



Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities.

Seasonally Thankful

As we head into the holiday season, it's time to celebrate all of the wonderful libraries and librarians within the Western Library System. Whatever type of patrons you serve, remember that you are making a difference in someone's life, even if it's just a passing hello or a simple smile during your day.

Because there are so many obstacles in today's world, whether it's health or family issues, poverty, politics, diverse beliefs, or just the stresses of the day, each one of you needs to be aware that you are changing someone's life for the better, one patron at a time. Whether it's going above and beyond each time you find that missing book, answering a tough reference question, laughing with a patron over something you believe is mundane, or perhaps when just reading a child a story; all of these things have a huge impact on the people you serve. Although simple acts, these can make or break someone's day.

- Jan Jolliffe - Thank you for all that you do, and Happy Holidays! Know that you are all a blessing in many people's lives, and the Western Library System appreciates you!

- Jan Jolliffe -

Turkey Pokey
(Hokey Pokey)

You put your right wing in.
You put your right wing out.
You put your right wing in,
And you shake it all about.
You do the turkey pokey
And you turn your self around.
That's what it's all about.

Additional verses:
Left wing (left arm)
Drumsticks (legs)
Stuffing (tummy)
Wattle (head)
Tail feathers (bottom)
Turkey body (whole self)



<https://www.pinterest.com/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/>

"Libraries are among the few places left on earth where imagination is actively, consistently celebrated and encouraged. To walk into a library is to enter an immersive, multi-dimensional creative space that's open to anyone and everyone. How great is that?" *Bethany Blake*

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Mark Your Calendar

E-rate: What's New for 2018?

December 5, Online, 1:30 –4:00 (Central Time)
using the GoToWebinar
Registration: 10/27—12/3

Nebraska Library Commission Meeting,

Lincoln, November 10

Public Library Statistical Survey Opens

November 13

Trees Along the Trail - Legacy of the Plains,

Gering, NE, 12/2 - 12/22, Help to represent your WLS library with unique handmade ornaments or bookmarks made by each library. Please send to the WLS office by November 27.

25th Annual Letters About Literature Contest

Open now until December 9
<http://www.read.gov/letters/>

WLS Winter Open House

December 21, 3-6 pm. Join us for holiday fun and refreshments, along with the chance to win a library gift basket.

Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- November 15 - What's Up @ the Commission?
- November 29 - Libraries Rock! : Summer Reading Program 2018
- December 6 - Guerrilla Storytime
- December 27 - The Next Best Thing to Having Your Own Gigabit Internet

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/>

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2017-2018 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
11/6 - 11/17	Library Service to Children & Youth	Sally Snyder	10/2 - 10/26
1/22/2018 - 2/2/2018	Communication	Mary Jo Ryan	12/11 - 1/12

(* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).
[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)
[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress
For further information, contact [Holle Duggan](#), NLC Continuing Education Coordinator.



Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.



Nebraska
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***Nebraska Presence: An Anthology of Poetry* Chosen as 2018 One Book One Nebraska**

People across Nebraska are encouraged to read the work of Nebraska poets in 2018 - and then talk about the poems with their friends and neighbors. *Nebraska Presence: An Anthology of Poetry* (The Backwaters Press, 2007) edited by Greg Kosmicki and Mary K. Stillwell was selected as the 2018 One Book One Nebraska at the Nebraska Center for the Book's Celebration of Nebraska Books on October 21.

Poems by more than eighty contemporary Nebraska poets are featured in the collection. This includes Pulitzer Prize winner and former Poet Laureate of the United States Ted Kooser, Nebraska State Poet Twyla Hansen, former State Poet William Kloefkorn, several poets who have had their poems read on Garrison Keillor's *Writer's Almanac* (Greg Kuzma, Marjorie Saiser, Grace Bauer, and Greg Kosmicki), and widely noted poets Hilda Raz, Roy Scheele, Steve Langan, and many others.

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, 2018 at <http://onebook.nebraska.gov>. Updates and activity listings will be posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.

2018 will mark the fourteenth 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.

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."



**Nebraska
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The most up-to-date news releases from the Nebraska Library Commission are always available on the Library Commission Website, <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/publications/newsreleases>.

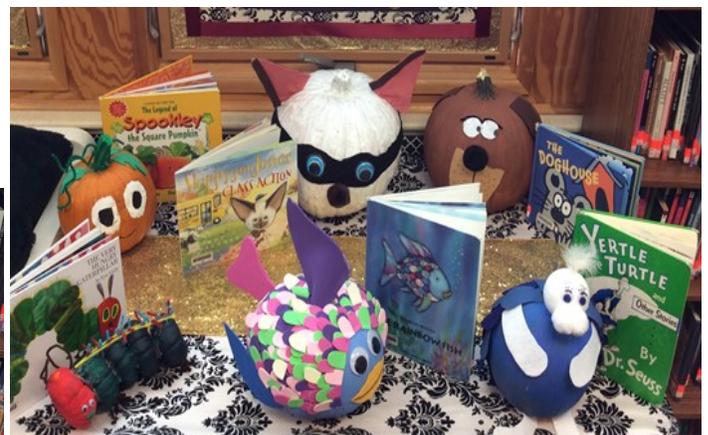
Leyton Elementary & Junior High School Library



Leyton's First Annual Storybook Pumpkin Patch

Our hallways will blossom with Leyton's First Annual Storybook Pumpkin Patch. Our junior high students designed pumpkins to look like a favorite character from a children's book. In this project they were to dive into the heart of the author and decide why he/she created the main character and what the author's purpose was. Then they picked a pumpkin and got busy being creative and turning it into the character. Our students had so much fun with this project and did a fantastic job!

~Leyton Elementary & Junior High School
(Gurley, Nebraska)



Article and photos provided by Dana Morgan and Holly Benish

News Around The System

Hay Springs Public School Library

Hay Springs Public School Library is having a busy month. For two weeks the NPPD Mobile STEM library took over the space. Chad Johnson, Senior Education Specialist for NPPD, was here on Monday, October 23rd, to give orientation tours to students and teachers of Nebraska Public Power District's Mobile MakerSpace Lab. The Lab is part of the Nebraska Public Power District's Pathways to a Technical Future program and has been on loan to schools around the state for two years. The MakerSpace visits a limited number of schools each year and only one visit per school. The MakerSpace heads to Scottsbluff Middle School next.

The Lab includes four types of stations: Make it You, Make it New, Make it Do, and Make an Impact.

Make it DO stations includes a Robotics Innovation Lab, MakeyMakey and Rasberry PI Lab, and an Electronics Lab. What can you DO with the equipment at each station. Ideas involve logic, programming, and creation.

Make it NEW stations include Afinia H800 3D printer, Carvey 3D CNC machine, Engineering Workshop. Students can create new item or adapt designs from other sources.

Make an IMPACT stations include a Sensor Station and Smart Home Internet of Things. Students have experimented with a temperature sensor and a camera-IPad that creates pictures based on temperature.

Make it YOU includes a Cameo cutting machine and a Virtual Reality setup. Students have been making vinyl cutouts to decorate various items. After viewing several VR videos students can use the 360 degree camera to create their own VR video.

The MakerSpace is aimed at Middle and High Schoolers. However, upper elementary students had the opportunity to interact with some of the stations. Parents were invited to check out the MakerSpace during Parent-Teacher conferences.

As the Mobile Lab moved out the Book Fair moved in. On Thursday, the Book Fair Sales will open with a Cookies and Cocoa Open House. Guest readers will read Book Fair selections to students and family.



Chad Johnson giving an orientation to a group of students.



Middle and High School students watching one student use the Virtual Reality goggles.

Pictures and article by Carole Matthews, School Librarian, Hay Springs Public School

WLS Mini-Grant: Hastings Memorial Library

Technology is always changing. Unfortunately, our budgets don't always allow us to change along with it. This is why Hastings Memorial Library in Grant was thrilled to receive a Mini-Grant from Western Library System to upgrade the technology in our Community Room. Our giant old box TV and VCR/DVD combo player were sorely in need of retirement. We were able to use our grant funds to purchase a new 50" flat-screen Smart TV, a new Blu-ray/DVD player, an extra HDMI cord, and two wireless Bluetooth speakers.

This new technology has been awesome for our After School and Summer Reading Programs and storytimes. We have used it to watch movies, listen to music during projects, and broadcast videos and slideshows to enhance our programs. We have also used the Bluetooth speakers in our storytimes to play music for sing-a-longs. The upgraded equipment is also a nice amenity for people who are renting our community room. Businesses and organizations can use the TV for activities such as presentations, continuing education, and teleconferencing. Patrons who rent the room for private parties can watch movies, show slideshows for showers, parties and graduations, and even connect their laptops to broadcast the Nebraska football games! One family who always rents the room for their Thanksgiving celebration over Thanksgiving weekend is especially excited about this prospect.

The TV and Blu-Ray/DVD player are permanent fixtures in the community room. The HDMI cord and Bluetooth Speakers are kept at the circulation desk for safety reasons, but are available to be used upon request. This little project was not a budget priority for us, but receiving this grant allowed us to make needed upgrades and has made a huge difference in the services we are able to offer through our library programming and also services we are able to provide to our community as a whole. Thank you Western Library System for the awesome Mini-Grant!

Article provided by Robin Quinn, Director of Hastings Memorial Library

Paxton Public Library Storytime



A Blast From the Past: Story time celebrated Veteran's Day with the children trying on a World War II helmet (which was my Dad's). This we do almost every year. The children are amazed how heavy it is.

Library board member (Nancy Rochlitz) getting ready to hand out Halloween candy. The library participates in the community Halloween parade where the businesses hand out candy on main street. The businesses who are not on main street set up at various spots. Story time children dressed up as Santa. Santa comes to visit every year!

Article and pictures submitted by Dianne Jay,
Paxton Public Library Director

Chadron Public Library.. Moving Forward!!!



Chadron's Teen area offers a wonderful lounging/learning area, with exceptional gaming components, along with the newest Young Adult Fiction. Harry Potter is always a favorite.



Children's Librarian, Elizabeth Dahl, providing children's Storytime theatrics with "Amelia Earhart" volunteer and the youngest enthusiastic patrons.



Chadron Public Library's newest building addition, providing space for Yoga programs, haunted houses, up-and-coming cooking classes, and future innovative project areas for everyone. Who knows what the future will hold with Rosella's insights on providing every patron with exciting cutting edge programming, cultural preservation, and hands on learning. Kudo's for her passion and perseverance!



Maintaining the proud cultural history of the area with a Native American area.



Chadron Public Library Director, Rosella Tesch



Technology for everyone to research, read, game, and even search for new entrepreneurial opportunities.

Librarians Around The System

WLS's First "Sleuth Escape Room" at Morrill Public Library

Escape Rooms and Creating Community Projects

Several area librarians became "Super Sleuths" when they participated in the newest WLS's "Sleuth Escape Room" at Morrill Public Library using our new Breakout.EDU kits. The participants were "locked in" the library until they solved all of the clues using their detective skills and collaborating together in teams to earn their freedom.



Priscilla Plasencio (Mitchell Public Library) and Christie Clarke (Gering Public Library) are determined to escape.



Sarah Alfred, Morrill Public Library Director, and Board Member Carol Wells work quickly together.



There's always the dynamic duo...winners: Noelle Thompson, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library Director and Peggie DeGarlais-Michael, Library Assistant.



We escaped!!!



It takes teamwork: Becky Henkel, Bayard Public Library Director and Pat Gross, former WLS Interim Director...trying their hardest...

Many thanks to Sarah Alfred, Morrill Public Library Director, for allowing us to converge upon her library for this fun filled, C.E. credit earning program. Good times were had by all!

Would you like to learn how to entice your own library detectives to participate in a real life "sleuthing" game night? Do your afterschool patrons enjoy solving a good mystery? Do your mystery readers want to advance their detective skills up to the next level? The Western Library System now offers Breakout.EDU kits to help you provide your own mystery session for all the detectives, no matter what age, visiting your library. Learn firsthand how fun and mysterious this new program can be in your library.

Librarians Around The System

“Escape Room” Training: Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

According to Peggie DeGarlais-Michael, one of the hardest parts of the Breakout.Edu training session was the prep work and explaining what she wanted everyone to do. Once everyone was to their stations it made much more sense. It’s difficult work when it comes to puzzles and solving them, as you can see from the picture of Jana and Toni below:



Templates used from the Breakout.Edu website for training

Overall it was a great experience and had everyone asking more questions and getting ideas. Peggie found that there were a number of Subject Packs on everything from language and history to math, with various levels of difficulty. There are ideas on Pinterest, Breakout.Edu Sandbox: (<https://sites.google.com/site/digitalbreakoutjb/sandbox>) and on the Breakout.Edu website.

On the digital side, she found a website on how it could be used: (<http://wordpress.barrow.k12.ga.us/21stcenturytips/?p=6989>). This was a great way to get a feel for how some of these games could work in a classroom, office, ect. She thought this would be great to use the digital version for homework assignments, enforcing a strategy or rule in math, having a history quest, or anything you’d need to use as a digital game. Plus, what kid or adult doesn’t like a game? (Hmmm....again, see Jana and Toni above...) There’s also a back-to-the-future game which has a series of stations that involves working together which is in the works for a future teen birthday “Escape Room” game. Such fun!

Pictures and article by Peggie DeGarlais-Michael, Library Assistant,

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Bayard Public Library Open House



Bayard is Batty for Books!



Teen Reads are a huge hit for the spookiest season!
Director Henkel provides Readers' Advisory services.

Becky Henkel, Bayard Public Library Director, "hanging" with the teens!



Sometimes the "older crew" needs a quiet resting place to decompress with a friendly frog...



Displays to charm!



The ultimate goal: NEW PATRONS!!!



Even the newest patron Garryk, with mom Kori, enjoyed the literary festivities!



Enticing the patrons with chocolates and sweets!



The kids have all the fun!



Raffled gifts for the luckiest patrons!

Upcoming Happenings at Your Western Library System

**Western Library System
Winter Open-House**

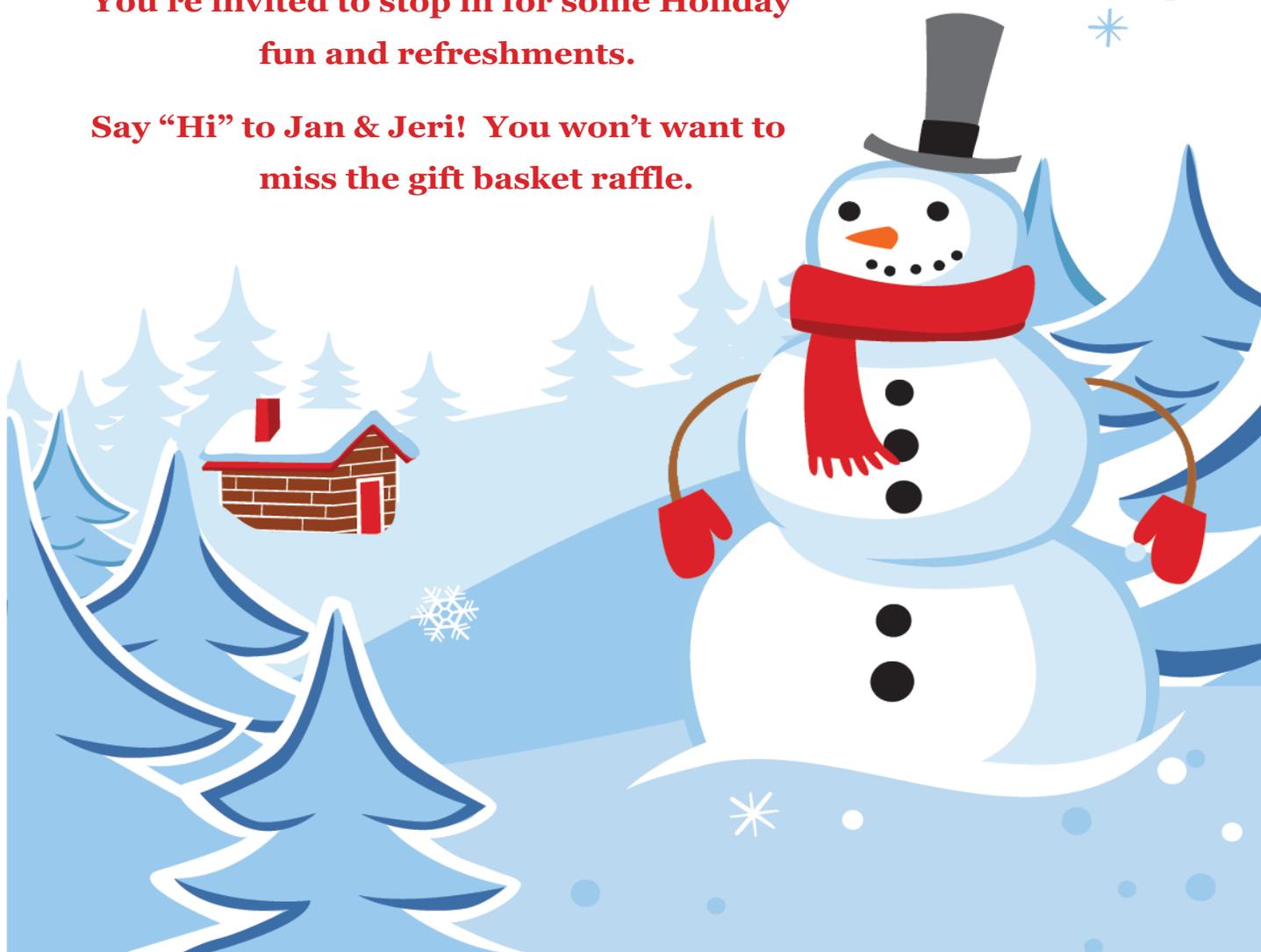
**Where: Railway Office Plaza, 115 Railway St.
Ste. C-114, Scottsbluff, NE**

When: December 21, 2017

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**You're invited to stop in for some Holiday
fun and refreshments.**

**Say "Hi" to Jan & Jeri! You won't want to
miss the gift basket raffle.**



Calling all Library Sleuths!!!

Would you like to entice all of your library detectives to participate in a real life "sleuthing" game night? Do your afterschool patrons enjoy solving a good mystery? Do your mystery readers want to advance their detective skills up to the next level?

The Western Library System now offers Breakout EDU kits to help you provide your own mystery afternoon for all the detectives, no matter what age, visiting your library.

Contact us for more information!



(Phone) 308-632-1350

(Toll-free) 888-879-5303

wlsasst@gmail.com

Public Library

Director's Guidebook



A new library director has to handle a lot of new things.

The [Public Library Director's Guidebook](#) is a compilation of information that should help to answer questions about who's who and what's what. This comprehensive resource is designed for new and not-so-new public library directors. Click on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-R7nr-PN1WE&feature=youtu.be> to view an archived session of NCompass Live from September 6, 2017, to learn what is available in the long-anticipated guidebook.



Nebraska
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Public Library Statistical Survey



The Nebraska Library Commission collects statistical data about public libraries using Bibliostat Collect™ to facilitate the annual Public Library Survey. All libraries interested in being accredited must complete the statistical survey each year.

This Survey will begin on November 13, 2017 and will close on February 16, 2018.

Information provided by
Nebraska Library Commission

News Around The System

Western Library System Services

Cover One Book Repair Service!

The Western Library System has purchased a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. This machine easily binds up to a 2½" thick book and it has a sliding wall to hold smaller books in place. It will also work with legal size and well as regular 8½ x 11" size items. Repaired books will be ready to use in just 20 minutes!



Go to <http://www.coverone.net/> and click on the link for Book Repair Demo on the left-hand side of the page to see it in action.

This machine is perfect to repair books with glued bindings that have “popped” and split into several big chunks, paperbacks that have come out of their covers, and books where individual pages are coming loose.

Although you must bring your own books into the WLS office to make your own repairs, take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements.

Disc Cleaning and Repair!

The Western Library System Office has the RTI ECO-SMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.



From July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.

- If you have more than 10 discs that need repairing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc plus return postage.
- If you come to the WLS Office in Scottsbluff and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 50 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

The RTI ECO-Smart Disc Repair System is amazing. It will repair almost all scratches. However, if the disc is cracked, we cannot fix it.

If you have any questions, please call the WLS office at: 308-632-1350 or Toll Free: 888-879-5303



The Nebraska Library Commission is partnering with the University of Nebraska Lincoln (UNL), Nebraska Innovation Studio, Nebraska Extension, Regional Library Systems, and local public libraries on Nebraska’s Library Innovation Studios: Transforming Rural Communities project to create library makerspaces. The Nebraska Library Commission was recently awarded a National Leadership Grant of \$530,732 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to fund rotating equipment, training, and Community Engagement activities.

If you have questions please contact JoAnn McManus, Nebraska Library Commission Library Innovation Studio Project Manager, 402-471-4870 or 800-3072665, e-mail: joann.mcmanus@nebraska.gov.

For more details visit:

<http://www.nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/InnovationStudios/LibraryInnovationStudiosProjectSummary.pdf>



Now is the time to begin your application process for your own Nebraska Library Innovation Studio!

Don’t wait until the deadline passes, begin planning today!

Western Library System Scholarship Application

- Would you like to attend a conference?
- Would you like to go to MPLA?
- Would you like to go to some of the meetings held around the state?
- Do you need funding for attending a workshop?

WLS has scholarship money available

Up to \$150.00 per event for registration, mileage, meals, etc.
All member libraries are eligible

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/files/2015/07/WLS-Scholarship-Application.pdf>

WLS Board of Directors:

Maryruth Reed, President

Kathy Terrell, Vice President

Jill Hurtt, Secretary

Tammy Howitt-Covalt

Carole Matthews

Allison Reisig

Vickie Retzlaff

Allison Roberts

Ruth Walker

Robin Quinn

***Open seat in District C:
Kimball, Cheyenne & Deuel
Counties**

Western Library System

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Fax: 308-632-3978

Webpage:

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

**Board of Directors bi-monthly meeting
minutes are available in the Western
Library System office.**

Happy Holidays to all!



We currently have an opening for (District C members) on the Western Library System Board for the remainder of the term ending June 30, 2020. This would be a fantastic opportunity for you to become involved and have your voice heard on the WLS Board.

If you are interested in running for this unique position, please send an email to Jeri Clapper, WLS Assistant at wlsassist@gmail.com to place your name on the ballot. Contact the WLS office if you have any questions. We look forward to having each of you consider this opportunity and what you could bring to the table for our WLS Board as a new member. **(District C members only)**

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