

THE WESTERN



SUN

Supporting libraries serving our communities

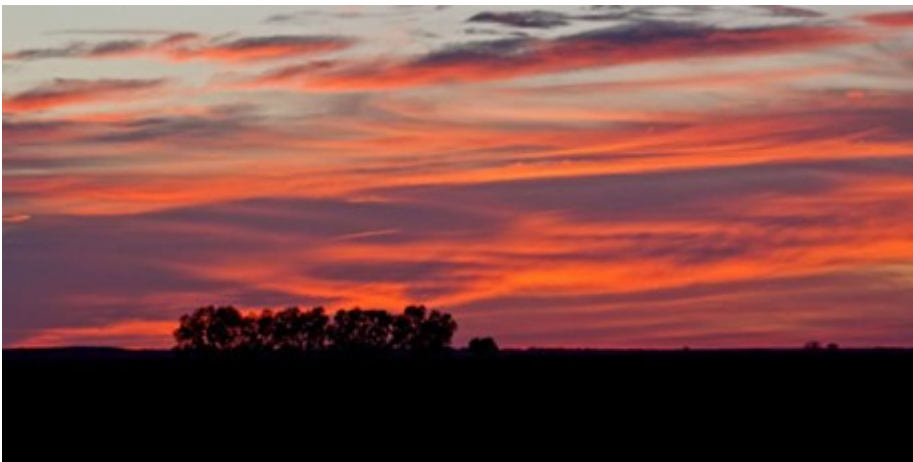
January-February, 2022

Sundries - Nebraska “The Good Life is Calling”

The theme for the 2022 Western Suns will be the Nebraska Tourism Slogan, “The Good Life is Calling.” Each issue will feature articles and tidbits of information about our State.

This issue focuses on one of the greatest assets—our Nebraska libraries. The Nebraska Library Commission’s website contains extensive information on Nebraska libraries. It is the Featured Resource for this Western Sun issue. (see pages 14 and 15)

The photos and quotes are courtesy of Jeff Beiermann the Omaha World Herald



“The traveler crossing Nebraska gets an impression of broad fields, deep skies, wind, and sunlight; clouds racing over prairie swells, herds of cattle grazing on the sand hills; red barns and white farmhouses surrounded by fields of tasseling corn and ripening wheat; windmills and wire fences; and men and women who take their living from the soil”

Nebraska: a Guide to the Cornhusker State” by the Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration, 1939.

“The prairie comes right up to the peaceful hamlets and friendly cities and embraces them. Windmills spin beside picturebook red barns. Cattle graze on rich pastures. An upstart breeze ruffles tawny wheat fields.”

Paul Jordan, National Geographic Society Magazine, March 1974.

Facts about Nebraska

Origin of the name Nebraska:

The word originated from the Otoe Indians. It means “flat water” and refers to the Platte River that flows through the state.

The motto is: “Equality Before The Law” indicating its willingness to open voting to all citizens.





“A lot of people feel Nebraska is a rather dull, barren and plowed-under place. I find Nebraska to be one of the most fascinating, most intriguing places to live” John Janovy, author of the *Keith County Journal* a collection of essays on nature.

Additional quotes about Nebraska

“It is quite possible, of course, that we blindly passed comfortable stopping places, but to us that whole vast distance from Omaha to Cheyenne was one to be crossed with as little stop-over as possible. Aside from questions of accommodations and speed laws, the interminable distance was in itself an unforgettably wonderful experience. It gave us an impression of the lavish immensity of our own county as nothing else could.”

Emily Post from *By Motor to the Golden Gate*, 1916

“Anyone who spends time on the road knows there's something special about being in the middle of Utah or Nebraska - you sit with it, and there's a peace about it. You can go left or right, and it opens up all kinds of doors. You take your own path.”

Jason Momoa

“My mom is painfully sweet; she's from Nebraska.”

Gabrielle Union

Shout out to Nebraska Educators—especially our School Librarians

The Rural Radio Network reported this story.

A Nebraska rancher is showing his appreciation for educators across the globe with his latest cattle art design. David Schuler, a rancher near Bridgeport, Nebraska, said he has heard first hand the struggles and challenges that educators have faced this year.

“Being in the agriculture industry, I am familiar with long days and increased stress,” Schuler said. “From one critical industry to another, I want to thank all of those who are educating the next generation.”

“The last two years have shown us just how formative educators are in shaping the future,” Schuler said. “This Christmas season, know that your hard work does not go unnoticed and we’re so grateful for all that you do in and out of the classroom.”

Schuler and his cattle sent this message to thank educators for their hard work during the pandemic. He used his feed wagon to spread feed in the shape of an apple. His red angus cattle did the rest of the work while he flew his drone overhead to snap a picture.



Calendar

A collection of events for displays, programming, workshops and fun

January

[National Braille Literacy Month](#)

[National Mentoring Month](#)

[National Oatmeal Month](#)

To honor National Oatmeal month, the City of Lafayette Colorado hosts an Oatmeal Festival. The festival, started in 1996, promotes exercise and healthful eating. The highlight of the Festival is the “Oatmeal “Bar” which features 80 toppings. Quaker Oats is donating 62 pounds of kettle oats. The traditional 5K run will be held virtually this year, due to Covid.

17: [Martin Luther King Day of Service](#)

19: [National Popcorn Day](#)

According to a 2018 report from the Agricultural Marketing Research Group, Nebraska is the top popcorn-producing state and produced 353.7 million pounds of shelled popcorn, or 44% of all popcorn production.

February

[National Bird Feeding Month](#)

[National Embroidery Month](#)

[American Heart Month](#)

12: [Global Movie Day](#) (followed by the Academy of Arts “Oscars” Awards on the 13th)

17: [Random Acts of Kindness Day](#)

[Information from the Random Acts of Kindness.org website](#)

21: [President’s Day](#)

22: Summer Reading Workshop—Hastings Memorial Library, Grant (see page 17 for more information)

24: Summer Reading Workshop—Alliance Public Library, Alliance



Monthly scheduled “chats” with other librarians:



Tiny & Mighty. Tiny Tuesday @9:00 and Wee Wednesday @1:00 Mountain Time. Tiny & Mighty is a special interest group of the Nebraska Library Association and is open to everyone even if you are not a member. Some months there are topics and every month people are encouraged to bring up situations where some group input is welcome. E-mail nlatingandmighty@gmail.com for the link to the chats.

Mountain Plains Library Association. Chew and Chat, the fourth Wednesday @Noon Mountain Time. Open to all library staff
[Registration](#)

Nebraska Library Association. Third Thursday Chat @10:00 Mountain Time. (This chat requires membership) Remember that the Western Library System offers scholarships (see page 19)

Best Books of 2021

Jan Jolliffe

Picture Books:

Khan, Naaz *Room For Everyone*. Illustrated by Mercè López. Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy. 2021.

Wahl, Phoebe *Little Witch Hazel: A Year In The Forest*. Tundra Books. 2021.

Floca, Brian *Keeping The City Going*. Illustrated by Brian Floca. Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy. 2021.

Wells, Rosemary *The Welcome Chair*. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books. 2021.

Fan, Terry and Eric *It Fell From The Sky*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2021.

Elementary & Middle Readers:

(Nonfiction)

Morales, Areli *Areli Is A Dreamer: A True Story By Areli Morales, A DACA Recipient*. Illustrated by Luisa Uribe. Random House Children's Books. 2021. PreS-Gr2

Burgess, Matthew *Make Meatballs Sing: The Life And Art Of Corita Kent*. Illustrated by Kara Kramer. Enchanted Lion. 2021. Gr1-4

Sis, Peter *Nicky & Vera: A Quiet Hero Of The Holocaust And The Children He Rescued*. Norton Young Readers. 2021. Gr2-5

Todd, Traci N. *Nina: A Story Of Nina Simone*. Illustrated by Christian Robinson. Putnam. 2021. Gr2-6

Esperón, María García *The Sea-Ringed World: Sacred Stories Of The Americas*. Illustrated by Amanda Mijangos. Levine Querido Publishing. 2021. Gr3-9

(Fiction)

Holm, Jennifer L. *The Lion Of Mars*. Random House. 2021.

Bruchac, Joseph *Rez Dogs*. Dial Books. 2021. Gr4-7

Grehan, Meg *The Deepest Breath* Little Island Paperback. 2019. Gr3-7

Gardner, P.J. *Horace & Bunwinkle*. Illustrated by David Mottram. Balzer + Bray. 2021.

(Also available: *Horace & Bunwinkle #2 The Case Of The Rascally Raccoon.*)

Kramer, J. Kasper *The List Of Unspeakable Fears*. Atheneum. 2021. Gr4-7

Older Readers:

Draper, Sharon M. *Out Of My Heart*. Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books. 2021. Gr5 and up

Korman, Gordon *Linked* Scholastic, Inc. 2021. Gr5 and up

Kestler, Liz *When The World Was Ours. Aladdin*. 2021. Gr7-12

Morris, Brittney *The Cost Of Knowing*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2021. Gr7-12

Riordan, Rick *Daughter Of The Deep*. Disney-Hyperion. 2021. Gr5 and up

Young Adult:

Okorafor, Nnedi *Akata Woman*. Penguin Random House. 2022. (The Nsibidi Scripts #3)

Gilbert, Kelly Loy *When We Were Infinite*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2021.

Boulley, Angeline *Firekeeper's Daughter*. Henry, Holt and Co. 2021.

Caletti, Deb *One Great Lie*. Atheneum. 2021.

Jackson, Holly *As Good AS Dead*. Delacorte Press. 2021. (A Good Girl's Guide To Murder #3)

Adult

(Nonfiction)

King, Ross *The Bookseller of Florence: The Story Of The Manuscripts That Illuminated The Renaissance*. Atlantic Monthly. 2021.

Tubbs, Anna Malaika *The Three Mothers: How the Mothers Of Martin Luther king, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation*. Flatiron Books. 2021.

Miles, Tiya *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake*. Random House. 2021.

Packer, George *Last Best Hope: America In Crisis and Renewal*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 2021.

Radtke, Kristen *Seek You: A Journey Through American Loneliness*. Pantheon Books. 2021. (Graphic Novel)

Brown, Daniel James *Facing The Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II*. Viking. 2021.

(Fiction)

Raina, Rahul *How To Kidnap the Rich*. Harper Perennial. 2021.

Engel, Patricia *Infinite Country: A Novel* Avid Reader Press/Simon Schuster. 2021

Strawser, Jessica *A Million Reasons Why*. St. Martin's Press. 2021.

Powers, Richard *Bewilderment: A Novel*. W.W. Norton Company. 2021.

Erdrich, Louise *The Sentence: A Novel*. Harper. 2021.

(Mystery & Thriller)

Cosby, S.A. *Razorblade Tears*. Flatiron Books. 2021.

Hawkins, Rachel *The Wife Upstairs: A Novel*. St. Martin's Press. 2021.

Simmons, Kelly *Not My Boy*. Sourcebooks. 2021.

Lapena, Shari *Not A Happy Family*. Pamela Dorman Books. 2021.

Hepworth, Sally *The Good Sister*. St. Martin's Press. 2021.

(Memoir & Biography)

Geller, Danielle *Dog Flowers: A Memoir*. One World. 2021.

Broome, Brian *Punch Me Up To The Gods: A Novel*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 2021.

Cooke, Julia *Come Fly the World: The Jet-Age Story of the Women of Pan Am*. Mariner Books. 2021.

Jaouad, Suleika *Between Two Kingdoms: A Memoir Of A Life Interrupted*. Random House. 2021.

Foster, Sutton *Hooked: How Crafting Saved My life*. Grand Central Publishing. 2021.

(Historical Fiction)

Greeley, Molly *The Heiress: The Revelations of Anne de Bourgh*. Morrow. 2021.

Boschwitz, Ulrich Alexander, Philip Boehm (Translator), Andre Aciman (Preface) *The Passenger*. Metropolitan Books. 2021. (Translated from the 1938 edition)

Benedict, Marie and Victoria Christopher Murray *The Personal Librarian*. Berkley Books. 2021.

Scottoline, Lisa *Eternal*. Putnam. 2021.

Quinn, Kate *The Rose Code*. William Morrow. 2021.

Around the Sun

Sidney Public Library, Larami Baggs

The Friends of the Sidney Public Library group decorated our front windows for the Cheyenne County Chamber window decorating contest. This year's theme was "Christmas Carols" and the Friends decided to decorate with "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas."



The Sidney Public Library has gotten in two new displays. The first image (the octagon display) is seen as soon as patrons walk through the front door. The display holds 4+ different displays for adult readers that are switched out monthly and refilled through the month as needed.

The second image (the tall four sided display) is located in the juvenile and teen area. Three sides hold the new books that have been ordered in over the last 3 months. The fourth side is used to hold 1-2 different displays for juvenile and teen readers that are switched out monthly and refilled through the month as needed.



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library—Ethan Nelson

The past year at the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library has been a year of growth, exciting new ideas and programs, and a return to normalcy while still adapting to the myriad changes and disruptions wrought by the COVID 19 pandemic.

Despite all the uncertainty in 2021, the children's program had an amazing turnout for their summer reading program. We had 1,626 kids participate in the reading program!

The Lego Club for children ages 3-11 is also going strong, with an average of 57 children and adults coming to each meeting this fall.

In-person storytimes have also returned for preschool aged children. The theme for this year's storytime was "Wild Critters," and the highlight of the year was when the Scottsbluff Fire Department came to storytime to demonstrate how the fire trucks and hoses work.

The teen program has undergone some big changes in 2021 as well. Teen librarian Elaine Bleisch has started two new programs: the first program, called "STEAMPunks," allows children to complete fun and engaging projects while learning about science, technology, art, and math. And the other new program, called "This is NOT a Book Club," is a group for teens who don't necessarily have time to read a book every month, but would still like to meet up and share their love of reading through group activities. The teen summer reading program also had a great turnout, with over 220 teens registering.

And lastly, the adult program not only celebrated a successful adult reading program in the fall, library assistants Jill Winchell and Ethan Nelson also introduced several new programs for adults and families. One of these new programs is the Scottsbluff Library Board Game Club, which meets once a month to play games in the library's meeting room. So far, about 10-20 adults and children have been coming to each meeting. Another new program was the "Read the Rainbow" challenge for the month of March. For every different colored book that a person checked out and read, they got a ticket into a grand prize drawing for a (green!) Yeti tumbler and a Bluetooth speaker. We had 122 adults register for the program! Jill also started a seed library which ran through spring and summer. Basically, patrons could take as many packets of seeds as they needed, while they were also encouraged to donate back seeds of their own. We had several very enthusiastic, botanically inclined patrons donate hundreds of seeds to the library!

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library—Liz Millay

In December, the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library held Wrap it Up events on Wednesdays beginning the 1st through the 22nd from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. During these events, community members were able to come to the library meeting room and use donated wrapping materials to wrap any gifts they brought in for free.

Beginning in early November, the library began advertising via social media, tv media, and flyers for donations of wrapping materials. Accepted materials included wrapping paper, gift bags, boxes, ribbon, and holiday cards. Anyone who brought in donation materials were entered into a drawing for a \$25 Visa Gift Card. Donations were accepted from November 8th until December 17th and during that time, the library received over 100 rolls of wrapping paper along with countless gift bags and rolls of ribbon.

This event was created to take a little stress out of the holidays for community members by providing all wrapping materials free of charge, as well as to give people a place to wrap gifts away from any possible prying eyes. The library has had a lot of engagement with this program, with more and more people coming every week as it gets closer to Christmas. As of the third Wrap it Up event on 12/15, over 110 gifts had been wrapped. The library is planning on storing all unused donations after the final event on 12/22 to use for Wrap it Up events next year.



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library—Elaine Bleisch

Teen Events at LSPL, Fall/Winter of 2021

The LSPL Teen Advisory Council helped plan a Halloween Murder Mystery Party in October. Teens were asked to attend in costume as their favorite literary character and in addition to several characters from Harry Potter and “The Hunger Games,” teens came as the Cowardly Lion from “The Wizard of Oz,” a copy cat, and “every heroine from every teen romance novel.”

A new program began in September that explores science, technology, art, performance, and more. Entitled STEAMPunks, it is aimed at kids in the third-eighth grades. The first month they tackled the science of slime; in October the focus switched to technology with computer coding and in November and December the kids learned about 3-D printers and the Cricut cutting machine. In the new year, participants will learn about math, performance, journaling, making videos, and physics.

Our teen book club made “Book Nooks” in December, using houses and trees cut by the Cricut and some 3-D printed snowmen and trees. They used the covers of old, discarded books to house their winter scenes that they can display on a bookshelf at home.



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library—Ethan Nelson

The Lied Scottsbluff Public Library is excited to announce the beginning of a new program: the Scottsbluff Library Board Game Club! The Board Game Club meets on the third Saturday of every month and will be held in the library's meeting room. Patrons can feel free to come by anytime between 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm. We welcome folks who only have a few minutes for a quick game, as well as patrons who would like to spend the whole afternoon gaming! Refreshments will be served and everyone who comes will be entered to win a door prize. All ages are welcome to attend; we have games suitable for adults, teens, and young children.

I came up with the idea for starting a board game club when my director, Erin Aschenbrenner, asked me to research and compile a list of board games that we could purchase for the library. I have previously participated in board game groups here in Scottsbluff and then at college, so I was immediately excited for the educational potential that a board game club could have at the library. We ended up buying more than 45 games for the new board game collection and we are currently circulating them to patrons, who can check out up to two games at a time for two weeks.

Board games are a great addition to our library's collection because they further the library's goals of providing high quality public education to all ages. Board games have seen a renaissance in recent years and we have incorporated many modern games into our collection; while we have several classics such as Sorry!, Scrabble, Chess, and Cribbage, we also have a wide variety of newer games, such as Terraforming Mars, 7 Wonders, Cosmic Encounter, and Jaipur, to name a few. I have compiled a list of all the games we have in a folder for patrons to browse through with a description of each game, the mechanisms the game uses, and the "weight" of the game, or how complex the game is. Games with a heavier weight, such as Chess or Terraforming Mars, have very little or no randomness; each choice requires strategic thought and the player assumes full responsibility for every decision he or she makes. Other games, such as Sorry!, are considered to have a light weight, since most moves the player makes are determined by random dice rolls or card draws.

The great thing about starting a library board game group is that the initial startup costs can be minimal. Libraries do not necessarily have to buy games; patrons could bring their own board games to start a gaming club, and there are plenty of online resources and webinars that demonstrate how libraries can create their own gaming programs for free. One great webinar that I watched recently showed how a library with a small budget created life sized board games for no cost using library supplies and resources. And if a library does decide to start circulating games, they definitely don't have to buy the newest, most expensive games on the market; many board games are relatively cheap, especially some of the classics such as Sorry!, Sequence, Scrabble, Chess, and Checkers.

Board games are an important educational tool because they develop skills in logic, communication, social interaction, math and counting, memory, and pattern recognition. One of my favorite aspects of tabletop gaming is the social element which is often lacking in video games. Board games are not always purely competitive; they can rely on social deduction, such as one of the games in our collection, "The Resistance," where a group of spies with hidden identities tries to foil the plans of the other team. Or some games, such as "Forbidden Island," can be collaborative, where all the players work together to win. These social aspects of board games can unite groups of people who know nothing else about each other. As opposed to video or online games, board games fully engage people with one another, utilize so many different aspects of communication and body language, and can foster an atmosphere of teamwork and shared fun that is difficult to find anywhere else.

I would like to thank the librarians in our technical services department, Roberta Boyd, Michael Wright, and Dawn Tallmon, who worked many, many hours to get all our board games processed and ready for patrons to check out in time for the board game club's first meeting.



Note: The Star-Herald featured the Board Game program with an online and print article, December 23, 2021. Olivia Wieseler wrote the article and Brad Staman was the photographer.





*February 4, 2022 - February 20 2022*****

Explore the Winter Olympics

Meet Bing Dwen Dwen



Books:

Picture Books:

A is for Axel, Kurt Browning, Illustrated by Melanie Rode, 2016

Dream Big Little Pig, Kristi Yamaguchi, Illustrated by Tim Bowers, 2021

Ice Breaker, Rose Vara, Illustrated by Claire Almon, 2019

Snowman Paul at the Winter Olympics, Yossi Lapid, 2016

Who is Chloe Kim? Stephanie Loh, 2022

General Books:

Curling, Ashley Gish, 2022

Driven to Ride, Mike Schultz, 2022

Individual Sports of the Winter Games, Aaron Derr and Thomas Sperling, 2020

Lindsey Vonn: Olympic Ski Champion, Marty Gitlin, 2019

Miracle in Lake Placid, The Greatest Hockey Story Ever Told, John Gilber, 2019

Olympic Records, Karen Price, 2021

What Are the Winter Olympics (What Was?) Gail Herman, 2021

Movies:

Cool Runnings, 1993. Disney

Downhill Racer, 1969. Paramount Pictures

Eddie the Eagle, 2016. Twentieth Century Fox

Miracle, 2004, Disney

Red Army, 2014, Sony Pictures Classics

Online Resources:

[Teachers Pay Teachers](#) is an excellent resource for Olympic Resources and more. There is a charge to download most of the activities.

[Twinkl](#) provides more than 525, 000 resources that are “teacher-created”

***As of the publication of the Western Sun Newsletter, the Olympics are still on schedule. The USA will not be sending delegates and the National Hockey League will not send players named to the USA Olympic Hockey Team. The team will consist of amateur and players representing other hockey leagues.

Professional Development

EMPORIA STATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (SLIM)



Wooseob Jeong, Dean of the Emporia State University School of Library and Information (SLIM) provided the following information.

“SLIM has offered leading programs to the world of library sciences since 1902. Over the years, SLIM has pursued innovative instruction and modalities to ensure students get both the quality and convenience they are looking for. Our ALA-accredited MLS program is now fully online, ensuring that students will have access to our program from anywhere. The program has a competitive out of state rate of about \$19,000 for the whole degree. SLIM has rolling admissions, so students can start in late January, May or August. For more information, contact David Willis, academic advisor, at dwillis3@emporia.edu or 620-794-9001.”



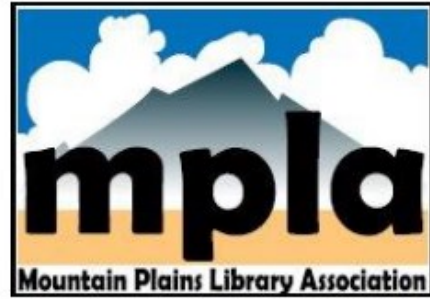
Library and Information Services Program Description

Are you looking for a high-tech career that is fast paced, and involves working with people? As libraries increasingly use new technologies the duties of library and information services (LIS) specialists will expand and evolve accordingly. LIS specialists assist with customizing databases and instruct patrons in how to use computer systems to access data. These specialists work in large libraries as well as in rural areas.

In cooperation with the Nebraska Library Commission, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), Central Community College (CCC) offers two options for students: a certificate program in Library and Information Services and an Associate of Arts degree which students can complete in as little as two years. The LIBR courses in the certificate program are designed to provide the skills necessary for certification as a public librarian in Nebraska, with an emphasis on rural needs. The AA degree option provides an opportunity for students to transfer to UNO for completion of a baccalaureate degree if they choose.

The Library and Information Services program will provide information about services requiring technical skills in such vital areas as circulation of materials, acquisition, and processing of all types of materials. The program's courses focus particularly on information resources and management of a small library.

Purpose: In order to serve a critical need for rural librarians in Nebraska, Central Community College offers a certificate program in Library and Information Services. The purpose of this certificate is to provide necessary course work to be certified by the Nebraska Library Commission. The program is an 18 credit hour program, all of which are available online.



Membership Advantages

Continuing education opportunities including conferences, workshops and special seminars.

First year Personal membership dues are half price!

Joint annual conferences with member states providing a marketplace of ideas where individuals can share their experience and talent with other librarians.

MPLA Awards recognize outstanding contributions to local, state and regional library services.

Opportunity for members to contribute to the profession.

Professional Development Grants for course work, institutes and workshops.

Information exchange and educational programs about technological developments and innovative library programming undertaken by MPLA libraries.

AND MORE!

MPLA bases its success on an active, enthusiastic, sharing membership. Where our people are so few and distances are so great, each librarian, staff member and library is a vital resource.

Reprinted with permission of Melanie Argo,
MPLA Newsletter Editor

Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

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

Nebraska Libraries

About Us ▶

Accreditation • Certification ▶

Blogs • Publications ▶

Children • YA ▶

Collections at NLC ▶

Discounts • Group Purchases ▶

Education • Training ▶

Government Documents ▶

Grants • Funding • E-rate ▶

Jobs • Careers • Now Hiring ▶

Library Management ▶

Library Organizations ▶

Nebraska Libraries

Reference • ILL ▶

Regional Library Systems ▶

Talking Books & Braille ▶

Directories

- Academic Libraries
- Federal Documents Depositories
- Institutional Libraries
- Library Directory
- Library Internet Sites
- OCLC Member Libraries
- Public Libraries
- School Libraries / Media Centers
- Special Libraries
- State Documents Depositories

History

- Carnegie Libraries
- Centennial: Libraries for the Centuries
- Library Founding Dates
- Library History Sites

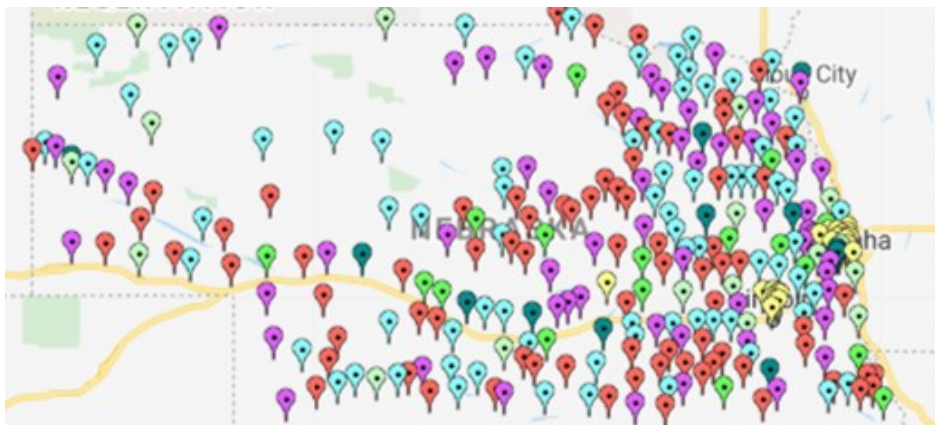
Statistics

- Public Library Map
- Public Library Statistical Data

... More

- Bookmobiles in Nebraska
- Combined Joint Libraries
- Nebraska Regional Library Systems
- Creative, Innovative, & MakerSpaces in NE
- Nebraska Archives Online

Explore this section of the NLC website to learn about Nebraska library information—history, directory and statistics. Locations of Public Libraries in Nebraska. On the website, if you click on the “pins” you will be connected with information on each library



NebraskAccess

Home

NebraskAccess home

About

What is NebraskAccess?

Help

How to use the databases

Contact

Nebraska Library
Commission

Ask A Librarian

Email or phone

<http://nebraskaccess.nebraska.gov/> Provides valuable information on Nebraska Libraries

Library Information

(catalogs, directories, statistics)

Nebraska Information

(regional information, student reports)

Nebraska FAQs

(criminal records, legal age, state employee salaries)

Find Libraries in Nebraska

Nebraska Libraries

- Academic
- Institutional
- Public
- School Libraries/Media Centers
- Special

Other Listings

- [Nebraska Library Directory](#)
- [Nebraska Library Internet Sites](#)
- [Public Library Statistical Data Files to Download](#)

Big Talk from Small Libraries Conference News

Mark your calendars for this free one-day online conference Friday, February 25, 2022 between 8:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Central Time) using the GoToWebinar online meeting service.

Better yet, be a speaker at this conference designed for small libraries of all types (academic, public, school, tribal and special). This national conference is looking for speakers for seven 50-minute and four 10-minute “lightning round” presentations. Proposals are due January 14, 2022.

[More information and proposal form.](#)

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
Teen Titles of 2021: Books They Will Read	January 5
One Book One Nebraska: The Bones of Paradise	January 12
If You Build it. Will They Come? Makerspaces Work in Small, Rural Libraries	January 19
Pretty Sweet Tech	January 26
Intentional Design: Crafting a Mutually Beneficial Internship Program in a University Archives	February 2

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
2/7 - 2/18	<u>Customer Service*</u>	Christa Porter	1/3 - 1/28
3/7 - 3/18	<u>Library Governance</u>		1/31 - 2/28
3/21 - 4/1	<u>Library Technology</u>	Amanda Sweet	2/14 - 3/11
4/1 - 4/30	<u>Introduction to Cataloging (Organization of Materials)*</u>	Self-paced	2/21 - 3/18
4/18 - 4/29	<u>Library Finance</u>	Holli Duggan	3/14 - 4/8
5/9 - 5/20	<u>Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*</u>	Holli Duggan	4/4 - 5/2
6/6 - 6/17	<u>Readers' Advisory</u>		5/2 - 5/30
7/4 - 7/15	<u>Reference</u>	Christa Porter	5/30 - 6/24
7/25 - 8/5	<u>Library Policy</u>		6/20 - 7/15
8/15 - 8/26	<u>Collection Management*</u>		7/11 - 8/5
8/29 - 9/9	<u>Programming & Outreach</u>	Christa Porter	7/25 - 8/19
9/19 - 9/30	<u>Community & Library*</u>	Sam Shaw	8/15 - 9/9
10/17 - 10/28	<u>Management/Supervision</u>	Holli Duggan	9/12 - 10/7
11/7 - 11/18	<u>Leadership</u>	Holli Duggan	9/26 - 10/21
11/28 - 12/9	<u>Library Services to Children & Teens</u>	Sally Snyder	10/24 - 11/18

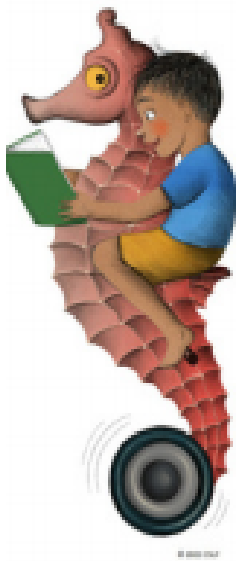


Western Library System Summer Reading Workshops 2022

DISCOVER TREASURES and have a WHALE OF A GOOD TIME at the 2022 Summer Reading Program,

“Oceans of Possibilities!”

Sally Snyder will take us into uncharted territories with all her recommended children’s underwater adventure books.



Tuesday, February 22: Hastings Memorial Library, Grant (In-person, Virtual and recorded!!!!)

Thursday, February 24, Alliance Public Library, Alliance (In-person only)

9:30 Registration and 10:00- 2:00 Workshop

No cost

Lunch will be provided for in-person attendees.

4 CE’s will be given to each attendee.

Registration information coming soon!

MONEY FOR YOUR LIBRARIES

The American Library Association (ALA) invites library workers to apply for the second annual [Peggy Barber Tribute Grant](#), a programming grant named after the transformative ALA leader responsible for the creation of National Library Week and the Celebrity READ series.

The Peggy Barber Tribute Grant is an annual grant that recognizes, promotes, and supports meaningful programs in libraries that have limited and/or no access to budgetary support for programming. This grant aims to help ease budget challenges by annually awarding three libraries \$2,500 to support a proposed program, program series, or programming effort.

Applications for the 2021 award will be accepted from December 1, 2021, to February 1, 2022. [Read the grant guidelines and apply online.](#)

Each year, the grant will focus on supporting a specific type of library programming. For the 2021–2022 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications for a grant to support humanities-based programming. Proposed programs may be in-person or virtual and should take into consideration local health and safety regulations related to COVID-19.

All library types — including public, academic, K-12, tribal and special libraries — in the U.S. or U.S. territories are eligible. Applicants must have a personal or institutional membership with either the [American Library Association](#) or the [Association for Rural & Small Libraries](#).

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Formula Grant

Most of the public libraries in the Western Library System completed their grant application and received their money. If not there is still time!

Due: January 14, 2022 (Deadline extended)

Each legally established public library that applies will receive a base amount of \$3,750, plus a per capita amount of .275 per capita. This is a non-competitive grant. For more information on the program, go to the [website](#). The amount each library will receive and the progress of the application is available on the [Formula Grant Chart](#).

[Online Application](#)

This is federal funding from IMLS and must meet certain criteria is defined on the website.

Penguin Random House and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries Grant

Penguin Random House and [The Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#) (ARSL) announced in a combined press release the news concerning a rolling grant program to recognize rural, small and tribal libraries that support underserved communities in the U.S. and U.S. territories.

The program will award grants of up to \$2,500 to libraries that demonstrate a true need. Grants are not limited to literacy and may be used for everything from library programming and books to resources like hotspots that help community members important information. In-kind donations will also be considered.

Penguin Random House and ARSL have worked together to ensure the application process is simple and straightforward to remove as many barriers to applying for a grant as possible. For the award application and more information about the program, please visit the info page: <https://www.arsl.org/prh-grant>.

Please forward any questions about the application process to the ARSL office at info@arsl.org.

Project Reports are due February 7, 2023.

Submission Window	Award Notification Deadline
December 20, 2021-February 11, 2022	April 4, 2022
February 14, 2022-April 8, 2022	May 27, 2022
April 11, 2022- June 3, 2022	July 29, 2022

MONEY FOR YOU!

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

The Western Library System is here to assist. All you need to do is :

Apply for a scholarship which will be reviewed by the WLS Board's Scholarship Committee for approval.

Provide a report of the activity and the benefit of the scholarship for the Western Sun.

[Online Application:](#) or complete the information below and e-mail or mail toL

Western Library System
 615 S. Beltline Hwy West
 Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Email: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

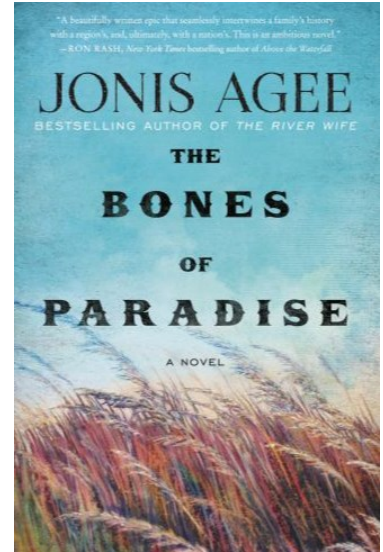
Name:	
Library/School Agency:	
Phone and Email:	
Event Date:	
Requested Amount:	

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

2022 One Book One Nebraska ~ *The Bones of Paradise*

During 2022, join fellow Nebraskans by reading and discussing *The Bones of Paradise: A Novel* (William Morrow, 2016). The novel was written by Jonis Agee, a native Nebraskan and was selected for the 2022 One Book One Nebraska.

The press release announcing the selection stated “*The Bones of Paradise* is a multigenerational family saga set in the unforgiving Nebraska Sand Hills in the years following the massacre at Wounded Knee—it is an ambitious tale of history, vengeance, race, guilt, betrayal, family, and belonging, filled with a vivid cast of characters shaped by violence, love, and a desperate loyalty to the land. The One Book One Nebraska selection committee enjoyed the intricate plot development and well developed characters. They felt that the novel was a compelling read and contained a variety of themes that would engage discussion on a number of topics. Jonis Agee is an award-winning author of twelve books. Her awards include the John Gardner Fiction Award, the George Garrett Award, a National Endowment for the Arts grant in fiction, a Loft-McKnight Award, a Loft-McKnight Award of Distinction, and two Nebraska Book Awards. A native of Nebraska, Agee teaches at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.



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, 2022 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>.

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.”

A bookkit with ten copies is available to check out from the Western Library System.

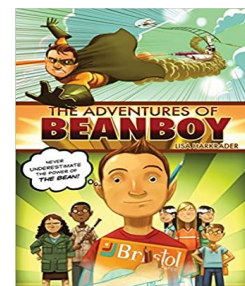
Kids: *The Adventures of Beanboy* by Lisa Harkrader

Activities

[Author Information](#)
[Teacher Guide](#) from Reading to Kids
[Book Club Kit](#)
[Blank Comic Template](#) from Scholastic
[Read-alikes](#)

Puzzles

[Tile Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Crossword](#), [Answers](#)
[Letter Drop Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Word Search](#), [Answers](#)



Teens: *Stupid Fast* by Geoff Herbach

Activities

[Author Information](#)
[Discussion Guide](#) from Sourcebooks
[Book Club Kit](#)
[Read-alikes](#)

Puzzles

[Tile Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Crossword](#), [Answers](#)
[Cryptogram Puzzle](#), [Answers](#)
[Word Search](#), [Answers](#)



Western Library System Resources



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Western Library System Board of Directors

- Allison Reisig, President
- Amber Sweetland, Vice-President
- Sarah Alfred, Secretary
- Beth Falla
- Erin Aschenbrenner
- Jennifer Holthus
- Judy Starke
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Western Library System

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

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

Jan Jolliffe
 Administrative Assistant
wlsadmin@westernlibrarysystem.com

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