



WELCOME TO WLA WEDNESDAY

September 9, 2020

On this day: In 1776, the Continental Congress formally declared the nation's name to be the "United States" of America, replacing the term "United Colonies."

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MAKING HEADLINES

#WLA2020 Preconference Webinar Series Continues!

Preconference Webinars are now underway as we ramp up to #WLA2020.

In the series today, September 9 from 10:00–11:30 am: **It's 2020: Do You Know Where Your Data Is?** In this free webinar, Kathleen Sullivan and Tami Masenhimer with the Washington State Library will "train the trainer," showing participants how to audit their data, read and review terms, control settings, and participate in the growing public discussion about data rights and responsibilities in order to educate patrons back home.

Next week, September 16 from 10:00 am–12 pm & 1:00–3:00 pm: **Transforming Teen Services with Connected Learning.** Discover how you can respond to the developmental needs of teens through the Connected Learning framework with Siri Hiltz, Sara White, and Nicole Rawlinson. Learn how to develop accessible, low- or no-cost enrichment programming to ensure that all teens have the opportunity to dive deeper into their own interests while creating connections for their future. *This training will be a total of four hours with a lunch break in the middle.*

Registration is separate from conference registration. You can register for individual webinars separately or purchase access to the entire series. Two webinars are grant-funded and free to attend.

Upcoming Webinars:

- 9/21: Evolving Your Libraries' Service for Job Seekers & Small Business
- 9/23: Creating Clear & Proactive Harassment Training for Your Library

Cast your vote in the WLA Elections!

Current WLA members, please take a moment to vote for our 2021 Board, Division, and Section leadership! Voting is open August 26–September 23, 2020.

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.

Winners will be announced September 30 in the WLA Wednesday newsletter, and incoming and outgoing leadership will be recognized at the Awards Lunch on October 8 during the virtual 2020 WLA Conference. The new elected terms will begin January 1, 2021.

If you have questions or trouble logging in, please contact the **WLA office**.

LOOK WHO'S HIRING

The Office of the Secretary of State is seeking a **State Librarian**.

University of Washington Libraries is seeking a **Director of the University of Washington-Tacoma Library and Associate Dean of University Libraries**. The position is open until October 2.

University of Washington Libraries is seeking an **Operations and Strategic Programs Assistant** at UW Tacoma. The position is open until September 18.

The Pend Oreille County Library District is seeking a **Youth Programs Specialist**.

Lake Washington School District is seeking a **Library Media Specialist**.

If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email info@wla.org and indicate "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

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

CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE



Deadline Approaching to Register at the #WLA2020 Organizational Rate

Planning to take advantage of the organizational rates for the 2020 WLA Conference? Make sure to submit your registration by Monday, September 14.

An all-access pass allowed by the organizational rate will allow your staff from all levels, roles, and career stages to attend for a flat fee.

Follow these steps to register at an organizational rate:

1. Determine your rate [here](#).
2. **Purchase your pass** to receive your Organizational Rate discount code.
3. Register your group. Your employees can either register themselves as individuals with the discount code, or you can submit an Excel spreadsheet with attendee information

THE LEARNING CURVE

Call for WLA 2020 Conference Academic Posters!

Do you have a tool, project, or idea that aligns with this year's conference theme, 2020 Vision: Looking to the Future, that you'd like to share with your fellow professionals? The WLA Conference Committee invites you to submit a proposal to our **Academic Poster Session**, which will take place during the annual WLA Conference, October 5-10, 2020. Proposals are due September 16, 2020.

For more information on poster sessions, guidelines, and submitting a proposal, get started [here](#)!

Washington State Broadband Access and Speed Survey

The Washington State Broadband Office mapping initiative will help identify gaps in high-speed internet service and areas of broadband infrastructure needs in order to advance the state's goal to have universal broadband access in Washington by 2024.

Take the **One-Minute Access and Speed Survey** today!

WSU Foley Institute Online Event: Conspiracy Theories & Social Media

Why do conspiracy theories play such a prominent part in contemporary politics? Professor Joe Uscinski from the University of Miami will discuss the role conspiracies theories play, who believes them, and why. Uscinski is coauthor of *American Conspiracy Theories* (2014), and author of *Conspiracy Theories: A Primer* (2020).

Tune in on Wednesday, September 9, 12:00 - 1:00 pm, on the **Foley Institute YouTube channel**. Check out more upcoming election events [here](#)!

AASL Town Hall on September 18

The AASL (American Association of School Librarians) **Town Halls** return as educators prepare to return to school – in whatever format the learning environment may take. Join AASL leadership and your

Email info@wla.org for additional assistance!

NEWS & NOTES



2020 Washington State Book Award Finalists Announced!

The Washington Center for the Book has selected **39 finalists** in eight categories for the 2020 Washington State Book Awards (WSBA) for outstanding books published by Washington authors in 2019.

NCOA Working with Libraries to Distribute Aging Mastery Program

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is expanding the Aging Mastery Program (a holistic health promotion program) within Washington State and welcomes the participation of your library/library system.

Washington State was awarded a three-year Aging Mastery Program grant with the goal of offering the AMP program to seniors in rural Washington State with a population of 50k or under.

In response to COVID-19, NCOA is now offering free Aging Mastery Starter Kits and related activities to older adults in rural areas to promote healthy aging and reduce social isolation. Contact **Virginia Adams** or **Rebecca Matter** for more information.

Share Your Library Stories!

The WLA Advocacy Committee is collecting library stories, and we want to hear from you!

Storytelling is a powerful tool that can connect us, inspire us, and lead us to new opportunities. These stories are helpful when advocating the power of libraries and their efforts to others, such as legislators, stakeholders, and grant committees.

colleagues to talk about how you're updating your practice based on lessons learned from the spring.

ALA Survey: Library Response to Business Needs

The ALA Office of Policy and Advocacy wants to ascertain promising practices for libraries as they serve low-income and/or underrepresented small business owners and entrepreneurs who are seeking new business opportunities to operate in the pandemic-challenged environment.

Participants are asked to complete this [survey](#) by September 11, which was developed to support research into the impacts of COVID-19 on local, small businesses and entrepreneurs and how libraries can support small businesses as they pivot, adapt, or innovate.

Invitation to Participate in a Research Survey: True Value - Making Librarian Labor Visible

PhD Students at Syracuse University are interested in learning more about the invisible labor and traditionally unrecognized work of librarians so that it can be included in discussions of library value. If you were working at a library in any paid position in 2019 (staff, paraprofessional, or professional), we would love to hear about your experience with invisible labor.

Participants are asked to complete an [online questionnaire](#). This survey is voluntary and will take about 20 minutes. The protocol has been fully approved by Syracuse University IRB. We encourage you to participate by September 15, 2020.

WLA wants to hear your library story so that we can be better advocates for our communities. What does your library do for you? Share your story [here](#).

WLA Statement on Anti-Racism

The Washington Library Association decries the brutality Black communities experience from those charged to protect and serve. Libraries are providers of vital resources for historically under-served communities, and this work has never been more important than it is now. We are responsible for continuing to do this difficult, sometimes painful work that demands we address our biases and how they impact our ability to serve our communities equitably. We urge library professionals across Washington to fight for Black lives, actively oppose systemic oppression and police brutality, and prioritize anti-racism in all that we do. The WLA Board is committed to doing this anti-racist work within our association. To be silent is to be complicit.

The Urban Libraries Council has also released a poignant statement on race and social equity, which serves as a baseline for libraries to build policies and actions designed to make their communities more inclusive and just. The statement has been signed by 163 public libraries across North America. Learn more [here](#).

Additional Resources

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.