On this day: In 1843, A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens is published in London.

Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration Is Now Open!

Do you know any library vendors, nonprofits, partner organizations, or local businesses that would love the opportunity to network with over 800 library staff from Oregon and Washington?

Registration is now open for exhibitors and sponsors at the 2019 OLA-WLA Conference! This year’s conference will bring together the Oregon Library Association (OLA) and Washington Library Association (WLA) for four days packed full of professional development opportunities and exciting networking events from April 17-20 in Vancouver, Washington.
We will have limited space at this year’s conference facility and we expect to sell out of booth spaces quickly, so exhibitors should be sure to register early.

**LOOK WHO’S HIRING**

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a **Library Associate** at Lake Stevens Library. The position closes January 1.

Central Washington University is seeking a **Graduate Assistant**. The position closes February 1.

Tacoma Public Library is seeking a **Library Public Information Officer**. The position closes January 7.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation is seeking a **Communications Manager**. 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.

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.

**CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE**

**PNLA Call for Conference Proposals**

You are invited to submit program proposals for the 2019 Pacific Northwest Library Association Conference in Spokane, August 7-9. The theme for the conference is *Libraries Leading the Way*. PNLA is seeking programming that focuses on:

- Library leadership skills such as communication, conflict resolution, strategic planning, etc.
- Outreach to diverse and underrepresented patron groups
- Rural and small libraries
- Young readers and community literacy
- New library-related competencies and workplace skills
- Technology and innovation
- Information literacy and #CritLib
- Equity, inclusion, and diversity
- Reader’s Advisory
- Sessions of interest to school, public, academic, and special libraries

Program sessions will be either 75 minutes, 45 minutes, or 10-minute lightning talks, or longer pre-conference sessions. The deadline for submissions is February 28, 2019 and submissions will receive a response from the planning committee by March 31, 2019. To submit a proposal please visit this link.

**NEWS & NOTES**

**Alki: Wrapping Up the 2018 Conference in Yakima**

**THE LEARNING CURVE**

**Delivering Value to Your Community through Your Library's Electronic Resources**

On January 8 at 9:00 am PT, join librarians across Washington and marketing representatives from NewsBank for a discussion about how to maximize the use of your electronic resources and get the most out of your library’s investment. This First Tuesdays webinar will cover:

- How other Washington libraries are promoting their collections to their
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 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*!

### Four Washington Libraries Selected for ALA Great Stories Club

Seventy libraries, including four in Washington, have been selected to participate in the American Library Association’s Great Stories Club series on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT), a thematic reading and discussion program series that will engage underserved teens through literature-based library outreach programs and racial healing work.

Below are the Washington libraries participating in this project and their community partners:

- [Community 1] (Contact information here)
- [Community 2] (Contact information here)
- [Community 3] (Contact information here)
- [Community 4] (Contact information here)

### Mini-Conference on Classroom Writing Instruction

Join K-12+ educators from Snohomish County and the region as Ruth Culham presents information and guides two workshops that reinforce, improve and excite our classroom writing instruction. This mini-conference, presented by the Washington State Literacy Association (WaSLA) and Snohomish County Literacy Council, will be January 19, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, at Eisenhower Middle School in Everett.

Ruth will lead two workshops: "What's in Your Writing Wallet" and "Becoming a Writing Thief." With her expertise, you can bring to our classrooms the renewed excitement for integrating the writing process and 6 Traits in your instructional practices. This mini-conference is free to WaSLA members and $30 for non-members (payable by check or cash at the door). Snacks will be provided. Register here!

### Apply for a 2019 RBMS Conference Scholarship!

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) offers scholarships to subsidize first-time conference attendance by professional librarians, qualified paraprofessionals, and students. RBMS is currently accepting scholarship applications for the 2019 RBMS Conference, Response & Responsibility: Special Collections and Climate Change, to be held in Baltimore, Maryland from June 18-21, 2019. The deadline to apply for scholarships is January 11 and applicants will be notified on or before March 1. Learn more and apply.

### Letters About Literature: Youth Writing Contest Deadline Extended to January 11

Register here.
Everett Public Library, partnering with Sequoia High School
Sno-Isle Libraries, partnering with Oak Harbor School District
Seattle Public Library, partnering with Interagency Academy Alternative High School
Pierce County Library System, partnering with Write253 at Remann Hall

**Pat Carterette Professional Development Grant**

The ALA Learning Round Table (LRT) will award up to $1,000 to an individual to attend a professional development event between September 1, 2019 and August 31, 2020. The award recipient will be required to share their new learning with other Round Table members in some way (newsletter, blog, list serve, etc.). Applicants do not have to be ALA members to apply. Applicants must respond to this questionnaire by February 15, 2019, at 9:59 pm PT.

Please note: The maximum grant amount is $1,000 (reimbursement with receipts). Any costs above this will be the responsibility of the recipient. In addition to the financial award, the recipient will be provided with access to a member of LRT, who will serve as a “Professional Development Mentor” throughout the award year. If the recipient is already an ALA member, they will also receive a free one-year membership in LRT. The award recipient will be notified in May 2019. For more information, please visit the Pat Carterette Professional Development Grant website.

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.

Do you know someone grades 4 through 12 who loves to write? Take a look at entering the Letters About Literature contest sponsored by Washington Center for the Book and Library of Congress. To enter, students read a book and write a 400- to 800-word letter to the author (living or dead) about how the book changed their view of the world or themselves. It’s a powerful contest and a great chance for writers to get their voices out into the world. Deadline extended to January 11, 2019!

**Library Instruction Increases Student Success at WSU**

Washington State University (WSU) was featured in the American Libraries newsletter this week for an article showing the positive correlation between library instruction and student success. One study conducted by the Greater Western Library Alliance surveyed 1,725 freshman-level courses and 25,327 students at 12 research universities, including WSU, and found that library training classes is highly associated with student retention at universities.