December 12, 2018

On this day: In 1800, Washington, D.C., is officially registered as the capital of the United States.

In the Issue

1. Making Headlines
2. Look Who’s Hiring
3. News & Notes
4. Conference Communiqué
5. The Learning Curve

MAKING HEADLINES

Alki: Wrapping Up the 2018 Conference in Yakima

Life moves pretty fast in Library Land and last month’s 2018 conference is already starting to seem like a distant memory. Never fear, the Fall/Winter issue of Alki will bring all those Yakima memories flooding right back. Our conference wrap-up kicks off with three first-time attendees reflecting on the pros—and cons—of coming to their first WLA. From there we take a look at talks by Ijeoma Oluo and Mitali Perkins, and sessions on leadership, virtual reality, feeding kids for free, and creating effective, professional
King County Library System is seeking an **Assistant Operations Manager**. The position closes December 20.

North Central Regional Library is seeking a **Director of Finance and Administration**. The position closes January 4.

Columbia Basin College is seeking a **Library & Archives Paraprofessional 2**. First consideration closes December 19.

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a **Library Associate**. The position closes December 24.

The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) lists job openings frequently. You can also 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.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has launched a new special initiative, **Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries (APP)**, and is accepting grant applications now through February 25, 2019.

This new funding opportunity is designed specifically to strengthen the ability of small and rural libraries, archives, and related organizations to serve their communities, and awards sizes range from $10,000 to $50,000.

**ALSC Midwinter Dinner**

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) Membership Committee would like to invite ALSC members (and prospective signage. We learn about measuring outcomes with "The NUB," recognize the need for rural broadband action, and even say goodbye to Stan Lee. And of course, we check in on our regular features, "I'd Rather Be Reading," "Read This Book," and "Dispatches from Swellville." Enjoy all this and more in the new issue of *Alki*!
members) to a networking event the weekend of ALA Midwinter (Friday, January 25, 2019 @ 6:30 pm). Whether you've been in the organization for 20 years or are considering membership now, the Friday night dinner event is a great way to kick-off Midwinter!

ALSC Membership Committee will make reservations; each attendee is responsible for paying for their own meal. Dinners will be small groups of four or five. A member of the Membership Committee will be in touch to confirm details (where to meet, etc). Limited space is available, so sign up today!

Loleta D. Fyan Grant for Public Libraries

The American Library Association's Library & Research Center is now accepting applications for the Loleta D. Fyan Grant, a grant for up to $5,000 for the improvement of public libraries and the services they provide. Loleta D. Fyan, ALA President 1951-1952, believed that every individual, regardless of residence, is equally entitled to high quality library service and that librarians must be adept in using the political process to acquire this "right of citizenship."

The grant, up to $5,000, is to be used for the development and improvement of public libraries and the services they provide. The project should:

- result in the development and improvement of public libraries and the services they provide;
- have the potential for broader impact and application beyond meeting a specific local need;
- be designed to effect changes in public library services that are innovative and responsive to the future; and
- be capable of completion within one year.

Applicants can include but are not limited to: local, regional or state libraries, associations or organizations, including units of the ALA; library schools; or individuals. Deadline for submissions, sent via email, is January 11, 2019. You can find more information about the grant, how to submit proposals, and requirements of the recipient(s) here.

Oral History Competition for Grades 9-12

Students throughout Washington in grades 9-12 are invited to enter a statewide oral history competition to complement the new exhibit 1968: The Year that Rocked Washington by Legacy Washington, a program of the Office of the Secretary of State.

The competition will open January 1 and run until April 30, with finalists invited to a reception in June. Entries are to consist of a 4- to 10-page written profile or essay, based on interviews and research, telling the story of a person who experienced the tumult of 1968. Winning works will be published online by the Office of Secretary of State. Legacy Washington invites educators to participate in this special event by sharing it with their classrooms. The competition guidelines and entry form can be found here.

For more information email info@sos.wa.gov or call (360) 902-4171.

Google Program Offers Funding for AI, Machine Learning Projects

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) is seeking information on challenges and censorship incidents that occurred in 2018 in
Google has set aside $25 million to fund research work by schools and other organizations using machine learning for "social good." Besides cash, the company's "AI for Social Good" project is also offering support from its artificial intelligence experts, credits and consulting from Google Cloud. Those chosen will also join a "launchpad" accelerator program with mentoring, support and access to Silicon Valley experts.

---

**Nominations open for 2019 ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects**

The International Relations Round Table (IRRT) invites you to submit a nomination for the ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects. Projects must be nominated by an ALA member or an individual with an IFLA affiliation. To nominate a library project, nominators must complete the nomination form and submit it to the International Relations Office by email or regular mail. The deadline for nominations is January 10, 2019.

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.

libraries, schools and universities. Library workers, educators and community members are encouraged to submit reports to OIF by December 31.

OIF tracks challenges throughout the year and provides confidential support to educators facing censorship attempts. Reporting challenges that occurred from January 1 - December 31, 2018 will help OIF identify censorship trends, craft resources, and provide updated information for the annually published Top 10 Most Challenged Books data.

Anyone can report challenges. Those who do can indicate on the reporting form whether the incident is public (additional information can be shared in public reports) or confidential. Challenges and bans can range from books, artwork and databases, to speaker disinvitations, book displays and programs.

Challenges may also be directly reported to OIF Assistant Director Kristin Pekoll by phone (312-280-4221) or email (kpekoll@ala.org).

Pekoll will speak on the importance of reporting censorship during the Facebook Live event "Report Censorship: Defend the Public's Freedoms" on the OIF Facebook page on December 12. Learn more about the event and add it to your calendar on the Intellectual Freedom Blog.