March 14, 2023

Save the Date for the Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit!

The 2023 WLA Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit will be held online on Friday, Sept. 8.

What is neurodiversity? What does the umbrella-term "neurodivergence" encompass? And how can all library types — academic, public, school, and special libraries — feel confident in their ability to combat ableism, to robustly serve neurodivergent patrons with care, and to support their neurodivergent staff?

The virtual Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit offers day-long programming around neurodivergence: a broad overview of what neurodivergence is, how to improve library services for your neurodivergent patrons, current research around the experiences of neurodivergent library workers, conversations around special autism libraries, and more.

Whether you are new to the field or deeply versed, we are hoping that a gentle program that offers breaks, time for questions, and different presentation styles will equip you to feel more confident and to serve as an advocate for your
neurodivergent patrons and staff. **All sessions will be recorded and made available to all registrants.**

Stay tuned for updates about registration and program schedule!

For questions, please email info@wla.org.

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**Save the Date for the ACRL-WA & OR Joint Conference!**

ACRL-WA & OR will be holding their joint Fall conference in-person and online Friday, October 27 from 8 am - 5 pm. For the first time ever, the conference will be held at Lower Colombia College in Longview, WA!

The conference theme is **The Work of Libraries.** People, and their labor, are the core of academic libraries. This work can be exciting, monotonous, high stakes, invisible, precarious, invigorating, and exhausting. Like other forms of labor, work in academic libraries has changed dramatically since the advent of the pandemic, and continues to change.

Stay tuned for updates about registration and conference programming.

For questions, please email info@wla.org.

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**The WLA Office will be closed Monday, June 19 for Juneteenth.**

We will reopen Tuesday, June 20.

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**WLA Office will be Closed Monday for Juneteenth**

The WLA Office will be closed on Monday for Juneteenth. We will reopen for our regular office hours on Tuesday, June 20.

For questions, please email info@wla.org.
WLA Scholarships - Application Open!

The [application](#) for 2023-2024 WLA Scholarships is now available. A preview of the application form is also available on the [scholarships page](#). Applications are due **June 30**.

WLA scholarships are for members to use toward degrees, certificates, or graduate-level studies, as well as conferences, workshops, or educational events! To learn more about requirements, preview the form, and more, visit the [WLA Scholarships page](#).

Questions? Email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) or call/text (206) 823-1138.

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WLA PD Committee 2023-24 Mentoring Cohort Sign-Up

Are you a librarian who wants to grow your skills and network with other professionals? Do you have valuable experience and insights to share with your peers? If so, you are invited to join our librarian mentoring cohort!

Don't miss this chance to be part of a supportive and inspiring community of librarians! **Please use this form to let us know you are interested in joining the WLA PD Committee 2023-24 Mentoring Cohort.**

Benefits of Participating:

- Mentees: Develop your skills, learn from the best, and build professional relationships.
- Mentors: Develop future leaders, grow your leadership skills, and contribute to the profession.

Learn more at [wla.org/mentoring](http://wla.org/mentoring). If you have additional questions, please reach out to the WLA Office at [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org).
Vote for the December Alki Theme!

Alki has heard your nominations, the Editorial Committee has voted, and we've narrowed it down to the following themes. Now, it's time to vote for the December Alki theme! Choose your favorite by June 20 using this form.

1. Back-to-Basics: In a time when we're often asked to do more with less, what does it mean to focus on core library services?
2. War on Libraries: We've all been reading the news and feeling the effects. What do you see in your communities? How do we do our work in an environment that is increasingly anti-library?
3. Disruption: Change is always happening — whether we're ready or not. What opportunities and challenges do our libraries face as a result?

For questions, please email Bethany McKinley, Alki Editor, at alkieditor@wla.org

Look Who's Hiring

Antioch University Seattle School Library Endorsement Program is seeking a Program Associate.

Highline College is seeking Part Time Faculty - Library & Information Services.

King County Library System is seeking three Librarian and Information Services Managers.

Kitsap Regional Library is seeking a Branch Manager for the Bainbridge Island branch.

Longview School District is seeking a HS Library Media Specialist.

Mid-Colombia Libraries is seeking a Librarian (Collections Development).
NCW Libraries is seeking a **Supervising Librarian III**, a **Collection & Technical Services Manager**, and **multiple other openings**.

San Juan Island Library is seeking a **Public Services Associate** and **Library Substitutes**.

Seattle Central College is seeking a **Library Reference Assistant**.

Seattle Public Library is seeking a **Data Engineer**.

Tacoma Public Library is seeking a **Librarian II**.

The Timberland Regional Library is seeking a **Librarian or Public Services Specialist with a primary focus of Youth Services** (Tumwater Timberland Library) and a **Librarian/Public Services Specialist - Aberdeen**.

Walla Walla County Rural Library District is seeking a **Courier, Facilities, and Fleet Supervisor**.

Washington State Library is seeking a **Branch Librarian** and a **Library Associate (Prison Libraries)**.

*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.*

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**Conference Bulletin**

*Early Bird Registration Open for the 2023 ARSL Conference*

The Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) is hosting their annual conference in Wichita, KS. from Wednesday, Sept. 20 - Friday, Sept. 23. Early Bird registration is now open through July 18! Register before that deadline to.
secure the best available price!

#ARSL2023 is the conference for rural and small libraries. Their conference planners and presenters understand the constraints of shoestring budgets, small spaces, and limited staffing within small and rural libraries, as well as the unique opportunities for innovation and collaboration. The ARSL conference is packed full of information you can take right back to your library—no scaling down required.

This year's conference theme is "Unite & Ignite"! ARSL provides an opportunity to unite as a professional community and foster a sense of togetherness across a nation of small but mighty libraries.

Learn more and register here.

WMLA Annual Conference in Spokane, July 21

The Washington Medical Librarians Association (WMLA) invites you to join them in-person for their annual conference this summer. They'll gather at Gonzaga University in Spokane on Friday, July 21 for sun, fun, and meeting up with colleagues from around the state. You do not need to be a medical librarian to attend. All are welcome!

Visit the WMLA website for information about registration, events, lodging, and more. You can conveniently sign up for or renew your WMLA membership and get the discounted conference rate at the same time.

News & Notes

Vancouver-Area School Librarians Happy Hour TODAY
Last Chance to Submit a Letter of Interest for Washington Digital Heritage Grants

**Friday, June 16** is the last day to submit a Letter of Interest for the 2023-2024 Washington Digital Heritage Grants. Letters of Interest provide the opportunity to receive feedback on a proposed project before submitting an application.

Applications will remain open until **Friday June 30**. Washington Digital Heritage Grants provide up to $15,000 to libraries for digital projects that promote the creation and sharing of digital content documenting Washington’s history. Grants are open to public, academic, tribal, and special libraries for projects running through August 2024. Learn more about this grant opportunity here.

Contact [wslgrants@sos.wa.gov](mailto:wslgrants@sos.wa.gov) if you have any questions. Washington Digital Heritage Grants are funded through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
2023 School Library Training Day Feedback Survey

The Washington State Library's School Library Training Day Committee is currently in the process of planning their next full day professional development opportunity tailored to the needs of folks who are working in school libraries. In order to design this day to meet the needs of those who might benefit, they have created a survey to gauge training needs and interest! Please find the survey here.

All data collected will be kept private and only used in aggregate. If you feel comfortable leaving your contact information at the end, they will only use it for the stated purposes.

Please help by sharing the link to this survey with other folks who work in school libraries!

For questions, email WSLtrainings@sos.wa.gov.

Answerland Virtual Reference Chat Volunteer Recruitment

Are you a new MLIS graduate wanting to gain some reference experience to put on your resume? Or a seasoned librarian who wants to further develop their skills? Then consider this opportunity to volunteer with Answerland, the State Library of Oregon's 24/7 online virtual reference chat service!

Through Answerland, librarians across the country help anyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Oregon find answers to questions and receive research guidance. Librarians can keep their reference tools sharp through training and by participating in a collaborative environment that facilitates sharing of expertise, virtual reference trends, and best practices.

Please visit this page for more information.

Answerland is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act and administered by the State Library of Oregon.

The Learning Curve

Reproductive Health and the Reference Desk: How libraries can provide information in a post-Roe country

It has been over a year since the U.S. Supreme Court repealed Roe v. Wade. Abortion is now illegal in a significant portion of the country. What does this mean for information access? This NNLM Region 6 Spotlight Speaker Series
The webinar will discuss reproductive health as an information access concern, introduce the Reproductive Justice framework, and offer ideas for how libraries can provide create environments that are supportive of sexual and reproductive health information.

Barbara Alvarez is a PhD student in Information Science at University of Wisconsin–Madison with a focus on reproductive health. Barbara is the author of *The Library's Guide to Sexual and Reproductive Health Information* with ALA Editions. She is a 2022 Library Journal Mover & Shaker and a 2011 Spectrum Scholar.

The webinar will be held on July 18 from 9-10 am PT. [Register here to attend](#). The recording will be available on the [NNLM YouTube channel](#) 1-2 weeks following the live webinar.

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**Third Thursdays: Trustee Topics**

**June 15, 4:30-5:15 pm**

Please join Washington State Library for **Third Thursdays Trustee Topics: Conversations For and About Libraries.** **Third Thursdays Trustee Topics** is designed as a 30-minute live session with Sara Jones, the Washington State Librarian, and Library Boards/Trustees, Directors, and subject matter expert guests. This will be followed by up to 15 minutes of questions and answers.

The conversations will be recorded and available to replay to boards, trustees, staff, and at events. The question-and-answer portions will not be recorded.

The **June 15** conversation will be with Deborah Doyle, President Elect of United for Libraries and and Library Commissioner in Sonoma County CA.
Deborah Doyle, chair of the Sonoma County (California) Library Commission, has been elected 2023-2024 United for Libraries President. Doyle will serve as president-elect under 2022-2023 United for Libraries President Dr. Gordon Baker.

This Third Thursdays Trustee Topics webinar will be held on Thursday, June 15 from 4:30 - 5:15 pm. Learn more and register here.

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**Celebrating 10th Anniversary of the Marrakesh Treaty**

June 27, 2013 was a very special day for millions of people worldwide who have difficulties reading print material. The signing of the Marrakesh Treaty was the first step in the journey to end the global book famine for persons with print disabilities. The ability to share books in accessible formats across borders can greatly increase access to reading materials and information. Less than 10% of the published content is accessible so far.

Join the IFLA Section Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities (LPD) and guests in a celebration and exploration of the accomplishments, challenges, and future of the Marrakesh Treaty. In collaboration with the DAISY Consortium they are welcoming on the 10th anniversary of the Treaty representative persons from IFLA, ABC, EIFL, EBU/WBU as well as the first nation signing and the first institutions exchanging books within the Marrakesh Treaty among others.

The diverse program promises about 90 minutes of profitable and informative exchange.

This webinar will be held on June 27 at 6 am PT. Register here to attend.

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*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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**Contact Info:**

Washington Library Association  
PO Box 33808 Seattle, WA 98133  
(206) 823-1138  
info@wla.org
Us!