



# WELCOME TO WLA WEDNESDAY

September 16, 2020

On this day: The Mayflower set sail for America 400 years ago.

## In the Issue

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

## MAKING HEADLINES

### #WLA2020 Preconference Webinar Series Continues!

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

Next week, September 21 from 10:00 am–11:30 pm: **Evolving Your Libraries' Service for Job Seekers and Small Business.** The role of libraries in community economic development has evolved beyond supporting job seekers with resume classes and mock interviews. With unemployment at its highest since the Great Depression, services for job seekers and small businesses are vital. In this interactive webinar with Elizabeth Laukea (Washington State Library), learn how your library can use tools from Google to serve your patrons, be they job seekers, career explorers, entrepreneurs, or business owners micro2macro.

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 Webinar:

- 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 through Wednesday, 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 UW-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.

Renton Technical College is seeking an **Open Educational Resources (OER) & Instruction Librarian**. The position is open until October 8.

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

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

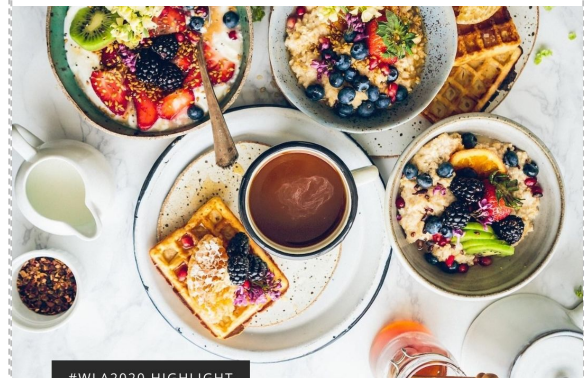
**The Pacific Northwest Library Association** (PNLA) lists job openings frequently. You can also browse WLA institutional members' postings [here](#).

## THE LEARNING CURVE

### Last 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

## CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE



### ScLD/CAYAS Book Award Breakfast

[www.wla.org/2020-wla-conference](http://www.wla.org/2020-wla-conference)

Join WLA's School Library Division and the Children and Young Adult Services Section (CAYAS) for a Book Award Breakfast! BYOB – Bring Your Own Breakfast, that is – and come celebrate our **#WLA2020** Book Award Winners.

WLA Book Award-Winning authors will join us to accept their awards and participate in a Q&A with attendees. This event is free to conference registrants!

- **Troy Cummings**, author of *Can I Be Your Dog?* (2020 WCCPBA Winner)
- **Aron Nels Steinke**, author of *Mr. Wolf's Class* (2020 OTTER Award Winner)
- **Elizabeth Rusch**, author of *Avalanche Dog Heroes: Piper and Friends Learn to Search the Snow* (2020 Towner Award Winner)
- **Shannon Hale**, author of *Real Friends* (2020 Sasquatch Award Winner)

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 today, September 16, 2020.

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

### **School Library Division Roundtable next Friday!**

School librarians, let's talk about what's working as our chaotic school year has begun! Join the ScLD on Friday, September 25 from 12 pm-12:30 pm for a lunch break Friday Forum! Register [here](#).

Interested in helping to facilitate? Send an email to [Hillary Marshall](#) and [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org).

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

### **Professional Development Course for Citizen Science!**

This free National Library of Medicine webinar shows how citizen science can be an amazing way to participate in research efforts – often done from a mobile device, from one's home, or from a library. Participants can expect to learn how to support citizen science in their communities and ways that libraries can easily participate. Register for the webinar [here](#), which takes place Monday, September 21 at 10 am.

### **Grant Opportunity for Mini Computer Kits**

Through Washington State Library, Microsoft is offering **micro:bit Basic kits** and a limited number of **micro:bit Expansion/Starter kits** to libraries in the state. These resources can be made into or added to STEM kits. Want some for your library? Make your request to

- **LeUyen Pham**, illustrator of *Real Friends* (2020 Sasquatch Award Winner)

## **NEWS & NOTES**

### **WLA Advocacy Corner School Libraries in the Time of COVID: We can do hard things!**

Check out Advocacy Committee member Sam Harris's newsletter below, as she focuses on confronting misinformation and misunderstanding, leveraging existing relationships and building new ones, and promoting your expertise as an information literacy professional during COVID.

*It was a rough spring all around, from the rapid switch to remote learning and the physical distance between us and most of our library spaces, to the domino effect of classroom teachers (and our own) cognitive overload, library programs took a back seat in many schools. Despite it all, librarians stepped up and showed the innovative thinking and essential support for learning that we are known for...[read more in WLA's Advocacy Corner](#).*

### **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.

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](#).

### **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

**Elizabeth Laukea** by September 24 with how many basic and expansion kits you are requesting; 1-2 sentences on their intended use; contact information for future STEM-related offers; and shipping information.

### **How to be an Anti-Racist Family – Webinar Series**

Join Kenesha Lewin of Lewin Education and Consulting for a three-part webinar series centered on anti-racism strategies, Saturdays Oct. 3, 10, and 17 at 10-11:30 am. The series will focus on white supremacy culture, approaches to take with family and friends, the meaning of being anti-racist, and more. Registration is required. Join the series, hosted by Sno-Isle Libraries, by starting [here](#).

### **LIVE from the Library Lounge: Rethinking Libraries in the Wake of Protests and the Pandemic**

We've all seen the statements of solidarity from various institutions following the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in May. But what do these statements mean in practice? How do libraries back up their words with actions? And how do libraries pursue change in the midst of a public health crisis and the economic and social disruption wrought by the pandemic?

In this free webinar in *Publishers Weekly's* LIVE from the Library Lounge, take stock of this unprecedented cultural moment and kick off a discussion on how libraries can proceed on the path to becoming the anti-racist, truly equitable institutions our society needs.

Tune in Tuesday, September 22, 8:00 am PT. **Register [here](#)!**

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.

### **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.