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WELCOME TO
WLA WEDNESDAY

May 31, 2023



New WLA Store!

We've moved our shop to Spreadshirt to offer more size inclusivity, wider selection, and a better user experience. Check it out at wla.org/store

New WLA Store!

More size-inclusiveness. Wider selection of products. Better user interface. And tie dye! What more can we say?

The new and improved WLA store is open, and just in time to order WLA Pride merchandise! Take 15% off your order now through **June 1!**

For more information email info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138.



Application open for the
2024 Conference Committee

2024 Conference Committee Application Open

Thank you for your interest in WLA's Conference Committee! Whether you're new to WLA or a longtime volunteer, we would love for you to get involved.

Committee Chairs are appointed by the WLA President. Committee members are appointed by the committee Chair. Committee terms are a minimum of one year, except for the Program Co-Coordinator/Conference Co-Chair position.

Committee members should:

- Participate in the meetings and activities of the committee.
- Have an interest in the work of the committee.
- Be a WLA Member

To apply, please complete [this form](#) by **Friday, June 2**.

If you are appointed to the committee, you will be notified of your appointment by the committee's co-chairs no later than June 14 for a term starting Monday, July 10. Committee co-chairs may appoint members during term as needed for divisional balance and active participation.

Time commitment: The committee meets once per month and as needed, with email communication in-between. Appointment on the committee will run July 10, 2023–March 3, 2024.

For more information email info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138.



WLA Scholarships - Application Open!

The [application](#) for 2023-2024 WLA Scholarships is now available. A preview of the application form is also available on the [scholarships page](#). Applications are due **June 30**.

WLA scholarships are for members to use toward degrees, certificates, or graduate-level studies, as well as conferences, workshops, or educational events! To learn more about requirements, preview the form, and more, visit the [WLA Scholarships page](#).

Questions? Email info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138.

WLA PD Committee 2023-24 Mentoring Cohort Sign-Up

Are you a librarian who wants to grow your skills and network with other professionals? Do you have valuable experience and insights to share with your peers? If so, you are invited to join our librarian mentoring cohort!

Don't miss this chance to be part of a supportive and inspiring community of librarians! **Please use [this form](#) to let us know you are interested in joining the WLA PD Committee 2023-24 Mentoring Cohort.**

Benefits of Participating:

- Mentees: Develop your skills, learn from the best, and build professional relationships.
- Mentors: Develop future leaders, grow your leadership skills, and contribute to the profession.

Learn more at wla.org/mentoring. If you have additional questions, please reach out to the WLA Office at info@wla.org.



Alki wants to hear from YOU!

Last Call for Papers: WLA All Day

The hard deadline for late submissions to Alki is fast approaching! Make sure to send your article to alkieditor@wla.org no later than June 9th. Any submissions received after this date will be set aside for future publication.

Alki's Summer issue is dedicated to the WLA community going on. The Spring conference is the biggest WLA event of the year but it's not the only event of the year. Here is your chance to showcase your involvement in the Washington library community.

Some topic examples:

- Division, section, or committee activities
- WLA conference in March
- Statements from scholarship, award, and grant winners past and present

- Unofficial member gatherings or events
- Whatever you have to say about WLA!

Creative pieces, art, and photos are encouraged.

Email your submissions as a .doc, .docx, or Google Doc to alkieditor@wla.org with the following:

- Title
- Author name(s) and affiliation(s)
- Short bio written in third-person, and headshot of author(s)
- Any citations are in Chicago Manual of Style
- Images in .jpg or .png format. Please include both captions and alt-text
- Chosen quotes or short selections of your article that you would like highlighted as pull-quotes

Alki is a journal by and for the Washington library community. We accept submissions that may not fit our theme but are still important to our community. We welcome content from all library workers, students, supporters, volunteers, and trustees. We publish peer-reviewed articles, opinion pieces, creative writing, and art. The *Alki* editorial committee is available to discuss ideas and expectations. Reach out by contacting us at alkieditor@wla.org. For inspiration, check out [past issues of Alki](#).

Call for Alki Milestones and Art

Send us your recent accomplishments, announcements, and art before **June 13!**

The Milestones section is an opportunity to highlight significant moments for libraries and librarians statewide. Write approximately 250 words to recognize new hires, successful events, promotions, project completions, remembrances of those who have passed, works in progress, and anything else you want to showcase. Library groups, staff, students, retirees, and friends of Washington libraries are all welcome to submit.

Show off your art! Include no more than 3 photos with alt-text description and a short caption.

Art submissions may include:

- book displays
- new or updated spaces (everyone loves a 'before and after')
- artistic expressions of all forms
- posters for upcoming events

Email your submission to Bethany McKinley, Alki Editor, at alkieditor@wla.org by **Tuesday, June 13** to be included in the July Alki issue. Any late submissions will be set aside for future publication.

Vote for the December Alki Theme!

Alki has heard your nominations, the Editorial Committee has voted, and we've narrowed it down to the following themes. Now, it's time to vote for the December *Alki* theme! Choose your favorite by June 20 using [this form](#).

1. Back-to-Basics: In a time when we're often asked to do more with less, what does it mean to focus on core library services?
2. War on Libraries: We've all been reading the news and feeling the effects. What do you see in your communities? How do we do our work in an environment that is increasingly anti-library?
3. Disruption: Change is always happening — whether we're ready or not. What opportunities and challenges do our libraries face as a result?

Vote for the 2023 *Alki* Theme!

For questions, please email Bethany McKinley, Alki Editor, at alkieditor@wla.org

Look Who's Hiring

Antioch University Seattle School Library Endorsement Program is seeking a [Program Associate](#).

Central Washington University is hiring a [Dean of Libraries](#).

Highline College is seeking [Part Time Faculty - Library & Information Services](#).

King County Library System is seeking three [Librarian and Information Services Managers](#) and a [Librarian – Children and Family Justice Center](#).

The Molalla (OR) Public Library is seeking a [Programming and Outreach Librarian](#) for adults and teens.

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Supervising Librarian III](#), a [Collection & Technical Services Manager](#), and [multiple other openings](#).

Neill Public Library (Pullman) is seeking an [Adult Services Technician](#).

Pacific Lutheran University is seeking a [Dean of the Library](#).

San Juan Island Library is seeking a [Public Services Associate](#) and [Library Substitutes](#).

Seattle Central College is seeking a [Library Reference Assistant](#).

Seattle Public Library is seeking a [Data Engineer](#).

The Timberland Regional Library is seeking a [Librarian or Public Services Specialist with a primary focus of Youth Services](#) (Tumwater Timberland Library).

Walla Walla County Rural Library District is seeking a [Courier, Facilities, and Fleet Supervisor](#).

Washington State Library is seeking a [Branch Librarian](#) and a [Library Associate \(Prison Libraries\)](#).

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



Save the Date! ACRL-WA & OR Joint Conference!

ACRL-WA & OR will be holding their joint Fall conference in-person and online Friday, October 27th. For the first time ever, the conference will be held at Lower Columbia College in Longview, WA.

The conference theme is **The Work of Libraries**. People, and their labor, are the core of academic libraries. This work can be exciting, monotonous, high stakes, invisible, precarious, invigorating, and exhausting. Like other forms of labor, work in academic libraries has changed dramatically since the advent of the pandemic, and continues to change.

Stay tuned for updates about registration and conference programs.

For questions, please email info@wla.org.

Washington Medical Librarians Association (WMLA) Annual Conference in Spokane, July 21

The Washington Medical Librarians Association (WMLA) invites you to join them in-person for their annual conference this summer. They'll gather at Gonzaga University in Spokane on Friday, July 21 for sun, fun, and meeting up with colleagues from around the state. You do not need to be a medical librarian to attend. All are welcome!

Visit the [WMLA website](#) for information about registration, events, lodging, and more. You can conveniently sign up for or renew your WMLA membership and get the discounted conference rate at the same time.

News & Notes

2023 School Library Training Day Feedback Survey

The Washington State Library's School Library Training Day Committee is currently in the process of planning their next full day professional development opportunity tailored to the needs of folks who are working in school libraries. In order to design this day to meet the needs of those who might benefit, they have created a survey to gauge training needs and interest! Please find the [survey here](#).

All data collected will be kept private and only used in aggregate. If you feel comfortable leaving your contact information at the end, they will only use it for the stated purposes.

Please help by sharing [the link to this survey](#) with other folks who work in school libraries!

For questions, email WSLtrainings@sos.wa.gov.

Answerland Virtual Reference Chat Volunteer Recruitment

Are you a new MLIS graduate wanting to gain some reference experience to put on your resume? Or a seasoned librarian who wants to further develop their skills? Then consider this opportunity to volunteer with [Answerland](#), the State Library of Oregon's 24/7 online virtual reference chat service!

Through Answerland, librarians across the country help anyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Oregon find answers to questions and receive research guidance. Librarians can keep their reference tools sharp through training and by participating in a collaborative environment that facilitates sharing of expertise, virtual reference trends, and best practices.

Please visit [this page for more information](#).

Answerland is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act and administered by the State Library of Oregon.

Autism-Ready Libraries Toolkit

University of Washington Information School is pleased to announce the release of their Autism-Ready Libraries Toolkit! Over the past 2.5 years they have developed a toolkit to empower librarians to provide services and inclusive early literacy programs to autistic children and their families. This toolkit was designed hand-in-hand with families with autistic children, as well as youth-serving library workers across 42 states.

Their [toolkit website linked here](#) contains free online training modules and resources for youth-serving librarians and library staff in public libraries who would like to better serve families with autistic children. The Autism-Ready Libraries Toolkit can also be used by anyone with an interest in autism inclusion and inclusive early literacy practices, including school librarians, library managers and administrators, parents and caregivers, community leaders, and teachers.

For questions, contact Milly Romeijn-Stout at emilyrs@uw.edu.

The Learning Curve

Upcoming UW Media Literacy Institute

Support your students to develop media literacy skills, like critical thinking and responsible media consumption and production. This course aims to address the pressing need for students to develop media literacy skills, including critical thinking, discernment, and sharing abilities.

Media literacy is not just an essential subject, but also an engaging approach to support teaching in all disciplines. The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) both have issued position papers on the importance of media literacy to each of their disciplines.

Through the Media Literacy Institute, participants will gain the skills to effectively utilize the Center for Media Literacy's evidence-based frameworks and pedagogy to create engaging media literacy lessons that empower students.

The Institute sponsored by ConnectEd will be held online **July 31-August 4th**. Participants will be able to receive 16 clock hours. The registration fee for this course is \$200.

Learn more about the Institute [and register here](#).

The Fight Against Book Bans: How Do We Move Forward?

Book challenges and bans have been on the rise across the nation since 2020, especially in public and school libraries. Many librarians have faced these challenges with courage and commitment to the principles of intellectual freedom and access to information, while others have yet to deal with this issue.

In this presentation, Shannon Oltmann will refresh attendees' understanding of intellectual freedom, explore the rise in book challenges, consider how to respond to challenges, and draw on the experiences and perspectives of other library professionals.

This Niche Academy webinar will be held on **June 14 at 11 am PT**. [Register here](#) to attend.

If you're interested but not able to attend the live webinar, go ahead and register. Recordings will be sent to all registrants after the fact.

Unpacking Conspiracy Theories: Ideas for Confronting the Hydra of the Information Age

Conspiracy theories are nothing new, but the amplifying power of digital technology has turned the dial on conspiracy theories up to eleven. Librarians (and others) who hope to promote information literacy and foster critical thinking skills too often find their voices drowned out by the chatter of conspiracy theories.

Join Donald Barclay to examine the history, components, and appeal of conspiracy theories. Understanding how conspiracy theories work—and why their conclusions are spurious—is essential for teaching students and others to identify and avoid conspiracy theories as well as for reaching out to those caught in the trap of conspiracist ideation.

Topics covered in the webinar include:

- Actual conspiracies versus conspiracy theories
- Falsifiability and circular reasoning
- Conspiracy theories and digital technology
- Types of conspiracy theories
- Characteristics of conspiracy theories
- The appeal of conspiracy theories

This Niche Academy webinar will be held on **June 7 at 11 am PT**. If you're interested but not able to attend the live webinar, go ahead and [register](#). A recording will be sent to all registrants after the fact.

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!



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