



WELCOME TO WLA WEDNESDAY

January 6, 2021

New Year, New Updates

2021 is here! Welcome to the new year and to the new WLA Wednesday!

We've switched to a new format with greater contrast, larger font size, and one-column layout to increase accessibility and readability. You can rely on WLA Wednesday to continue providing job listings in the state, announcements on professional development and networking events, calls to participate in conferences and research, and more opportunities to lead, advocate, educate, and connect.

Have news to share? Send it to our new WLA Wednesday email newsletter@wla.org by Monday to be included in that week's digest.

Look Who's Hiring

The Office of the Secretary of State is seeking a [Youth Services Librarian](#). This position is open until January 22.

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library is seeking an [Outreach Librarian](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking an [IT Director](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Branch Librarian - Peshastin](#).

Tacoma Community College is seeking a [Manager of Online Learning Support](#). This position is open until January 10.

University of Puget Sound is seeking a [Public Services Specialist](#). This position is open until January 10.

University of Washington Health Sciences Library is seeking an [Assistant Director](#) in the Regional Medical Library.

If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email newsletter@wla.org and indicate "Look Who's Hiring" in the subject line.

Conference Bulletin

Registration for ALA Midwinter Closes Soon!

ALA JANUARY 22-26, 2021

MIDWINTER MEETING & EXHIBITS

VIRTUAL

ALA American Library Association

ALA Midwinter Virtual is fast approaching and will take place January 22-26! Make sure to [register](#) by January 15.

The conference will include "New Urgencies for Change" sessions from the [Symposium on the Future of Libraries](#), [News You Can Use series](#), special author events, a virtual Exhibit Hall, [the Youth Media Awards](#), live-chat presentations, and networking opportunities.

[Featured speakers](#) include Opening Session speakers Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain, ALA President's Program speaker Joy Harjo, and Closing Session speaker Dr. Jill Biden.

PILLARS Symposium: Call for Proposals

The [PILLARS Symposium](#) is looking for presentations from high school and college-level educators that represent a wide range of student experiences for its virtual conference. Conference dates are July 7-9, 2021. [Submit](#) your proposal by **Friday, January 22**.

Applicants should show how work in their field contributes to successful college readiness. Presentations should be 45-60 minutes in length, in a format that best suits your topic, and includes time for discussion or Q&A, and covers one of the following topics:

- Exceptional Learners
- High School Experience
- First-Year College Experience
- Instructional Practices
- Other Ideas

For more information, please contact the planning committee at pillars@esln.org.

News & Notes

Exterior Connectivity Project Grant Opportunity

[Washington State Library](#) has launched the new [Exterior Connectivity Project](#) grant award to help public libraries and tribes standardize and extend WiFi connectivity. This opportunity is part of [CARES Act funding](#) provided by the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) to WSL.

[Apply online](#). WSL will review applications and make awards on a weekly basis as long as funding is available.

This exterior WiFi should provide connectivity beyond building walls and regular hours of operation. This grant opportunity seeks to enable libraries to increase their coverage and build stronger networks for patrons. WSL will reimburse 50 percent of the agreed upon allowed expenses per site completed in each project. A project may cover exterior connectivity for multiple locations.

If you have questions or would like more information, email WSLgrants@sos.wa.gov.

NEH Announces Grant Awards for Humanities Projects Nationwide

The National Endowment for the Humanities has [announced](#) grant awards of \$32.8 million to support innovative digital projects for the public, humanities

initiatives on college campuses, and infrastructure projects at cultural institutions. This cycle includes the first awards made under the NEH/AHRC [New Directions for Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions](#) program.

Six projects in Washington State will receive a combined total of \$1.5 million. More information about those projects can be [read](#) in the NEH December's Awards and Offers report.

The Learning Curve

YACHT Club: Youth Homelessness Prevention & Libraries

Join YACHT Club on Thursday, January 7 at 10 a.m. for its second meeting. [Register here](#). January's discussion will center on youth homelessness in Washington state and the role that libraries can play in prevention efforts and supporting homeless and unstably housed youth. After [registering](#), review the linked resources below to prepare for discussion.

- ["The Future of Healing"](#)
- ["Positive Youth Development - Tools & Guides"](#)
- [Washington State Data](#)
- ["Improving Stability for Youth Exiting Systems of Care"](#)

The recording will be posted after the meeting to [WSL Youth Services Niche Academy](#).

Media Literacy for Adults: Meeting Patrons Where They Are

[Register](#) for this free webinar, as part of a [new series](#) from ALA on Media Literacy in the Library, on January 12 at 11 a.m. PST.

People who need media literacy skills may not be eager to sign up for a program or class on the subject; in fact, they may not know their skills are lacking at all. In this webinar, Kristen Calvert (Dallas Public Library) and Amber Conger (Kershaw County Library) will cover how library workers can meet the needs of their adult patrons and how to incorporate media literacy practices in existing programs and at the reference desk.

Can't make it to the webinar? ALA has [released](#) a free practitioner's guide on adult media literacy education.

iSchool-CIP Lecture Series: Community Approaches to Misinformation

The UW [iSchool](#) and the [Center for an Informed Public](#) will host "Community Approaches to Misinformation" on January 13 from 4-5 p.m. [Register here](#). A link to the YouTube stream will be shared prior to the start of the event.

At its most effective, misinformation draws on local histories, cultures, and identity; spreads from our social media to in-person networks; and alters our everyday behaviors. Join Chris Coward and Jason Young to learn about how misinformation impacts the social and political well-being of our communities, and interventions underway in partnership with libraries.

Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office at newsletter@wla.org by Monday to be included in that week's digest.

It's a great time to become a member of the Washington Library Association. [Join](#) or [Renew](#) your membership today!

