



Welcome to **WLA Wednesday**

January 4, 2017

On this day: in 2004, *Spirit*, a NASA rover, lands successfully on Mars

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Making Headlines

Apply Now for the 2017 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards



The Reading Road Show, also known as "The Gus Bus," is one of 12 national winners of the prestigious award, the highest honor awarded to such programs in the United States. The Reading Road Show is the only awardee based at a college or university. [See more here.](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, as one of the partner organizations with The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, has announced that the 2017 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards application is now open with a deadline of Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. Registration for the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards Webinar scheduled for January 10, 2017, is now available; [please register here.](#)

This year, twelve award winning programs will each receive \$10,000 and an invitation to accept their award at a ceremony at the White House. After-school and out-of-school arts and humanities programs, also known as Creative Youth Development programs, are encouraged to apply. Programs must:

- Have been in operation since January 2013 for a minimum of five years including 2017;
- Use one of more disciplines of the arts or the humanities as the core content of its program;
- Be aimed at underserved children and youth as the primary participants in the program;
- Involve children and youth as active participants in the arts or humanities experience; programs in which children function only as an audience are not eligible;
- Operate as a program for children and youth outside of the school day; preschool, after-school, weekend, and summer programs, however, may have a school-based component or use school space.

Previous finalists of the program include:

[Zula B Wylie Public Library Storytellers, TX](#)
[Project Generation @ Kankakee Public Library, IL](#)

Previous winners of the program include:

[Teen Space: Circle of Mentoring at Santa Ana Public Library, CA](#)
[Pearl Bailey Youth Program in Newport News, VA](#)
[The Reading Road Show \(aka "The Gus Bus"\) at James Madison University, VA](#)

For more about the awards, and to apply, visit www.nahyp.org.

Look Who's Hiring



Timberland Regional Library has openings for a [Senior Youth Services Librarian](#), a [User Experience and Innovation District Manager](#), and a [Senior Library Manager](#). The deadline to apply for each position is January 29.

[The Pacific Northwest Library Association](#) (PNLA) lists job openings every Monday and you can browse WLA institutional members' postings [here](#).

If you have a current posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please [email](#) us and indicate "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

News & Notes

Alki Accepting Submissions for the Spring 2017 Issue

Conference Communiqué

WLA Now Accepting Program Proposals for ALL 2017 Conferences

Program proposals are now being accepted for *ALL 2017 WLA Conferences*. All proposals from academic, public, school and special library staff, advocates and community partners will be considered. Now is the time to reach out to the dynamic presenters in your communities or share your own skills and experience by leading a Session or Workshop at one or more of our 2017 learning events. [Please visit the WLA website for more details.](#)

- Proposals are due no later than Tuesday, January 31.
- To submit a program proposal, [please use this form](#). To submit multiple proposals, use a new form for each program.

You may direct questions to the WLA office at info@wla.org or (206) 823-1138. We look forward to receiving your proposals!

The Learning Curve

How to Do a TEDex Presentation

It's time to submit articles for the next issue of *Alki*. The theme for the Spring 2017 issue is *Mistakes Were Made*.

Did you launch project or program that didn't work out as planned, but that still had value? Have you had a long-held assumption dispelled after a "failed" interaction with a patron that led to a new way of doing something? This is a great chance to talk about all those things we'd rather not talk about: programs that bombed, services nobody wanted, information interviews gone horribly (or hilariously) awry... with the understanding that goof-ups can be instructive. If you are a resourceful librarian who turned a "mistake" into an opportunity, then this is the perfect time to share it with your colleagues!

Please send your article idea(s) to alkieditor@wla.org and include:

- Your name and position/library
- Description of the article
- Suggested title
- Estimated length (in pages); each page = 750 words (or fewer with graphics)
- Intent to include graphics (photo, logo, other)
- Contact information

The deadline to submit articles for the Spring issue is February 10, 2017. Please see the [Instructions for Contributors](#) for more details. I'm happy to discuss ideas and expectations with you as well. We are also accepting articles that are not related to the theme but are of interest to the WLA community.

Add the Intellectual Freedom Section to Your WLA Membership Today!

Are you interested in social justice and intellectual freedom issues in librarianship? Please consider joining the Intellectual Freedom Section of WLA! Questions? Contact IFS Chair [Ann Crewdson](#). To add the IFS to your existing WLA Membership, or any other Section or Division, please use the [Add a Division or Section](#) form.

Letters About Literature Contest

The annual Letters About Literature contest deadline is nearing. Please encourage teachers and students in grades 4 - 8 at your

Sno-Isle Libraries conducted a major day-long TEDx event in November 2016 with upwards of 1,000 persons in attendance and thousands more watching live. The organization received a 2016 Top Innovator award from the Urban Libraries Council in the category of *Positioning the Library* for its 2015 TEDxSnoIsleLibraries effort.

Hear from library communications director and TEDxSnoIsleLibraries licensee, Ken Harvey, and join in on a conversation on the why, what, results, how, and the scalable opportunities which TEDx presents to public libraries.

Ken plans to emphasize the way this event can be staged by libraries with fewer staff and money resources than Sno-Isle libraries possess.

Designed as a continuing education opportunity for staff of libraries, the free First Tuesdays web presentations let attendees share their skills and successes and learn about new topics. Join the free webinar on January 10th at 9 am For instructions on joining the presentation, [please click here](#).

First Tuesdays is a continuing-education opportunity for staff of libraries in Washington and is [recorded](#) so others may listen at their convenience. Questions? Please contact [Carolyn Petersen](#).

The 2017 CAYAS Winter Workshop - Spanish Language Boot Camp for Youth Services Library Professionals

Kick off the year at this fun, interactive workshop designed to give you the confidence and vocabulary to talk to Spanish speaking patrons about why libraries matter to youth. This workshop was developed by a librarian for those working in libraries who have little to no Spanish language skills. You will learn mini-conversations you can use as a starting point for outreach to patrons who may not be aware of the full scope of services your library offers. You will leave with a set resources to help remember what you learned, and tools you can use to continue learning Spanish on your own. *Presented by Kathy Smargiassi, Children's Librarian and Translator for Sno-Isle Libraries.*

As a result of this event, participants will understand and/or be able to:

school or in your library service area to participate. Homeschoolers are welcome as well.

Level 1 (grades 4-6) and Level 2 (grades 7-8) entries must be postmarked by January 9.

To learn more about this year's contest and/or to print the entry form and participation guidelines for your library patrons, please visit the [Letters about Literature 2017 contest page](#).

The 24th annual writing contest for young readers is made possible by a generous grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, with additional support from gifts to the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, which promotes the contest through its affiliate Centers for the Book, State Libraries and other organizations. This is the 12th year that Washington State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State, has sponsored Letters About Literature as part of Washington Reads.

For additional information, please contact [Crystal Lentz](#).

Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, which fosters children's love of reading and creative expression in our diverse culture, celebrates the 29th year of its Mini-Grant program with a call for proposals. Approximately 60 grants of \$500 each will be awarded to qualifying teachers and librarians at public schools and libraries across the United States.

"For almost 30 years it has been our joy to award Mini-Grants to support teachers and librarians who reach beyond the standard curriculum—creating programs that inspire and encourage students in a creative and cooperative context," says Deborah Pope, Executive Director of the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. "It is essential that educators have resources to create these special programs, and this year we've revamped our application to make it even easier for them to apply for funding."

To learn more about Mini-Grants, including this year's criteria, visit [Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grants](#). The deadline to apply is March 31. Decisions will be emailed to all applicants by early May.

- Communicate with Spanish speaking patrons about why libraries matter for kids and teens
- Make Spanish speaking patrons feel more welcome in the library
- Engage patrons in simple conversations in Spanish
- Use youth services-oriented library vocabulary
- Have a set of tools to support continued learning
- Develop language skills and a community of fellow learners!

The workshop will be held 10am-3pm on January 9, 2017, at the Bothell Police Station Community Room. Registration is limited to 24; don't delay- [sign up today!](#)

Free Learning Series to Explore Dialogue Facilitation

The ALA Public Programs Office and the [National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation \(NCDD\)](#) invite library professionals to attend a free learning series to explore various dialogue facilitation approaches and position themselves to foster conversation and lead change in their communities.

"As our nation becomes increasingly divided, ALA sees tremendous opportunity for libraries to be a leading force for reconciliation, progress and common ground," said ALA President Julie Todaro. "We are proud to make community engagement resources available to all libraries, free of charge, through this initiative."

Registration is currently open for four learning sessions.

Libraries of all types and sizes are invited to attend a one-hour introductory webinar about the resources and opportunities available throughout the initiative. [Register for "Libraries Transforming Communities: Models for Change Overview" \(Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, 1 p.m. CST\)](#).

Representatives of public libraries serving large or urban communities are invited to attend the following three-part series:

In Session 1, NCDD will discuss the range of dialogue and deliberation models available to large public library systems. [Register for "Libraries Transforming Communities: Introduction to Dialogue & Deliberation" \(Thursday, March 9, 1 p.m. CST\)](#).

Call for Public Librarian Survey Participation

Carter Nipper, an academic librarian, invites public librarians to participate in a short, six-question anonymous survey concerning attitudes and ideas about information literacy. If you would like to help with this research, [please click here](#). The purpose is to develop a presentation proposal for the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy. If you have any questions, feel free to contact [Carter Nipper](#) directly. The survey will be open until January 15, 2017. Please invite your colleagues to participate, too. This survey is open to all public librarians in the United States. Thank you for your help!

Have news to share? Please send it to the [WLA office](#) by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

In Session 2, leaders from World Café will discuss their method for bringing together large groups of people in a series of small, conversational rounds to spark in-depth conversation. [Register for "Libraries Transforming Communities: World Café" \(Thursday, April 6, 1 p.m. CST\)](#).

In Session 3, representatives of Everyday Democracy will share their Dialogue to Change process, which encourages diverse groups of people to come together, engage in inclusive and respectful dialogue, and find common solutions to community problems. [Register for "Libraries Transforming Communities: Every Democracy's Dialogue to Change Process" \(Monday, May 1, 1 p.m. CST\)](#).

Each session will be recorded and archived for free on-demand viewing on the [Programming Librarian Learning page](#).

Individuals who view all three webinars, live or recorded, will be invited to attend a free pre-conference workshop at the 2017 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. [Read more](#).

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www.wla.org

Questions? Email us at info@wla.org