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WELCOME TO
WLA WEDNESDAY

January 10, 2024



2024 WLA Conference Program Now Published!

The tentative #WLA2024 [program schedule](#) is now published. We hope you'll [check it out here](#). We are still finalizing the program, so check back soon for new and exciting additions!

Time is running out to secure the best possible registration rate! **Register by Friday, Jan. 19 to receive the early-bird rate.**

Registration rates are available for individuals, both in-person and online. There are also in-person registration rates available for groups associated with a single organization. View the [2024 registration page](#) for rates and additional details.

Planning on staying in Spokane? [Book your room](#) at the conference hotel by Feb. 1 to receive the discounted rate.

The 2024 conference theme is *We All Belong*. Inspired by the newly adopted motto of our host city, "In Spokane, We All Belong," our theme will encourage

attendees to consider what it means to belong in a community, a library, and a professional ecosystem.

Our Conference Committee is approaching the planning process with the idea of belonging at every step of the way, and we hope to create an environment for you to build community, grow as professionals, and bring innovative ideas back to your libraries to show we all belong.

Register Now!



Last Day to Submit WLA 2024 Merit Awards Nominations

With [#WLA2024](#) approaching, the WLA Merit Awards are back again! We look forward to hearing about accomplishments in the past year by library professionals from around the state!

The WLA Merit Awards offer the opportunity to recognize and highlight the outstanding work that has been ongoing in Washington libraries. To nominate an outstanding individual or group for an award, please complete the [WLA 2024 Merit Award Nomination Form](#) today, **Wednesday, Jan. 10**.

What library achievement did you see in your community or workplace that you'd like to see celebrated? Examples can include, but aren't limited to, outstanding service in the areas of:

- Programming (virtual, educational, community building)
- Outreach to users
- Services
- Access to technology
- Access to collections
- Serving the needs of people who were vulnerable, underserved
- Providing innovative ways to deliver services, materials

Library workers at all levels and in all types of libraries are eligible! Nominees do not need to be WLA members (with the exception of the Emeritus Award and the WALE Award). Additionally, nominators do not have to be WLA members. Award

winners will receive a complimentary year of WLA membership!

Winners will be notified by Feb. 5, announced in WLA Wednesday on Feb. 7, and celebrated on March 2 at the WLA 2024 Conference in Spokane.

If you have questions or wish to discuss eligibility requirements, please contact the WLA Office at info@wla.org or (206) 823-1138.



WLA Pawsident Election Fundraiser - Vote Now!

Elections are now open for the [2024 Pawsident Election](#) through **Wednesday, Jan. 31**. Learn more about the [Pawsident Candidates here](#). **The voter donation is a minimum of \$10**. You may retake the voting form if you wish to support more than one candidate! Voters do not need to be WLA members, so you can campaign for your pawsident favorite along friends, colleagues, and family.

[Vote Meow!](#)

The pet that raises the most funds will be declared 2024 WLA Pawsident! The winner will be recognized at the 2024 conference, will become an unofficial non-voting member of the WLA Board, and will have their picture available on merchandise in the WLA Store for the next year. The election is part of our ongoing #SupportWALibraries fundraising, which assists with WLA scholarships, member services, and more.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the WLA Office at info@wla.org. Thank you for your support of WA State library professionals and students!



Save the Date for WA Library Legislative Day!

The annual WA Library Legislative Day will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024. We hope you will save the date for this event and make a date with your legislator!

We are excited to once again be hosting this event in the John A Cherberg building of the Washington Capitol campus in Olympia.

By attending WA Library Legislative Day, you can expect to:

- Connect with library supporters from all types of libraries around the state.
- Hear from special guests
- Attend sessions and hear testimony from fellow library professionals along with WLA lobbyist **Carolyn Logue**.
- Meet with State legislators and their staff to discuss the value of libraries and the impact laws have on them.
- Understand how to track and search for bills, give effective testimony, and advocate for libraries, to better support them in years to come!

This free event is a great way to become involved in library advocacy and help WLA push its legislative goals over the finish line!

Please stay tuned for more information and registration soon to come.



Alki wants to hear from YOU!

Call for Papers: *The Library is a Growing Organism*

Alki's Spring issue submission window is open!

Almost all librarians are familiar with the Five Rules of Library Science: Books are for use, every book its reader, every reader their book, save the reader time, and *The Library is a Growing Organism*. Let's start the year off talking about that last rule. Our libraries grow and change over time, whether due to changing patron bases, new technologies, or new needs in our communities. *Alki* wants to know all the ways in which your library is alive. Refer to the following ideas and questions as you write your article:

- How has your library grown or evolved?
- How have you grown your patron base? Tell us stories!
- How has working in a library helped you develop as a professional and as a person?
- How do you nourish, sustain, and tend to your organization as the cultures around and within it change?
- If you work in an institutional library, tell us how your library has provided fertile ground for personal growth in your patrons?

Creative pieces, art, and photos are always encouraged.

Sign up for your spot today by emailing your name, a working title of your proposed piece, your bio, and a headshot to alkieditor@wla.org.

Do you have an article ready? Email your submissions as a .doc, .docx, or Google Doc to alkieditor@wla.org **before Tuesday, Feb. 6**. For inspiration, [check out past issues of Alki](#). Before submitting a piece, please visit alki.pubpub.org/guidelines for submission requirements.

WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group

The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group has new meeting dates! The next **upcoming meeting will be on Saturday, Jan. 20th, from 2-3 pm**. The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group offers Zoom gatherings for

WLA members to share their experiences with book challenges, library challenges, and other issues encountered that relate to intellectual freedom.

The WLA [Member Services Committee](#) and [Intellectual Freedom Section](#) saw a need for these meetings, and the Member Services Committee will minimally facilitate them. The meetings are a member benefit, so there is no cost to attend. Upcoming meetings will be held at the following dates and times:

- Saturday, Jan. 20 | 2-3 pm
- Monday, Feb. 5 | Noon-1 pm
- Monday, Feb. 12 | 7-8 pm
- Saturday, Feb. 17 | 2-3 pm

This group is not professionally facilitated or meant to replace professional resources. It is intended for peer-to-peer support only. This group will not be about legislative or activist work. [Registration](#) to attend meetings is required. You must be logged into your WLA account to register. Attendees will receive Zoom access information the day before each meeting they sign up to attend. Attendees will be asked to read and agree to the [WLA Code of Conduct](#) as well as Support Group [Ground Rules](#) during registration.

Please contact the WLA Office at info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138 if you have any questions.

Look Who's Hiring

Central Skagit Library in Sedro-Woolley is hiring a [Library Director](#).

Cornish College of the Arts is seeking a [Library Cataloger](#).

Dayton Memorial Library is seeking a [Library Assistant](#).

Jefferson County Library is seeking an [Information Services/Cataloging Librarian](#).

Lower Columbia College is seeking a [Library & Archives Paraprofessional 1](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Branch Librarian](#) at multiple locations and an [Area Manager](#).

NNLM Region 5 is seeking an [Executive Director](#).

North Olympic Library System is seeking a [Youth Services Librarian](#).

Olympic College is seeking a [Library & Archives Paraprofessional 3](#).

San Juan Island Library is seeking a [Circulation Assistant and an Outreach Coordinator](#).

Seattle Public Library is seeking a [Regional Manager](#).

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Library Associate](#).

UW Tacoma Library is seeking a [Science and Engineering Librarian](#).

Walla Walla County Rural Library District is seeking a [Bilingual \(English/Spanish\) Vista Hermosa Branch Supervisor](#).

Washington State Library is seeking a [Branch Librarian \(Prison Libraries\)](#).

Yakima Valley Libraries is seeking a [Community Library Supervisor IV – Yakima Central](#).

If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email newsletter@wla.org and indicate "Look Who's Hiring" in the subject line.

News & Notes



Beginning Fall 2024, grants of \$1,200 are available to libraries and other public institutions for programs exploring Latino poetry and its ongoing relevance to American national life. Presented by Library of America with generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), these grants will fund scholar-moderated discussions and other programs in communities across the nation from September 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025.

Grants may be used for: honoraria for local poets and scholars; travel expenses; actor/performer fees; publicity and promotion; refreshments; or other costs associated with programs.

Applications are open to all public, academic, and community college libraries,

museums, and nonprofit community organizations. Each applying institution must designate a project coordinator who will oversee the administration of the grant. Partial or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Application deadline: February 15, 2024

Notification: March 1, 2024

Visit <https://www.latinopoetry.org/> for more information and to apply!

Institute of Museum Services Native American Library Services Grants

IMLS is currently offering two grants designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities.

[Native American Library Services: Basic Grants](#)

Program Overview: This program is designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities. Reflecting IMLS's agency-level goals of championing lifelong learning, strengthening community engagement, and advancing collections stewardship and access, the goals for this program are to:

- Improve services for learning and accessing information in a variety of formats to support needs for education, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy, and other types of literacy skills.
- Enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership through training, continuing education, and opportunities for professional development.

Eligibility: Federally recognized tribes including any Alaska native village, regional corporation, or village corporation, that offers library services to its community are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services Basic Grants Program.

Application Due Date: March 1, 2024

[Native American Library Services: Enhancement Grants](#)

Program Overview:

This program is designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities. Reflecting IMLS's agency-level goals of championing lifelong learning, strengthening community engagement, and advancing collections stewardship and access, the goals for this program are to:

- Improve digital services to support needs for education, workforce development, economic and business development, health information,

- critical thinking skills, and digital literacy skills.
- Improve educational programs related to specific topics and content areas of interest to library patrons and community-based users.
- Enhance the preservation and revitalization of Native American cultures and languages.

Projects may involve, but are not limited to, activities such as educational programming for all ages; oral history collection and documentation; digital media and technology enhancements; institutional planning and policy development; professional training, internships, and mentorships; supporting and engaging with cultural practitioners and scholars; research and development of language and cultural material and tools; digitization and digital asset management, and retrofitting of library spaces for staff and public.

Application Due Date: April 1, 2024



The Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM) [Region 5](#) has two open funding opportunities. Funded projects improve access to health information, [furthering the mission of the NNLM](#). Pending budget availability, funding opportunities include:

- [Technology Improvement Award](#), to increase access to technology
 - 4 awards, \$5,000 each
 - **Application Deadline:** April 2, 2024, 5:00 pm PT
 - [Outreach & Engagement Award](#), for programming or special projects
 - **Application Deadline:** April 2, 2024, 5:00 pm PT
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THE 9TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON STATE ZINE CONTEST



The 9th Annual Washington State Zine Contest Now Open!

- Participants must be Washington State residents.
- Zines must be created in 2023 or 2024 and be at least 8 pages long.
- Submissions will be read by a panel of librarians. Please only non-offensive content in your zine.
- Make at least 7 copies of your zine. Submit 5 and keep the others for



For more information email sara.pete@sos.wa.gov.

Become a 2024 WLA Sponsor or Exhibitor!

[Registration](#) is NOW OPEN for #WLA2024 Sponsors and Exhibitors! Thank you for considering a partnership with the Washington Library Association for its 2024 Conference, March 1-3 at the Spokane Convention Center.

View the [2024 Sponsor & Exhibitor Prospectus](#) for registration rates and more details.

Register Now!

Registration Open for nErDcamp Bellingham

Registration is open for [nErDcamp Bellingham](#), which will take place on **Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024, at Whatcom Middle School!**

nErDcamp is an “unconference,” based on the [EDcamp](#) model, but with a focus on literacy in learning. It is dubbed “nErDcamp” in a nod to the online movement known as [#nerdybookclub](#) and to appeal to the book nerds we are all proud to be.

An unconference differs from a traditional conference because the topics and sessions are determined and led by the participants. It is an opportunity for attendees to share their expertise and learn from each other. There are no exhibitors or commercial components.

nErDcamp is a free event - [register here](#).

TechAccess Foundation: "The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation"

tl:dr: BIPOC Educators, Librarians, Activists, & Co-Conspirators, this professional development is to help you build the skills and community to sustain you in a time of unprecedented political pressure aimed at education and related fields. Clock Hours are available for educators. Reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

[The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation](#) on **Feb. 23-24** is two full days to imagine, connect, heal, and build.

TechAccess Foundation aims to have all the session content (24 sessions!) up on the website below by the end of the year. In the meantime, check out the hot-off-the-presses keynote title and description for Ruha Benjamin on the event website.

Content will be wide-ranging across headwork, heartwork, and community. Sneak peek on some session titles:

"Working With the Live Wire of Oppression"
"Nourishing Black Bodies in Colonial Spaces"
"Healing Ourselves Deep: Tools for Rest & Liberation"

What else to know:

- BIPOC Educators and ALL leaders in education and related fields are welcome to register
- Please share with any educators of color in your circles
- Early registration costs \$150 (by Dec 8,2023)

- Use the ambassador toolkit to put out the news on your social networks, please!

Please reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

Call for Proposals for AkLA + PNLA Joint Conference

In 2024, AkLA and PNLA will hold a joint conference in Juneau, AK from August 1-4. The conference committee is putting out the call for proposals early so that presenters and attendees can make travel arrangements and reserve hotel rooms before everything gets filled up for the very busy summer tourist season. The conference theme is “Stronger Together: Amplifying Voices, Strengthening Communities”. Please consider submitting a [proposal here](#).

Proposals are due by **Jan. 15, 2024**, and the program committee plans to notify proposers by mid-February. Please contact program committee co-chairs Sara Saxton (ssaxton@cityofwasilla.gov) and Claire Imamura

(claire.imamura@sos.wa.gov) **The Learning Curve**

Niche Academy Presents: Talking Mental Health and Addressing Challenges at Work (Without Accidentally Discriminating)

Jan. 17, 11:00 am PT - [Register here](#).

All workplaces and communities face challenges discussing mental health issues and addressing challenging behavior without inadvertently acting in stigmatizing or biased ways.

Dan Bernstein is a mediator living with bipolar disorder who has spent over a decade adapting conflict resolution best practices to help libraries, government agencies, and companies around the world have empowering mental health discussions. Join Dan to learn equitable ways to address challenging behaviors and trauma-informed accessibility practices - all while preventing accidental mental illness discrimination.

Attendees will leave with free tools they can use right away in their daily practice to facilitate empowering, bias-resistant responses to the challenges they face regularly.

If you're interested but not able to attend the live webinar, go ahead and register. A recording will be sent to all registrants after the fact.

WebJunction Presents: Switching it Up! Creating a Video Game

Collection for Your Library

Video games are a dynamic, modern, popular medium worthy of a place in every library, but starting a collection can feel overwhelming. You might have questions like, how much funding will it require? Are these materials more prone to theft? Is this a juvenile collection, young adult, or one for all ages? This webinar will provide you with practical solutions for all your questions. This webinar will walk through the process of creating, maintaining, and promoting a new video game collection. You'll hear lessons learned and tips for success that Billings Public Library used to create a successful collection, along with strategies from other libraries around the country. You'll leave ready to get started creating what is sure to be one of your library's most well-circulating collections.

Thursday, Feb. 22, 12 pm PT. [Register here](#) to attend.

Presented by: **Joseph Lanning**, Reference Librarian and Archivist, Billings Public Library (MT)

Media Literacy for Young Children with Faith Rogow

Wednesdays: January 17, 24, and 31: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Register here: <https://www.pdenroller.org/ospi/catalog/160495>

This series of three sessions is a book study of Faith's book, *Media Literacy for Young Children*. Each session will start with a 30-minute discussion of the assigned chapters, then conclude with a 60-minute question-and-answer time with Faith. Media literacy is about wonder and imagination, questioning and learning, thinking and reflecting! *Media Literacy for Young Children: Teaching Beyond the Screen Time Debates* is about all these things, and more importantly, it is about how early childhood educators and professionals can prepare children for their digital future.

Session 1, January 17: Part 1: Getting Ready

Media, Society, and Us | Visual Literacy | How We Make Meaning | Framing: How We Think About Our Work

Session 2, January 24: Part II: Defining the Task

What Is This "Media Literacy Education" of Which You Speak? | Engaging Through Inquiry | Building Media Knowledge: Key Concepts

Session 3, January 31: Part III: From Pedagogy to Practice

Integrating Media Literacy: Routines and Modifications | Integrating Media Literacy | Planned Activities | Engaging Families | Taking the Next Step

Options for getting a copy of the book, which is available in print or as an e-book, include:

- Purchase it from the [National Association for the Education of Young Children](#)
- Check your local public library system! If they don't currently own copies, submit a purchase request

Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office at newsletter@wla.org by Monday to be included in that week's digest.

It's a great time to become a member of the Washington Library Association. [Join](#) or [Renew](#) your membership today!



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