



Supporting libraries serving our communities

July-August, 2021

Sundries - Connections Corner 2021

Libraries are the heart of the community!

Whether you are an academic, public, school or special library, the collections, services and customer service you provide. Is a reflection of your community. The role of the library and the staff requires each of us to understand the needs and wants of our customers. Each of our communities has different needs. Covid-19 provided the opportunity to discover new partnerships with the community and by different avenues. In the *Making Connections: Libraries at the Heart of Communities* WebJunction article from February 5, 2014, Megan Knapp writes, "Libraries belong to the community and are central to it. They are open to all, and provide essential services to help people and neighborhoods thrive. From internet access and homework help, to storytimes and English as a Second Language programs, libraries offer vital resources to address community needs, and they are a place where the community gathers." She references this quote from a librarian describing his experience with community connections. "We have never had big budgets,' said Mr. Salpeter (*Spruill Oaks senior librarian Michael Salpeter*) but we're always looking to attract additional people and part of it is being open to possibility.' When the County Commission cut back funds as the Great Recession deepened, like a lot of systems and branches, Spruill Oaks started collaborating with nonprofits and individuals who were willing to provide services and classes for free. To make sure their offerings are on target, twice a year the branch surveys its patrons to find out what kind of programming they want, in addition to staple programs such as children's story hours. This is how the popular Dahn yoga class and Friday night line dancing class came to be. 'Now there's cross-pollination, Salpeter said. 'People who come for the programs check out books, and the people who come for materials stay for programming.'"

Understanding a community takes many forms. It is a two-way street when we partner with community and government agencies. As we gain a greater understanding of what they do, in turn they better understand all the library can do for and with them.

Thank you for continually reaching out to your city/village staff, the local civic groups, Nebraska State agencies, your teachers and students to gain an understanding of what we can accomplish together for the greater good of the community.

"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."
Andrew Carnegie

"I grew up in the libraries, and I hope I've learned never to take them for granted. A thriving library is the heart of its community, providing access to information and educational opportunities, bringing people together, leveling the playing field, and archiving our history."
Josie Brown

"Coming together is a beginning; Keeping together is progress; working together is success."
Henry Ford

Mark Your Calendar

July 20: **Western Library System Annual Meeting:** Kathleen Lute Public Library, Ogallala: 9:30 (MDT) See page 11

July 31: **26th Annual Norfolk Literature Festival**, Norfolk: 7:30-5:00 (CDT)
<https://norfolkne.gov/assets/site/library/pdfs/literature-festival-flyer-2021a.pdf>

September 2: **Nebraska Regional Library Systems Virtual Youth Services Retreat:** 12:00-4:00 (MDT) See page 15

September 8: **World Literacy Day**
Remembering the importance of literacy for individuals, communities and societies, and intensify efforts towards more literate societies worldwide.

Plum Creek Literacy Festival. Concordia University, Seward
September 24: **Children's Day:** 9:30-2:30 (CDT)

<https://www.cune.edu/events/plum-creek/plum-creek-literacy-festival-childrens-day>

September 25: **Adult Conference:** 7:30-5:00 (CDT)
<https://www.cune.edu/events/plum-creek/plum-creek-literacy-festival-adult-conference-fall-2021>

October 13-15: **Nebraska Library Association Conference** "The World Turned Upside Down - Reinventing Libraries in Changing Times": Omaha

October 20-23: **Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Annual Conference**, Reno, Nevada



Array of Audiobooks

Children—Ages 6-12

- Brett, Jan, Ruiz, Rene (narrator) **Cozy**. Listening Library. 2020
- Cowell, Cressida, Tennant, David (narrator) **The Wizards of Once: Knock Three Times**. Hachette Audio. 2017
- Gidwitz, Adam and Otheguy, Emma, Soler, Rebecca (narrator) **The Madre de Aguas of Cuba**. Listening Library. 2020
- Harrell, Rob, Crouch Michael and Thompson, Marc (narrators) **Wink**. Listening Library. 2020
- Medina, Meg. Full Cast. **Mango, Abuela and Me**. Live Oak media. 2020
- Reynolds, Peter H. Lockard, Guy (narrator) **The Word Collector**. Weston Woods. 2019
- Sorell, Traci, Full Cast. **We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga**. Live Oak Media. 2019
- White, E.B., Full cast including Meryl Streep. **Charlotte's Web** Listening Library, 2019

Teens

- Acevedo, Elizabeth. Acevedo, Elizabeth (narrator) **With the Fire on High**. HarperAudio. 2019
- Anderson, Laurie Halse. Anderson, Laurie Halse (narrator) **Shout**. Listening Library. 2019]
- Del Toro, Guillermo and Funke, Cornelia, River, Thom (narrator) **Pan's Labyrinth**. HarperCollins Audio. 2019
- Jamieson, Victoria, Full Cast (narrator) **Roller Girl**. Listening Library. 2019
- King, A.S., King, A.S. et.al. (narrators) **Dig**. Listening Library. 2019
- Krosoczka, Jarrett, Krosoczka, Jarrett et.al. (narrators) **Hey Kiddo**. Scholastic Audio. 2019
- Mendez, Yamile Saied, Madariaga, Sol (narrator) **Furia**. Workman. 2020**

Adults

- Bohjalian, Chris, Lowman, Rebecca (narrator) **The Red Lotus**. Penguin Random House. 2020
- Denton, Lauren, O'Day, Devon (narrator) **The Hideaway**. Thomas Nelson. 2019
- Driscoll, Teresa. Knowelden, Elizabeth (narrator) **I Am Watching You**. Brilliance Audio. 2017
- Fajordo-Anstine, Full Cast (narrator) **Sabrina & Corina**. Random House Audio. 2019
- Obama, Michelle, Obama, Michelle (narrator) **Becoming**. Random House Audio. 2018
- Patchett, Ann, Hanks, Tom (narrator) **The Dutch House**, HarperAudio. 2019

**Book Club Kit available from the Nebraska Library Commission, see page 12

All About Audiobooks

Audiobooks, according to Livewire, are voice recordings of the text of a book that you listen to rather than read. Audiobooks can be exact word-for-word versions of books or abridged versions. You can listen to audiobooks on any smartphone, tablet, computer, home speaker system, or in-car entertainment system. Most public library systems offer audiobook downloads online—all you need is a library card.

Important Dates in the evolution of Audiobooks:

1877: Thomas Alva Edison invented the phonograph. Along with music, he envisioned “phonographic books.”



1878: The New York Daily Graphic published this image.

Caption reads: “The phonograph at home reading out a novel” April 2. Due to limited space, readings were limited. “Mary Had a Little Lamb” was an example of one of the first recordings.

1931: The American Foundation for the Blind and the Library of Congress established the “Talking Books Program (Books for the Blind) providing reading material for veterans injured in World War I and other visually impaired citizens.

1932: The first recording studio

1933: Congress passed an amendment allowing the Library of Congress to produce books which were exempt from copyright along with free postal distribution.

1934: Among the first recordings – the Declaration of Independence, Shakespearean plays and sonnets and fiction from authors Rudyard Kipling and Cora Jarrett. 1948: Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic was founded to provide recorded textbooks to soldiers who had lost their sight in World War II. The New York Public Library’s Women’s Auxiliary took up the cause under the motto “Education is a right, not a privilege” and established a recording studio in the attic of the New York Public Library recording textbooks on six-inch vinyl records.

1952: Recording studios were established in seven other cities.

1962: Cassette tapes were invented

1969: Library of Congress and libraries started circulating cassette tapes.

1970’s: Worldwide adoption of cassettes taking the place of 33 1/3 vinyl records.

1986: The Audio Publishers Association, a professional non-profit trade association, was established by publishers. This association compiled industry standards and marketing for the industry.

1990-2000’s: With the advent of the Internet, faster download speeds, broadband technologies, new compressed audio formats and portable media players, the popularity of audiobooks increased notably. The transition from vinyl, to cassette, to CD, to MP3CD, to digital download has been documented by Audio Publishers Association in annual surveys.

The 2020 survey provides fascinating information and statistics:

Publishers’ revenue grew 12% to 1.3 billion (9th straight year of double-digit growth)

71,000 audiobooks published in 2020, a 39% growth from 2019

Most popular genres Mysteries/Thrillers/Suspense

Due to Covid 19:

- ◇ Listening shifted from car to home
- ◇ The percentage of children 17 and younger listening to audiobooks increased from 35% in 2019 to 49% in 2020
- ◇ Sharp increase in Romance, Self-Help and Business genres.

Sources: Audio Publishers Association; Livewire; PBS; Wikipedia

CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

\$25,000 in Internship Grants Awarded to Nebraska Public Libraries

The Nebraska Library Commission awarded Internship Grants totaling \$25,000 to twenty-four Nebraska public libraries.

The grant money pays for student interns to learn about library work as they shadow staff, assist with day-to-day library operations, and implement special projects. Many libraries use their interns to assist with summer reading programs.

The following libraries in the Western Library System were awarded 2021 internship grant funding:

Bayard Public Library

Bridgeport Public Library

Kimball Public Library

Morrill Public Library



Celebrating Ruth Hohl, Wauneta Public Library Director, and her years of service to her community.

Mrs. Hohl served the Wauneta Public Library for almost forty years and recently retired.

She directed the library with moves over the years from sharing the former jail to the vacated Masonic Hall.

Today, the library is in the upstairs with a large children's area, a significant large-print area and a specific area for local and Nebraska history collections. The library is bright and cheery as Mrs. Hohl herself.

Photo Courtesy of the Lori Pankonin, Imperial Republican

Congratulations Palisade Public Library

The library received one of the Rural Library Network/Save the Children 100 days of Summer Reading Challenge mini-grants. This is Elle Thompson's first year as Library Director and Summer Reading at Palisade Public Library.

Celebrating Library Staff

For all your ingenuity and problem-solving, extra cleaning and sanitizing during the pandemic. If you have a question or issue, just ask the library staff, they will find a way, a resource or a new perspective.

Chappell Memorial Library and Art Gallery Celebrating 100 years

Cheri Leach, Director



Chappell Memorial Library & Art Gallery recently held a week-long celebration of the Library System being in Chappell for 100 years! The Chappell Public Library began in a basement room at the Deuel County Courthouse on August 1st, 1920, the current library (Chappell Memorial Library & Art Gallery) was built in 1935. Our first librarian was Rev H. C. Gans who was the local Zion Lutheran minister. There have been 14 other librarians thru the years including Doris McFee, Dixie Riley & our current librarian, Cheri Leach. The library was financially supported by the merchants of Chappell with yearly pledges from \$10 to \$100. In the 1921 Annual Report there were 1154 volumes and 670 registered borrowers, today there are over 8,000 volumes. Judge H.R. Busse, Mrs. Alberta Whitney, Mrs. Nina Gunn Pyle and Robert McGrale served as the first Board of Trustees, the current Board is Helen Lechman, Linda Breazeale, Dianne Nordyke, Haley Magee and Marge Freeman. Some fun facts about the beginning of the Chappell Public Library includes: \$30 per month librarian wage, patrons had to have two taxpayers sign their membership card in order to borrow a book, plus at the time there was a book committee appointed to select the books. The current library (Chappell Memorial Library and Art Gallery) was gifted to the community in 1935 by Mrs. Orianna Ward Chappell, the widow of Charles Henry Chappell for whom the town is named. The cornerstone was laid September 12, 1935 with the building being dedicated on July 18, 1936, so the current library building is 85 years old. This all happened because of our community's love for the library and the support of boards, librarians, local businesses, and citizens over the years. During the celebration we held a Quilt show, many ladies in the community brought their quilts in for the show. Friends of the Library, President Peggy Hayden made a special Dr. Suess quilt that was raffled off during our special celebration. We had two book signings during our celebration. Ron Nordyke is a local artist and author who wrote and illustrated a children's book, "Eaglehorse," and Steve Grasz from Elkhorn, NE and a past resident of Chappell who grew up south of Chappell. Steve wrote, "Once a Soldier, Twice a Pioneer," about his great-great Grandfather Joshua Hobbs Brown, who homesteaded the land that Steve grew up on.

Come visit the other wonderful attractions that the Chappell Library has to offer to the public. Our rock collection was donated to us from the family of John F. Bergstrom, Sr. a Chappell resident whose collection was sought after by universities and museums across the country. The collection includes crystals, shark's teeth, petrified wood, arrowheads and fossils. The Art Gallery holds 150 pieces of art from around the world, donated by Mrs. Orianna Ward Chappell. These art pieces were in her home in Chicago before coming to the library. Our art gallery also holds paintings and lithographs by Aaron Pyle, a local artist who was a farmer in the Chappell area. There are more paintings by Ron Nordyke and Curtiss Routh, also of Chappell. You will find other interesting art pieces like Chinese and Japanese paintings and etchings, oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings plus so much more!

Celebrating the New Stratton Public Library, Beverly Henderson



Engineering International designed a new library and city offices for Stratton. Courtesy photo

The McCook Gazette published an informative article on the new Stratton Public Library on June 8, 2021.

After several years of planning, obtaining grants and fund-raising, and despite delays created by the COVID-19 pandemic, Stratton residents were treated to tours of the new city offices and library Saturday. In addition to a Community Development Block Grant of \$385,000, the village received an \$85,000 grant from the Hansen Charitable Foundation, a \$10,000 one-to-one grant from the Graft Foundation, and numerous fund-raising activities including a Kiss a Pig Contest, Cow Patty Bingo, Ride for Reading Poker Run, silent auction, soup supper and numerous private donations made the new half-million-dollar facility possible.

“We are delighted to have the new library,” said Board Chairwoman Janet Felt. ‘It is spacious, has great lighting and can accommodate our needs for years to come. We have a work room and archive room which will be a big help for our librarian. The children’s section can now be spread out for them to find appropriate materials for their age level or adults can sit in an easy chair and read the newspapers. Our bookcases are all new and were made and installed by Cornhusker Industries, which is the prison. “We offered to the community an opportunity to purchase a bookcase or just a shelf to assist in the cost and had a great response.

At 3,800 square feet, the new facility is four times the old, which was 950 square feet. Engineering International of McCook designed the project.

The Dundy County Stratton FBLA students, the basketball team and their sponsors spent several hours earlier moving all our books and equipment from the old facility to the library’s new home. ‘It made fast work of a big job,’ Felt said. “Ron Crow assisted us putting the computers in and ready to use.”



The public celebrated the opening of the library on May 29, 2021. Courtesy Photo



Board Members: Joyce Cushing, Janet Felt (President) and Roberta Loescher. Courtesy Photo

Around the Sun

Palisade Public Library, Elle Thompson



To honor Arbor Day, the library held a tree planting ceremony at Krotter Park along with Arbor Day themed activities and a nature scavenger hunt in the Palisade Public Library. Nebraska's State Arborist, Chrissy Land, assisted with the tree planting ceremony and shared all the wonders our beautiful trees have to offer. The Middle Republican Natural Resources District donated Black Hill Spruce seedlings. In early May, parents and children enjoyed special "May Day" baskets. Elle also reports that the Wednesday children program has grown to 15 littles and monthly visits increased from 24 to more than 200!

Crawford Public Library, Marcella Thompson

SUMMER FUN AT THE CRAWFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Activities for all ages!

Story Hour— Pre-school children and adults

Story Hour— Kindergarten to 3rd Grade

Book Reading Contests—4th through 6th grade with Weekly Activities

Book/Pages Reading Contest—7th through 12th grade with Weekly Recordings

Weekly Brain Teasers/Riddles and Bingo Game—ALL SUMMER

Movies on three Saturdays with popcorn!

Oshkosh Public Library, Elaine Lake

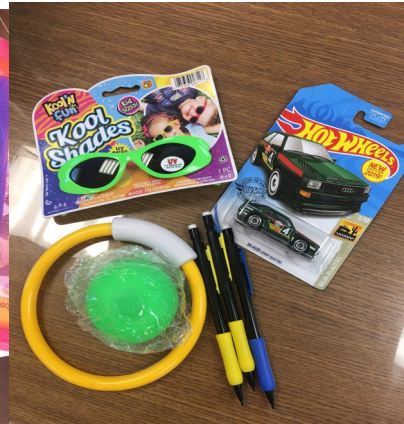
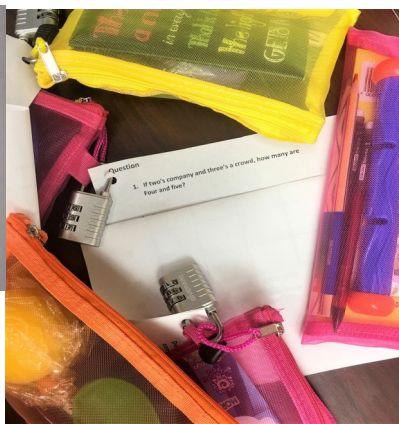
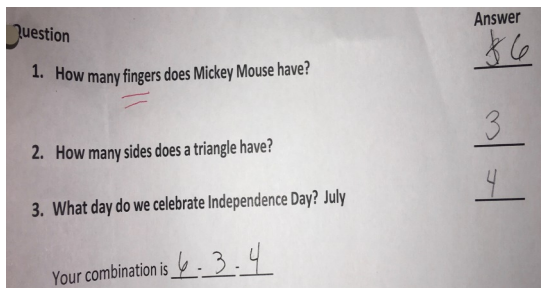
Happy Summer from the Oshkosh Public Library!

Our Summer Reading Program materials finally arrived so we have two contests that kids can enjoy.

First, when kids read or someone reads to them, they need to write down how many minutes they read onto one of our Reading Log sheets. When the one-page log is full, we will give each child a gift card to the Kwik Stop! They can get as many gift cards as they want until we run out, just as long as they keep reading.

The second contest involves a bag, a combination lock, and thinking! Each time a child of any age comes to the library and checks out books, we will give them a BREAK-IN BAG that is closed with a combination lock. They need to answer 3 questions to get the combination to the lock! Some of the questions are easy enough for pre-schoolers and some require the challenge of a Google search. The prizes are pool toys, school supplies, and other fun things. We hope we will have lots of kids coming to the library and thinking hard enough to open the BREAK-IN BAGS!

Last year, the library had a bike decorating contest because there wasn't a parade. We had a huge amount of fun and great participation! This year, the library won't be having a contest but we hope to see just as many decorated bikes as we had last 4th of July, entered in the Chamber's parade downtown!



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library, Pat Gross



Volunteers Pat Gross and Laurie Zitterkopf developed a beanstalk project for the first day of Summer Reading registration. Approximately 505 pots were planted and taken home with the registrants along with a colored straw and Jack and the Beanstalk coloring pages. Pat credited Home Depot for their gracious donation of soil and beans.

Photo courtesy of Jody Windhorst

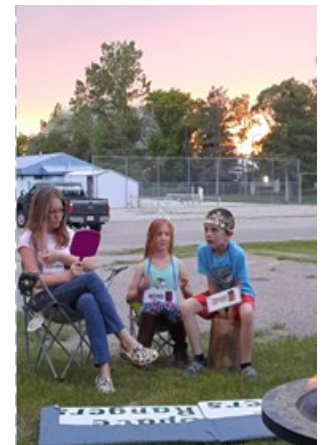
Paxton Public Library, Dianne Jay

June was a lively time for the Tails and Tales Summer Reading program in Paxton. These participants show their creations.



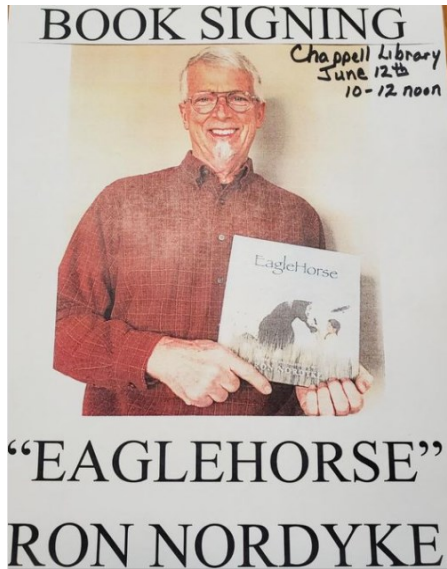
Sioux County Public Library, Sarah Sanderson

The library sponsored a Stories Around the Campfire event one evening. Ranger Anne from Agate Fossil Beds came and talked to the kids about the different constellations and showed them how they can look for them in the evening sky. She also had the kids act out the play "The Rescue of Andromeda". The kids made smores and had a lot of fun with the play! We are making plans to have Ranger Anne visit us again later in the summer!



Chappell Public Library, Cheri Leach

Our Summer Reading Program was about animals, community helpers and about the Chappell Library. The day we did horses, Ron Nordyke came and read his book "Eaglehorse" to the kids. What an experience for the children to have the author reading their book to them! On our community helper's day, Terry Duffield & Gus (her German Shepard sidekick) from the local Animal Shelter, Adopt-A-Dog, stopped by to visit. She told the kids about what the shelter does and how it helps the community. The Chappell Postmaster, Jennifer Reichman, supplied bags with books about the postal service.



Western Library System Annual Meeting



Kathleen Lute Public Library
610 West A Street
Ogallala

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

9:30 Registration and Coffee

10:00 Business Meeting

Adventures in Ornithology: Luke Hamilton

Adventures of a New Library: Kendra Caskey

Lunch

Free

[Register here](#) or e-mail wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

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

Featured Resource from the Nebraska Library Commission

Book Club Kits

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/ref/bookclub/index.asp?menu>

Available for check out to Librarians in Nebraska

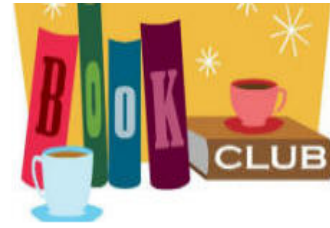
[Rules for Use](#)

[Book Club Wiki](#)

[Read-Alikes](#)

[Resources for Book Club Groups](#)

[Other Book Club Kit Sources](#)



Search Options

Search by **Author** *(last name only)*

Search by **Title** Keyword *(for best results enter a single key word or phrase from the title)*

Search by **Genre** ▼

Search by **Keyword** *(searches all fields)*

Search by **Grade Level** ▼ **OR** Adult Only

AND Limit Search to Sets Containing at Least Copies *(optional)*

AND Limit Search to Sets that Include Special Formats: Large Print Audio Cassette Audio CD Movie (DVD)
(optional)

Search

Browse Options

Browse **Entire Collection**

Browse **Nebraska-Related** Books

Browse **Nebraska-150** Books

Browse All **Fiction** Books

Browse All **Non-Fiction** Books

Browse **Holiday-Theme** Books

Browse **New** Additions ▼

Is there someone who would like to join your book club who struggles with regular print because of a disability? The Nebraska Library Commission's Talking Book and Braille Service offers many popular fiction and nonfiction titles. Contact: 800-742-7691 or nlc.talkingbook@nebraska.gov.

Search Tips

- To find Oprah's Book Club selections, search **Oprah** in the *Search by Keyword* Field
- To find "One Book One ..." books, search **One Book** in the *Search by Keyword* Field
- To find Pulitzer-prize books, search **Pulitzer** in the *Search by Keyword* Field

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	Time
<u>NCompass Live: History Nebraska: Taking History Online</u>	Jul 7	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>NCompass Live: Finding Partners & Preparing Staff: Teaching Technology in the Library Series (Part 3)</u>	Jul 14	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>NCompass Live: Accessing Census Data</u>	Jul 21	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>NCompass Live: Marketing & Follow-Up: Teaching Technology in the Library Series (Part 4)</u>	Jul 28	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>NCompass Live: Small Libraries Will Save the World! Implementing Sustainability at the Library</u>	Aug 4	9am-10am (Mountain)
<u>NCompass Live: The Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund: Grants to Nebraska's Small-Town Public Libraries</u>	Aug 11	9am-10am (Mountain)

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians

Class Dates	Class *Required Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
7/26 - 8/6	<u>Library Policy</u>	Sharon Osenga	6/21 - 7/16
08/02-09/05	<u>Authority Control</u>	Shoshana Patocka	06/28 - 07-25
8/16 - 8/27	<u>Collection Management*</u>	Denise Harders	7/12 - 8/6
8/30 - 9/10	<u>Programming & Outreach</u>	Christa Porter	7/26 - 8/20
9/20 - 10/1	<u>Community & Library*</u>	Sam Shaw	8/16 - 9/10
10/18 - 10/29	<u>Management/Supervision</u>	Holli Duggan	9/13 - 10/8
11/1 - 11/12	<u>Leadership</u>	Holli Duggan	9/27 - 10/22
11/29 - 12/10	<u>Library Services to Children & Teens</u>	Sally Snyder	10/25 - 11/19

The Nebraska Library Commission's website provides a link to free webinars compiled by the Wyoming State Library and WebJunction offerings. This list is updated monthly.

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/CE/webinars.aspx?menu>

Western Library System's Community Conversations

In August, there will be two Zoom Community Conversations for Western Library System members and anyone who is interested. The Zoom links and points for discussion will be sent through the wslistserv one week before each event. Both sessions are designed for everyone to have an opportunity to contribute to the conversation.

August 5: 1-2:30 Mountain Time

Tammi Thiem, Three Rivers Regional System Director, will lead the discussion on grant writing. The Western Library System is home to several successful grant writers who will lend their expertise. This session is for seasoned grant writers to share their experiences and for those who are new to this funding avenue.

August 24: 1:-2:30 Mountain Time

Converse with Amanda Sweet for a Monumental Maker-Space session. This Community Conversation is designed to bring together those with extensive Maker Space experience with those who are thinking about maker space equipment and everyone in stages in between. Amanda will share information on what works best for the different sizes of libraries and communities and future additions to consider. This conversation will be informative to libraries who have never considered a Makerspace to those who are thinking about next purchases and/or sustainability.

Plan to participate in these Community Conversations. We will learn, share and grow!

Looking for an extraordinary conference to enhance your skills and expertise?



[Power Up: A Leadership Conference for Youth Services Managers and Staff](#)

2021 Conference theme: Leading Toward Inclusion

About the Conference

Are you an intentional leader? Do you want to share your passion for strategic planning, collaborative partnerships, or ethical staff engagement? Can you help other youth services professionals solve problems and be more productive? Are you searching for a way to network with other professionals and raise your profile? The University of Wisconsin-Madison Information School is pleased to offer the third Power Up Conference to share your exciting ideas! The conference will take place in Madison, Wisconsin on March 24-25, 2022.

Remember: The Western Library System has scholarships for attending conferences. See page 17 for details.

Joint Youth Services Virtual Retreat

Thursday, September 2

12-4 Mountain Time, Via Zoom

[Register here by August 31!](#)

12:00-12:50 American Indian Youth: Living and Learning in the Twenty-First Century with Dr. Barbara Buttes.

With slides and video Dr. Buttes will introduce American Indians living, learning, working, and playing in today's United States, while also providing background on American Indian experiences during colonization. Her presentation will weave in American Indian authors who have written about their lives in fiction and in non-fiction.

12:55-1:15 "Movin and Groovin" at the Library with Adina Bell

How to create a fun storytime using music and movement!

1:20-1:50 "Best" Children's Books with Dana Fontaine and "Best" Teen Books with Sally Snyder

This presentation will highlight a few of the very best children's and teen books. A list of additional recommended books will be provided.

1:55-2:25 Building Your Social-Emotional Core Strength with Sheila Palmquist

Movement, breathing, and centering tools to deepen your connections.

2:30-3:00 Author Talk with Sarah Prineas

Sarah will speak for 20 minutes about her writing process and how she gets her ideas. Then she will take your questions. We encourage you to read one of her books beforehand, if you haven't already. Her most recent book is *Trouble in the Stars*.

3:10-4:00 Time for Networking

This is your time to share ideas and successes, brainstorm solutions to problems, and more.

A bit about Sarah Prineas:



Sarah Prineas is the author of the award winning *Magic Thief* series, which has been published in 22 languages around the world, plus a bunch of other books. Her thirteenth novel, *Trouble in the Stars* came out from Philomel (Penguin Random House) in April 2021. Sarah has a PhD in English literature, is deeply involved in political activism, works two afternoons a week at local independent bookstore Prairie Lights, rows on the Iowa River, and lives in Iowa City with her mad scientist husband, two perfectly normal cats, and the best dog in the world. www.sarah-prineas.com

Sun Beams

Jeri Clapper, dedicated Administrative Assistant for the Western Library System, left the organization for new adventures in Missouri. Jeri received congratulatory messages from members of the Western Library System and the Board, along with a certificate from the Nebraska Library Commission. We have the deepest appreciation for her organizational skills and institutional knowledge during her years of service. We wish her the best.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Terrell

Shecky Betancur, will assume the Administrative Assistant position on July 13th. You will meet Shecky at the Annual Meeting on July 20th.

Western Library System Board



The members of the Western Library System voted to retain Rossella Tesch and Tammy Covalt for second terms and added Amber Sweetland to the Board.

We want to acknowledge and thank Jill Hurtt for serving on the Board for two terms both as a member and as the Secretary. Jill contributed her time and dedication to expertly carry out the Board member duties.

Board members and their areas of representation beginning with the July 20th Board Meeting.

Academic/Special: Allison Reisig
At Large: Amber Sweetland
District A: Rosella Tesch
District B: Erin Aschenbrenner
District C: Open
District D: Jennifer Holthus

District E: Beth Falla
Public Library: Sarah Alfred
Public Library: Tammy Covalt
School Library: Judy Starke
School Library: Matt McLaughlin

The Western Library System is offering you an out of this world opportunity for a



- * 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?

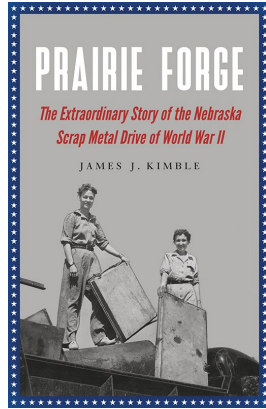
The Western Library System is here to assist. All you need to do is apply for a scholarship which will be reviewed by the WLS Board's Scholarship Committee for approval.

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:

Send all requests to: Western Library System
 615 S. Beltline Hwy West
 Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Email: wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

2021 One Book One Nebraska



About the book:

In the wake of Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt called for the largest arms buildup in our nation's history. A shortage of steel, however, quickly slowed the program's momentum, and arms production fell dangerously behind schedule. The country needed scrap metal. Henry Doorly, publisher of the *Omaha World-Herald*, had the solution. *Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Metal Drive of World War II* tells the story of the great Nebraska scrap drive of 1942 - a campaign that swept the nation and yielded five million tons of scrap metal, literally salvaging the war effort itself. James J. Kimble chronicles Doorly's conception of a fierce competition pitting county against county, business against business and in schools across the state, class against class - inspiring Nebraskans to gather 67,000 tons of scrap metal in only three weeks. This astounding feat provided the template for a national drive. A tale of plowshares turned into arms, *Prairie Forge* gives the first full account of how home became home front for so many civilians.

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

Book a Speaker

Host a scholar listed on the [Speakers Bureau](#) of Humanities Nebraska. Apply for a grant from Humanities Nebraska to finance your event. Public programs sponsored by not-for-profit organizations may be eligible for funding assistance from Humanities Nebraska. See <https://humanitiesnebraska.org/speaker-bureau-policies/> for details on their Speaker's Bureau General Public Programs Eligibility requirements and for steps to book a speaker and to access application forms.

Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II (Virtual Program Only) by James J. Kimble

Sharpie: Nebraska's Queen of the Air by Diane Bartels

Allied Invasion of Japan by Jack Campbell

Nebraska Spirit: The North Platte Canteen by Charlotte Endorf

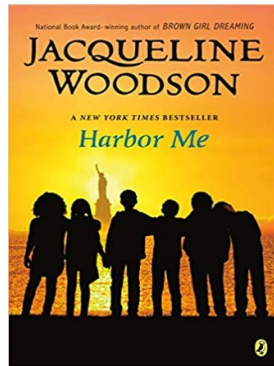
Four Blue Stars in the Window: A Story of WWII by Barbara Eymann Mohrman

Nebraskans Remember World War II by Doug Rung

Discussion Questions

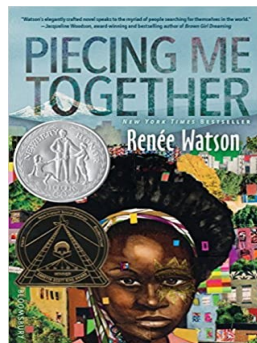
One Book One Nebraska provides thought-promoting discussion questions for book groups and individuals. Examples include: What was the role of the media in the scrap drive efforts? Were there any villains in the story?

2021 One Book For Nebraska Kids



Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson

Six kids are invited to spend the last hours of school on Friday in the ARTT Room (A Room To Talk). Their only assignment is to talk to each other about anything. It starts slowly but before long they are sharing their private concerns and hopes with each other. And all agree to keep to themselves whatever is said on Friday afternoon. Haley's father is in prison, and she has never told anyone until now. Esteban is worried both about his father being deported, and about what that might mean for the rest of his family. Each of them has something they don't want other people to know, but by sharing with their group, they learn more about themselves and their worries, hopes and dreams.



2021 One Book For Nebraska Teens

Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson

Jade (16) loves collage art and photography. She is a scholarship student at a mostly white prestigious private school and lives in what others consider a questionable area of Portland, Ore. She is invited to join the Woman to Woman program and if she stays with it for her last two years of high school she is guaranteed a college scholarship. During her junior year Jade makes friends with Sam (Samantha) who rides the same city bus to school. It isn't long before things begin to chafe her, how her white friend makes excuses for prejudiced behavior and how she feels sometimes like the school, and even her mentor, Maxine (who is black), thinks she needs saving. She finally works on speaking up for herself. When she hears about a black girl at a pool party who was beaten by police, she has trouble dealing with it, but finally finds a positive way to respond (with others) and make a difference.

[The One Book for Nebraska Kids and Teens 2021 page provides discussion guides and activities.](#)

To borrow the book bags from the Commission, contact the Commission Reference Services, 402-471-4016, 800-307-2665 or use this [form](#). Another source for book club kits is the [wiki](#) which lists libraries that share their kits.

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 has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

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

Shecky Betancur,
 Administrative Assistant
 wlsadmin@westernlibrarysystem.com

615 South Beltline Highway West
 Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Phone:
 308-632-1350
 Toll Free: 888-879-5303
 wls@westernlibrarysystem.com

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