

T R a i L S

TWWoA (The Wide World of Abbreviations!)

by Tammi Thiem



TBH, I often SMH in puzzlement when I read posts on FB. Then I LOL when I realize there is just TMI in some of the posts. IMO, I should learn the jargon ASAP. FYI, IDC that IDK all of them. JK. I do care, but BAE, I need to realize that it may be a CWOT and NBD. FWIW, YNK if this will be needed IRL, so I will try JIC.

Does anyone's brain hurt from trying to decipher that paragraph? The world is full of abbreviations, acronyms, reverse acronyms, and initialisms. If people are unfamiliar with these shortened items, they may not understand what is actually meant. For example, I once provided information about an ARSL conference, and a librarian later told me that she tuned me out because she didn't think ARSL was relevant to her. However, when I expounded on the abbreviation by saying "Association of Rural and Small Libraries," she focused again with the realization that this really was something intended for her. It was a lightbulb moment for me, as it made me wonder if my words were getting lost because I wasn't using real words.

Abbreviation is the term that describes acronyms and initialism. Acronyms are abbreviations that are then said as a word, such as "Laser" (Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation) or "NASA" (National Aeronautics and Space Administration). Initialisms are said as letters, such as "FBI" (Federal Bureau of Investigation) or "ATM" (Automated Teller Machine). The abbreviations used in the first paragraph are mostly examples of initialisms except for ASAP (as soon as possible) that is often spoken as a word, thus making it an acronym. Examples of reverse acronyms would be "PIN" (Personal Identification Number) or "STEM" (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), as the abbreviation turns into an existing word from the English Language.

Think of how many abbreviations we use in the library world: NLA is Nebraska Library Association; NLC is Nebraska Library Commission; TRLS is Three Rivers Library System; ALA is American Library Association; ARSL is Association of Rural and Small Libraries; PLA is Public Library Association; YA is Young Adult; ILL is Interlibrary Loan; CIPA is Children's Internet Protection Act; ILS is Integrated Library System and I am certain there are many, many more. Imagine how confusing these would be to someone who is not familiar with library terms.

When speaking with people outside of the library world, and maybe even within, keep in mind that these abbreviations may not have any meaning for those not experienced with them. We do not want people to tune out important information due to miscommunication. If we are taking the time to share information, we want it to be clear. Sometimes it is important to be concise, so these abbreviations do have a place. However, if that makes the meaning unclear, then they are not serving a purpose.

TTYL, B4N, BBBG, GFN, and hopefully this wasn't a TL;DR article! BSAAW!



Meet the TRaILS Staff

Chelsea Morlan

Library Services Assistant



Welcome to the world of the Office Gremlin! We may not have met in person but I'm always around, behind the scenes, helping out. If, in the last seven years or so, you've called the office we've probably spoken, or you've read the newsletter I edit, or maybe scheduled a [Book Kit/STEAM Kit](#). Perhaps you've seen a flyer I designed for workshops, or used the registration form I've created to sign up for one. The best part of this job is that I'm always doing something creative and getting to help some of the best people in the world: librarians.

Outside of the office, I like to read, write novels, make quilts, and get bossed around by my two fabulously old dachshunds.

At the TRaILS Office

Periodic Table Puzzle

Use the periodic table of elements to decipher this quote.
Send your answer to Chelsea at trls.assistant@gmail.com by March 20th to be entered into a prize drawing.

Tungsten/Hydrogen/Astatine/E/Vanadium/Erbium Thorium/E
Carbon/Osmium/T Oxygen/Fluorine Oxygen/Uranium/R
Lithium/Bromine/Argon/Iodine/Einsteinium,
Thorium/E Praseodymium/Iodine/Cerium Iodine/Sulfur
Carbon/Helium/A/Phosphorus Cobalt/M/Protactinium/Rhenium/D T/Oxygen
Thorium/Astatine Oxygen/Fluorine A/Nitrogen
Iodine/G/Nobelium/Radium/Nitrogen/T Sodium/Titanium/Oxygen/Nitrogen.
~ Tungsten/Aluminum/Tellurium/R
Chromium/Oxygen/Nitrogen/Potassium/Iodine/Tellurium

1 H Hydrogen																	2 He Helium
3 Li Lithium	4 Be Beryllium											5 B Boron	6 C Carbon	7 N Nitrogen	8 O Oxygen	9 F Fluorine	10 Ne Neon
11 Na Sodium	12 Mg Magnesium											13 Al Aluminum	14 Si Silicon	15 P Phosphorus	16 S Sulfur	17 Cl Chlorine	18 Ar Argon
19 K Potassium	20 Ca Calcium	21 Sc Scandium	22 Ti Titanium	23 V Vanadium	24 Cr Chromium	25 Mn Manganese	26 Fe Iron	27 Co Cobalt	28 Ni Nickel	29 Cu Copper	30 Zn Zinc	31 Ga Gallium	32 Ge Germanium	33 As Arsenic	34 Se Selenium	35 Br Bromine	36 Kr Krypton
37 Rb Rubidium	38 Sr Strontium	39 Y Yttrium	40 Zr Zirconium	41 Nb Niobium	42 Mo Molybdenum	43 Tc Technetium	44 Ru Ruthenium	45 Rh Rhodium	46 Pd Palladium	47 Ag Silver	48 Cd Cadmium	49 In Indium	50 Sn Tin	51 Sb Antimony	52 Te Tellurium	53 I Iodine	54 Xe Xenon
55 Cs Cesium	56 Ba Barium	57 La Lanthanum	72 Hf Hafnium	73 Ta Tantalum	74 W Tungsten	75 Re Rhenium	76 Os Osmium	77 Ir Iridium	78 Pt Platinum	79 Au Gold	80 Hg Mercury	81 Tl Thallium	82 Pb Lead	83 Bi Bismuth	84 Po Polonium	85 At Astatine	86 Rn Radon
87 Fr Francium	88 Ra Radium	89 Ac Actinium	104 Rf Rutherfordium	105 Db Dubnium	106 Sg Seaborgium	107 Bh Bohrium	108 Hs Hassium	109 Mt Meitnerium	110 Ds Darmstadtium	111 Rg Roentgenium	112 Cn Copernicium	113 Nh Nihonium	114 Fl Flerovium	115 Mc Moscovium	116 Lv Livermorium	117 Ts Tennessine	118 Og Oganesson
58 Ce Cerium	59 Pr Praseodymium	60 Nd Neodymium	61 Pm Promethium	62 Sm Samarium	63 Eu Europium	64 Gd Gadolinium	65 Tb Terbium	66 Dy Dysprosium	67 Ho Holmium	68 Er Erbium	69 Tm Thulium	70 Yb Ytterbium	71 Lu Lutetium				
90 Th Thorium	91 Pa Protactinium	92 U Uranium	93 Np Neptunium	94 Pu Plutonium	95 Am Americium	96 Cm Curium	97 Bk Berkelium	98 Cf Californium	99 Es Einsteinium	100 Fm Fermium	101 Md Mendelevium	102 No Nobelium	103 Lr Lawrencium				

At the TRAILS Office

2023 Summer Reading Workshop - "All Together Now"

by Tammi Thiem

On Monday, January 30th, librarians from all across the Three Rivers Library System got together to share ideas for their upcoming 2023 Summer Reading Programs. The day started with Sally Snyder sharing lots of great books that will enhance programs that fit the summer's theme. Then three staff experts from the Nebraska Extension Office shared several programming ideas that they have created for children. After a lunch delivered by West Point's Pizza Ranch, attendees got a chance to share some craft projects, scheduling details, decorating ideas, and more. It was a fabulous day filled with creativity and camaraderie.



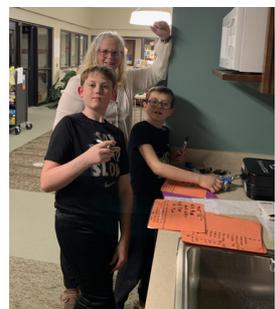
Three Rivers Library System Offers Breakout Box Challenges!

by Tammi Thiem

During the month of February, I had the opportunity to provide some fun Breakout Box challenges to a few libraries in the Three Rivers Library System. If you are interested in this for your library board or patrons, please contact me at tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com. I would love to visit your library with these fun and educational challenges.

On Thursday, February 9th, I visited the Lied Battle Creek Public Library to challenge some elementary-aged children to solve some puzzles and riddles to complete the Winter Wonder(What Happened)Land Breakout Box Challenge. Those lucky kids even got to do some math problems outside of school! They successfully completed the challenges and received some "I <3 My Library" Buttons and some Smarties candies.

On Monday, February 20th, I challenged the Dakota City Library Board to complete the Library Board Breakout Box Challenge. This challenge uses materials from the United for Libraries Tools for Trustees, so it is a great way to delve into the roles and responsibilities of library board members. They solved a crossword puzzle, a pigpen cipher, and even learned a bit of history about the Dewey Decimal System. They used great teamwork to successfully open the box!



On Monday, February 27th, the Pandora's Box Breakout Box Challenge was used at the Plainview Public Library's Family Night. Families worked together to complete cryptograms and answer some riddles about the included story of Pandora. When posed with the question of whether to actually open the box, some took pause, but, in the end, they decided to open the box when they successfully solved all of the puzzles.

Basic Skills

(* Required Class)

Library Technology with Amanda Sweet

Registration Dates: 14 February 2023 - 11 March 2023

Class Dates: 20 March 2023 - 31 March 2023

Introduction to Cataloging (Organization of Materials) *

Registration Dates: 21 February 2023 - 18 March 2023

Class Dates: 1 April 2023 - 30 April 2023

Library Finance with Holli Duggan

Registration Dates: 14 March 2023 - 8 April 2023

Class Dates: 17 April 2023 - 28 April 2023

Upcoming NCompass Live

2023 One Book One Nebraska: 'The Mystery of Hunting's End'

Date: 1 March 2023 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Read the Rainbow: Serving the LGBTQ+ Community in Your Library

Date: 8 March 2023 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Pretty Sweet Tech

Date: 29 March 2023 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

NLC Book Club Spotlight

Book Club Spotlight:

Prairie Lotus

Mackenzie Marrow is the librarian in charge of book clubs at the Nebraska Library Commission and wants to share with everyone the hidden gems in the [NLC's Book Club Collection](#). Below is an excerpt, but to read the full details go to [Mackenzie's blog](#).

Our book today, [Prairie Lotus](#), is a new addition to our collection and is the most recent in Linda Sue Park's bibliography. Being a 2021-22 Golden Sower Novel Nominee, [Prairie Lotus](#) has also earned a Children's Literature Award Honor from the [Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association](#). In addition to being an esteemed author, Park is the founder and curator of Allida Books (a HarperCollins imprint) and a board member for the non-profit [We Need Diverse Books](#) and the [Rabbit Hole museum project](#).

At the beginning of [Prairie Lotus](#), Hanna has three goals, graduate from school, become a dressmaker, and make a real friend. As pioneers, she and her father have been traveling across the west for quite some time when they end up in the small Dakota Territory town of LaForge. Hanna is especially excited to live in town so she can finally attend a real school, just like her late mother dreamed of her doing. But, unfortunately, this isn't as easy as it sounds. Despite being intelligent and resourceful, Hanna is half-Chinese and faces a lot of discrimination from the white settlers who try to stop her from going to school or even running errands.

TRAILS also has 10 copies of [Prairie Lotus](#) available on our [Libib site](#). If you'd like to borrow, contact the office to get it all set up.

Calendar of Events

SKILLS Virtual

Online

2 March 2023
10:00 am - 11:00 am

NLA 2023 Advocacy Day Luncheon

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel - Lincoln

3 March 2023
9:00 am - 1:30 pm

SKILLS

Stanton Public Library

6 March 2023
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

SKILLS Virtual

Online

7 March 2023
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

SKILLS Virtual

Online

15 March 2023
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

SKILLS Virtual

Online

23 March 2023
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

SKILLS Virtual

Online

28 March 2023
10:00 am - 11:00 am

Positively Healthy Workshop

Lied Pierce Public Library

31 March 2023
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

SKILLS

Valley Public Library

7 April 2023
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

TRAILS Annual Meeting

Genoa Indian School Museum

4 August 2023

Scholarship Experiences

2022 NLA Conference

by Katie Hollmann

The 2022 conference was short but sweet. Once again I met new librarians, learned of specific things to try in Verdigre and felt inspired by the whole event. Here are a few highlights for me.

I attended the Wednesday workshop about salvaging materials after a disaster. Though it brought back scary memories of the 2019 flood that surrounded our library and did plenty of damage but not to collections, I felt empowered to learn action steps in the cases of water, mud, fire or mold. Something every library can do today is think through our collections and decide what has priority and would be worth saving. For example, my precious local history materials are right next to an exterior wall. Should I move them? Also, disasters are more often caused by plumbing and windows than catastrophic natural events. In my building, though we have the absolute minimum of plumbing, we do have multiple enormous windows. Hmmm.

The Nebraska Center for the Book was not something I had paid much attention to, yet. It was intriguing to hear it is an affiliate of none other than the Library of Congress. Did you know the public can submit nominations for One Book One Nebraska?

Or that Humanities Nebraska has a speaker ready to go for each selection of One Book One Nebraska?

As usual the keynote addresses were inspiring. It was shocking to learn about the video harassment (aka First Amendment audits) that public librarians across the country have had to endure, including in Norfolk, NE. The speakers on this topic faced the issue fearlessly and gave helpful, specific strategies for coping. Their defensive measures--such as marking staff-only areas and making sure our policies address patron behavior and patron privacy--are the right thing to do and will be helpful when other uncomfortable things spring up in our libraries.

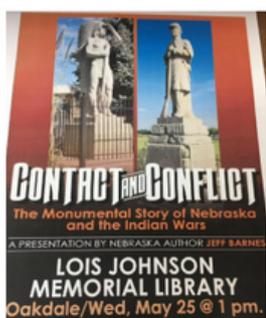
Of course I also appreciate the vendors, especially the booths selling juvenile books for \$5 apiece. What a way to stretch a rural library budget!

Though the conference is going to every-other-year it sounds like there are ideas out there for other networking events for Nebraska librarians. I am looking forward to them.

Humanities Nebraska

by Charlotte Tracy

Jeff Barnes provided a wonderful presentation at the Lois Johnson Memorial Library in Oakdale on Wednesday, May 25th. This presentation featured the Indian wars in Nebraska and the various landmarks found across the state. Thank you to the Three Rivers Library System for the Humanities Nebraska scholarship that funded this event.



Information Station

SGR Conference

by Rose Barcal

SGR stands for Strategic Government Resources. Being familiar with their weekly “10 in 10” e-newsletter (their “Glimpse of Sunshine” is a highlight!), examining their annual conference piqued my interest. Each week, SGR CEO Ron Holifield reviews “over 350 articles, stories, and videos through the lens of a city manager, choosing the top 10 that local government leaders will find interesting and worth spending 10 minutes to review.”

SGR’s conference is the Servant Leadership Conference. Would this conference be a good investment in time, money, and energy for you? One of the presenters summed it up nicely: Authentic Servant Leaders can add the following to their list of mantras: “It’s not about me. It’s not about now.” Meaning, serving is not focused on self or inward, but outward and for others. “It’s not about now” focuses on the future, be it 5, 10, 15 or more years out. What is being built for the future? Servant Leaders mentor to invest in the future and inspire others, so that mentee is a step ahead based on your successes as well as your failures. He also stated that “It’s not about me. It’s not about now.” Is your “path to peace” and I say, don’t we all need that now!!

The conference was intense: every half hour was a new presenter with a pre-recorded introduction which was referred to as the “shotgun approach”...A LOT of information in A LOT of areas but all focusing on servant leadership.

This conference put wind back in my sails. A presenter commented that the information was nothing we haven’t heard before, but to be at a conference with like-minded people sharing amazing insight and stories, and a few tears, I walked away with a new resolve for my community and my library.

Screening Opportunity: New NOVA documentary Weathering the Future

by Maggie Berndt

Looking for programming ideas around Earth Day this April? Or wanting to screen a science documentary this summer? NOVA will premiere a new documentary, *Weathering the Future*, on Wednesday, April 12. This film will be available for libraries and community groups to use for free public events!

Weathering the Future examines the dramatic ways in which our weather is changing. From longer, hotter heat waves, to more intense rainstorms, to megafires and multi-year droughts, the U.S. is experiencing the full range of impacts from a changing global climate. At the same time, many on the front lines are fighting back—innovating solutions, marshaling ancient wisdom, and developing visionary ideas. The lessons they are learning today can help all of us adapt in the years ahead, as the planet gets warmer and our weather gets more extreme.

NOVA will be creating a discussion guide and outreach toolkit to help facilitate community events. Excerpts from the film will be available for free community screenings before April 12. The full film will be available for free screenings after the April 12 broadcast premiere.

If you are interested potentially holding an event, please contact Maggie Berndt, community engagement manager at Nebraska Public Media: mberndt@nebraskapublicmedia.org.

She will share your information with the NOVA team so that you can receive the film for screening and the other supplemental materials when they are available.

[Learn more about the film and NOVA’s “Climate Across America” campaign.](#)

Information Station

Brownstone Book Fund

This year, 100 libraries in Nebraska received a gift of 100 new children's books, ranging from pre-kindergarten through early readers. These books were a donation from the Brownstone Book Fund, a private foundation in New York City, interested in fostering early reading, a love of books and encouraging parents and children to read together.



Creative Aging Arts Program

Creative Aging Arts Program (CAAP) grants pay for programs with teaching artists trained in best practices of creative programming with older adult participants. Select teaching artists from NAC's CAAP Artist Cohort, which is listed with CAAP grant information on the [NAC website](#). During CAAP residencies, artists share their expertise through skill-based, sequential arts lessons in a variety of disciplines. Sessions also foster social engagement among participants, ending with a culminating event to showcase participants' work. Sponsor organizations, including non-profits, senior centers, local agencies on aging, and libraries may apply. Grant applications have a rolling deadline - apply at least six weeks ahead.



THREE RIVERS LIBRARY
SYSTEM PRESENTS:



Get together virtually with librarians to Share Knowledge, Ideas, Learning, and Library Solutions! You are welcome to join any or all of the meetings for networking and discussions. They will be worth 1 Continuing Education Credits each.

Research has shown that networking with fellow librarians is beneficial professional development that improves professional practice, promotes shared leadership, and helps people remain in the profession. To attend, please use [this Zoom Link](#).

2 March 2023 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

7 March 2023 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

15 March 2023 from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

23 March 2023 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

28 March 2023 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am



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 administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Three Rivers Library System presents:

Positively Healthy Workshop



Learn about healthy living topics for all audiences you can tailor to fit your library needs -- all facilitated by the Nebraska Extension Staff. Join us for Tai Chi, healthy activities that are youth oriented, and a Charcuterie Class for lunch!

31 March 2023
from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

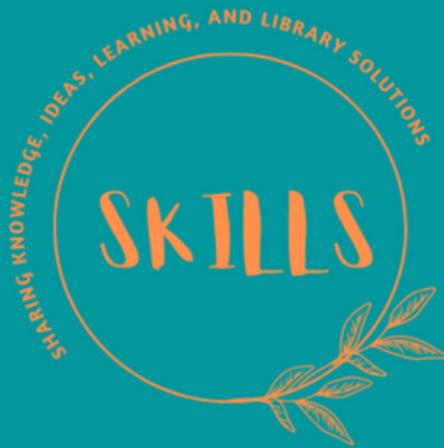
at Lied Pierce Public Library
6 CE available



Registration: \$5
Register: <https://bit.ly/PositivityWorkshop>



THREE RIVERS LIBRARY
SYSTEM PRESENTS:



This Quarter's Topic: Summer Reading Programs

Get together with librarians near you to Share Knowledge, Ideas, Learning, and Library Solutions! You are welcome to join any or all of the meetings for networking and discussions. They will be worth 3 Continuing Education Credits each. If your plans allow, stick around for lunch afterwards.

Research has shown that networking with fellow librarians is beneficial professional development that improves professional practice, promotes shared leadership, and helps people remain in the profession. Do NOT feel guilty when you leave your library for these meetings because isolation is unproductive.

Register at: <http://bit.ly/SKILLSMeeting>

6 March 2023 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at Stanton Public Library

7 April 2023 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at Valley Public Library

5 May 2023 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at Ponca Carnegie Library



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 administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

Be part of the story.

NEA Big Read: Northeast Nebraska

Showcasing a diverse range of themes, voices, and perspectives, the NEA Big Read aims to inspire meaningful conversations, artistic responses, and new discoveries and connections in the community.

You are invited to participate in the [NEA Big Read: Northeast Nebraska!](#)



Northeast Community College is one of 62 organizations nationwide selected to receive a 2022-2023 NEA Big Read grant.

During the spring of 2023, a shared reading experience in the community will focus on the book *Sitting Pretty: The View from My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body* by Rebekah Taussig.

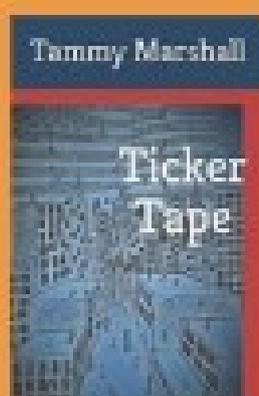
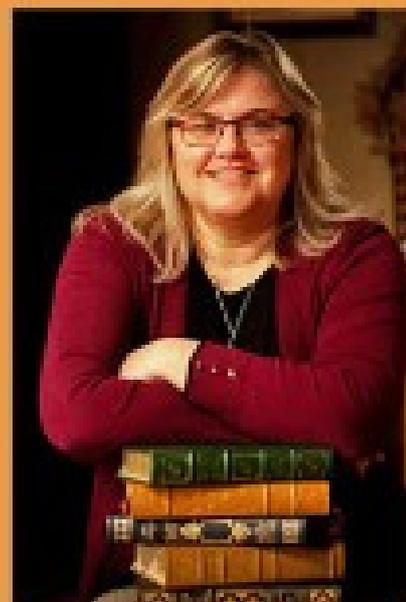
Partners from across the region are coming together to provide activities and events for people of all ages and abilities. The focus will be on disability, disability services, accessibility, and inclusion and will promote open dialogue leading to a deeper understanding of how best to respect and serve one another.

Contact Jen Ippensen at 402-844-7133 or jippense@northeast.edu with questions.

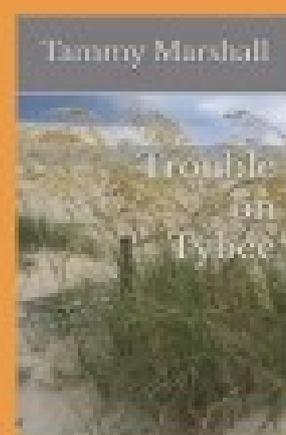


NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Tammy Marshall is a
Nebraska author.
Ask her to visit YOUR
library soon!



Her newest book,
Trouble on Tybee,
is available now!



Learn more about Tammy at website
tammymarshallauthor.wordpress.com

Contact her at
email tamreader@gmail.com



Save Your Spot!!

Space is filling and we encourage you to register for our 7th annual **Breakfast and Books** program on **Saturday March 25, 2023!**

The morning will include a gourmet breakfast buffet, keynotes from [Matthew Forsythe](#), [Nikki McClure](#) (virtual), and the illustrator of the beloved [Fancy Nancy series](#), [Robin Preiss Glasser](#)!

Robin will be joined by her sister, **Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman**. Their brand-new book, [Gloria's Promise](#), debuts the week of our event!

We'll have lots of copies for sale.

Children are welcome to join us for the breakfast event for a special opportunity to meet and visit with our guest authors- including photo opportunities with the creators.

[Please visit this link to register at a very low cost!](#)

Dylan C. Teut, PhD

Plum Creek Literacy Festival Executive Director
Concordia University Nebraska
800 N. Columbia Ave.
Seward, NE 68434
www.cune.edu/plumcreek