On this day: In 1698, Russian Tsar Peter the Great imposed a tax on beards.

WLA Scholarship Winners Announced

On behalf of the WLA Professional Development Committee, we're excited to announce the winners of the 2018 WLA Scholarships!

- **Magenta Loera** – Maryan E. Reynolds Scholarship ($2,000)
- **Meredith Kostek** – Maryan E. Reynolds Scholarship ($1,000)
- **Andrea Alaniz** – Hahn-Ahlers Continuing Education Scholarship ($1,000)
- **Dovi Mae Patiño** – John Stanford Continuing Education Scholarship ($1,000)
- **Chimena Kabasenche** – Denny Bond Library Paraprofessional Scholarship ($1,000)
- **Hillary M. Marshall** – Sharon Bates Professional Growth Scholarship ($1,000)

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the WLA Awards Lunch & Business Meeting at the 2018 WLA Conference, October 17–20 in Yakima.

Voting Is Open for 2019 WLA Elections
Pierce County Library System is seeking a Senior Finance Specialist and a Finance Manager. The positions close September 17 and September 21, respectively.

Eastern Washington University is seeking a Dean of Libraries and Learning Commons. The position closes October 15.

Whitman College is seeking an Archives Assistant. The position is open until filled.

The New York State Education Department is seeking a New York State Librarian. The position is open until filled.

The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) lists job openings frequently. You can also browse WLA institutional members’ postings here.

Please take a moment to vote for our 2019 Board, Division, and Section leadership!

Step 1: Read through the candidate statements.
Step 2: Vote using our online ballot.

To access the voting form, you will need to log in to your WLA account. All current WLA members may vote for WLA Board positions, and ballots for WLA Divisions and Sections are restricted to current members of those groups. Each position also has the option for a write-in candidate.

Winners will be announced October 3, and incoming and outgoing leadership will be recognized at the 2018 WLA Conference, October 17–20 in Yakima. The new elected terms will begin January 1. If you have questions or trouble logging in, please contact the WLA office.

**LOOK WHO’S HIRING**

**CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE**

**Early Bird Ends Friday!**

Be sure to register by this Friday, September 7 to take advantage of the early bird discount.
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 Switching to Conference Wrap-Up Issue!

If you’re headed to conference this year, consider contributing to *Alki*! Your WLA journal is looking for:

- Thoughtful reportage on WLA sessions
- High-res images of conference happenings
- Follow-up interviews with keynote speakers
- First-timer/mid-career/old guard impressions
- And of course, articles of interest to the WLA community either on the theme “Cultivating Communities, Harvesting Ideas” or completely independent of the theme

The new deadline for the Fall issue of *Alki* is Monday, November 12. For questions or to pitch an article idea, contact Sheri Boggs, *Alki* Editor, at alkieditor@wla.org.

2018 Washington State Book Awards

The Washington Center for the Book invites you and your family and friends to attend the 2018 Washington State Book Awards! Come celebrate the finalists and winners, and the best books written by Washington Authors in 2017. The event will be Saturday, October 13, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, at The Seattle Public Library, Central Library (1000 Fourth Ave., Seattle, WA 98104).

- 7:00 pm: Awards ceremony in the Microsoft Auditorium; honoring 36 finalists and announcing the winners in eight categories
- 8:00 pm: Reception on Level 3 to honor all winners and finalists. (Light hors d’oeuvres, no-host wine bar, book sale, book signing, mingling.)

The Washington State Book Awards is a free event and is open to all. Event details and directions can be found here. Doors will open at 6:30 pm.

for the 2018 WLA Conference!

When: October 17-20, 2018
Where: Yakima Convention Center

We have a schedule packed full of diverse programs, compelling speakers, and fun events to promote cross-pollination between all types of libraries. This year’s conference theme, “Cultivating Communities, Harvesting Ideas,” honors the bridge-building and innovation happening in and outside of libraries, as well as gives a nod to Yakima’s autumnal agriculture.

We hope to see you in Yakima!

**THE LEARNING CURVE**

WLA Preconference Spotlight: Bridges Out of Poverty

Poverty affects everyone. What can you do to help? If you work with people living in poverty (either directly or indirectly), having a deeper understanding of their challenges and strengths will help you and your team develop better policies, build stronger relationships, and successfully partner with others to reduce poverty across Washington. This training takes a comprehensive approach towards understanding the dynamic that causes poverty and why it’s so hard to get out of it. Learn about: Economic class and the hidden rules that affect behaviors and mindsets; Research to help better understand the root causes of poverty; The theory of change; What key resources, besides financial, help move a person out of poverty if they choose; How to engage the unique strength of people in poverty; Importance of language and communication skills. Participants will also receive specific strategies for improving outcomes for people living in poverty.

This preconference workshop will be offered October 17 at the 2018 WLA Conference. Learn more and register here!

Accessible Library Resources Day

The University of Washington Libraries, in partnership with UW Accessible Technologies, invites you to register for Accessible Library Resources Day being held on October 5, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, at the University of Washington Seattle campus. Register here by September 21.
National Leadership Grants for Libraries

National Leadership Grants for Libraries (NLG-L) support projects that enhance the quality of library and archive services nationwide by advancing theory and practice. Successful proposals will generate results such as new tools, research findings, models, services, practices, or alliances that will be widely used, adapted, scaled, or replicated to extend the benefits of federal investment. This work may be achieved through proposals at various stages of maturity (exploring, piloting, enhancing, or scaling). All applications must designate one of the following project categories: Lifelong Learning, Community Catalysts, or National Digital Infrastructures and Initiatives.

The application process for the NLG-L program has two phases. In the first phase (Preliminary Proposal phase), all applicants must submit a two-page preliminary proposal by September 17. Selected applicants will be invited to submit full proposals in the second phase (Invited Full Proposal phase) of the process. Only invited full proposals will be considered for funding. Invited full proposals will be due March 20, 2019.

Planning Grants will be awarded up to $100,000, National Forum Grants up to $150,000, and Project and Research Grants up to $1,000,000. Learn more and apply here.

OSPI Survey: Balance the Budget

In late April, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) opened a survey asking the public to determine how important they found additional public K–12 education investments. In the six weeks the survey was open, more than 30,000 Washingtonians shared their priorities. See the survey results are available on OSPI’s Medium site.

Now, as OSPI continues to shape agency budget requests for the Legislature and Governor, they hope you will take this follow-up survey. In the survey, you will have $500 million to spend on the top seven priorities identified in the first survey. You will also have the option to include an additional priority if you choose. The survey is available in English and Spanish, and will be available in additional languages upon request. The survey will close at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 12.

Attendees of Accessible Library Resources Day will:

- Explore accessibility best practices for online library resources among all types of libraries
- Hear from students and staff about how they use assistive technology to help them access digital resources
- Workshop accessibility problems with library resources and assistive technology
- Tour the UW Accessibility Technology Center
- Learn about procurement and how to work with vendors
- Formulate ways you can be a part of the solution
- Enjoy provided refreshments and lunch

Successful Voter Outreach

Libraries offer a prime opportunity for voters to gain access to critical information they need to cast a knowledgeable vote. Whether your library has a longstanding voter engagement effort underway or you’re just getting started, here are some tips from ALA for getting the most out of your voter outreach campaign this year.

Becoming a Socially-Conscious Library

The Washington State Library’s next First Tuesday webinar is "Becoming a Socially-Conscious Library," September 11 at 9:00 am PT.

As our society becomes more socially aware, libraries (staff, boards and administrations) and our public are finding themselves caught in the middle of the discussion, interest and debate. This session intends to articulate what it means to be a socially-conscious library, issues libraries face in doing-so and charting a path to full engagement as a socially-conscious library. Presented by Marcellus Turner, The Seattle Public Library.

Cultural Competence: Addressing Race Relations in 21st Century

The Washington State Library has just opened registration for a new training being offered this fall. Sessions are in Lynnwood, Tacoma, Spokane and Issaquah.

This session helps to develop participants’
**National School Library of the Year Award**

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has released a revised application process and rubric for its National School Library of the Year Award (NSLY) that aligns the elements of the award with the newly released AASL “National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries.” Established in 1963, the award recognizes school libraries as a unique and essential part of their learning community. NSLY, sponsored by Follett, honors school libraries exemplifying implementation of AASL’s Standards.

The application for the 2019 the National School Library of the Year Award will open in fall 2018.

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**Candidates for ALA Presidency**

Julius C. Jefferson, Jr. (right) and Lance Werner (left) are the candidates for the 2020-21 presidency of the American Library Association (ALA). Ballot mailing for the 2019 ALA election will begin on March 11, 2019 and will run through April 3, 2019.

Jefferson is Section Head at the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Werner is Executive Director of Kent District Library in Comstock Park, Michigan.

Jefferson and Werner will engage in a candidates’ forum Saturday, January 26, during the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. The candidates will each have an opportunity to make a statement and will answer questions from the audience.

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**Free Trainings: Leap into Science**

Free STEM training slots still available for Leap into Science family engagement program. The Franklin Institute Leap into Science is a nationwide program that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families. The focus of this year’s training is balance.

The free trainings will take place on:

- September 19 in Everett at the Imagine Academy ([sign up here](#))
- September 25 in at the Auburn branch of the King County Library ([sign up here](#))

Those who sign up for these workshops will receive a free kit with all the necessary resources to replicate these programs.

The program empowers those who take the training to offer programs in community settings like libraries, museums, and out-of-school time programs to engage underserved audiences in accessible and familiar settings.

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**Social Media Literacy: Purposeful Practice in Every Classroom**

Develop social media savvy in your students using practice spaces focused on digital citizenship, critical thinking, persuasion and communication skills. Explore online and offline strategies and tools to create safe appreciation of their role in becoming culturally competent by: 1) providing a framework on how to address issues of equity and race; 2) creating common language for entering into discourse; 3) increasing ones understanding of diverse experiences and perspectives; and 4) developing tools for engaging across cultures. This framework considers the importance of deepening awareness of self—moving from color blindness to racial cognizance; increasing knowledge of others and their experiences of racism and oppression; developing skills to work effectively across cultures; and advocating and taking action to initiate change. Participants are taught these four components of cultural competence through lecture and small and large group discussion. Prior culturally relevant professional development is brought into context and understanding of diverse perspectives is explored.

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**Teens’ Top Ten Book Groups: Apply Now**

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Library staff can now apply on behalf of their teen book groups for a chance to be a part of the official Teens’ Top Ten book groups. The Teens’ Top Ten, formerly called YA Galley, is an ongoing project in which publishers of young adult books provide advanced reading copies of their recent titles to teen book discussion groups, also known as the Teens’ Top Ten book groups, in libraries. In exchange, teen readers evaluate books for the publishers.

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.

Tune in Tuesday, September 25 at 4:00 pm PT.