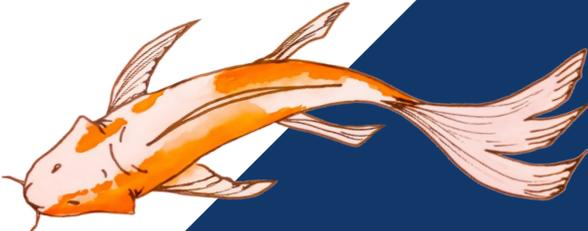
December 3  
9:30—12:30  
Via Zoom



[Register Here!](#)



# Aquatic WILD



*January 14, 10-12:30  
Via Zoom*

*With Grace Gaard  
Register here!*

# 2021 Fall RAN Workshop

**FRIDAY  
NOV. 5**

Seward Memorial Library  
233 South 5th Street, Seward, Nebraska



## Kathi Wagner

*The Top Ten Reasons to Read Aloud with Others*

From increasing vocabulary to strengthening listening skills, the benefits of reading aloud are incredibly important to our children and our society as a whole. Kathi Wagner-Most, author, librarian, and parent, will discuss the top ten reasons for reading aloud and the incredible importance of sharing the magical world of words with others.

## Kim Jocelyn Dickson

*The Invisible Toolbox: Why Reading to Your Child is One of the Greatest Gifts a Parent Can Give*

Kim draws on thirty years in the elementary classroom, her own parenting experience, and the latest research in neuroscience, to explain the literacy crisis the U.S. faces and how it can be mitigated, one child at a time. She believes that every child begins kindergarten with a lunchbox in one hand and an invisible toolbox in the other. If a child has been read to from the beginning, their invisible toolbox will be equipped with all the foundational tools and motivation they need for success in school and beyond. (Zoom Presentation)

## Amber and Andy Ankowski

*How to Make Kids Love Books (Every Time You Open Your Mouth)*

Did you know that there's a sentence-swallowing, chapter-chewing, insatiably ravenous reader hiding inside every child? And the best way to lure it out... is with your voice! Join parenting authors Amber and Andy Ankowski as they explore the power of speaking to kids in ways that help them develop monstrous literacy skills, and a lifelong love of reading. Learn fun and easy techniques for turning read-alouds into conversations, seamlessly incorporating language learning into everyday activities, and choosing a balanced diet of book types that will keep kids clamoring for more! (Zoom Presentation)

## Advance and Online registration - \$35

Must be postmarked or submitted by October 29.

Please fill out the registration form and mail with your check or visit [www.readaloudnebraska.org](http://www.readaloudnebraska.org) to pay by credit card via PayPal. No PayPal account is needed.

## Onsite registration - \$40

Registrations received after October 29 will not include lunch.



Advance & Online registrations include lunch sponsored by Runza Restaurants!

## AGENDA

**8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

Registration, Refreshments, Welcome

**9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.**

Breakout Session 1

**10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

Kathi Wagner Keynote

**11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

Breakout Session 2

**11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Lunch, Book Sales & Signing

**12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.**

Kim Jocelyn Dickson Keynote

**1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.**

Breakout Session 3

**2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

Amber and Andy Ankowski Keynote

**3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Closing, Evaluations, Book Sales

Please mail this registration with your check to:

Read Aloud Nebraska  
233 South 5th Street  
Seward, NE 68434

*Sorry, no purchase orders are accepted.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Circle which breakout sessions you want to attend:

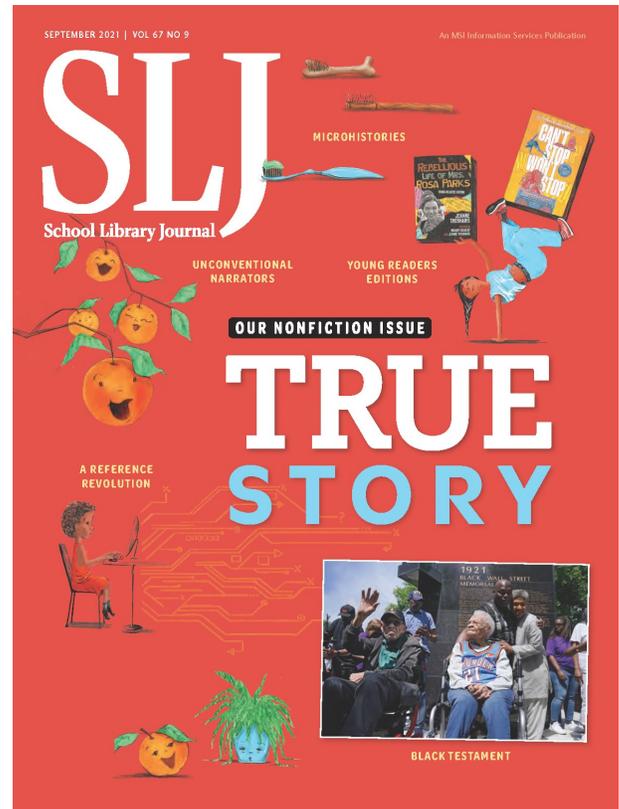
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# System Spotlight

## Journal Article Request Service

You can request articles through us from a variety of professional magazines and journals. If you are interested in receiving articles from a journal, please see the [journal article request service](#) page on our website for a list of available journals, as well as directions on how to enroll in the service.



### Southeast Library System

<http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>

Butler • Clay • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton • Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster • Merrick • Nemaha • Nuckolls • Otoe • Pawnee • Polk • Richardson • Saline • Saunders • Seward • Thayer • York

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