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WELCOME TO  
**WLA WEDNESDAY**

June 7, 2023



### **Save the Date for the Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit!**

The [2023 WLA Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit](#) will be held **online** on **Friday, September 8, 2023.**

What is neurodiversity? What does the umbrella-term "neurodivergence" encompass? And how can all library types — academic, public, school, and special libraries — feel confident in their ability to combat ableism, to robustly serve neurodivergent patrons with care, and to support their neurodivergent staff?

The virtual Neurodivergence & Libraries Summit offers day-long programming around neurodivergence: a broad overview of what neurodivergence is, how to improve library services for your neurodivergent patrons, current research around the experiences of neurodivergent library workers, conversations around special autism libraries, and more.

Whether you are new to the field or deeply versed, we are hoping that a gentle program that offers breaks, time for questions, and different presentation styles will equip you to feel more confident and to serve as an advocate for your

neurodivergent patrons and staff. **All sessions will be recorded and made available to all registrants.**

Stay tuned for updates about registration and program schedule!

For questions, please email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org).

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### **Save the Date for the ACRL-WA & OR Joint Conference!**

ACRL-WA & OR will be holding their joint Fall conference in-person and online Friday, October 27 from 8 am - 5 pm. 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 programming.

For questions, please email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org).

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Application open May 1-June 30

**2023-2024  
WLA Scholarships**



### **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](mailto:info@wla.org) or call/text (206) 823-1138.

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### **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](http://wla.org/mentoring). If you have additional questions, please reach out to the WLA Office at [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org).

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**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](mailto:alkieditor@wla.org) **no later than Friday, June 9**. Any submissions received after this date will be set aside for future publication.

Alki's Summer issue is dedicated to the WLA community goings-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](mailto: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](mailto:alkieditor@wla.org). For inspiration, check out [past issues of Alki](#).

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### 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](mailto: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.

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### 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](mailto:alkieditor@wla.org)

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**The WLA Office will be closed  
Friday, June 9.**

**We will reopen Monday, June 12.**

The WLA office will be closed on Friday, June 9 and will reopen on Monday, June 12.

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

**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](#).

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) and a [Librarian/Public Services Specialist - Aberdeen](#).

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](mailto:newsletter@wla.org) and indicate "Look Who's Hiring" in the subject line.*

## Conference Bulletin

### **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

### Vancouver-Area School Librarians Happy Hour



**Are you a  
school library  
professional near  
Vancouver, WA?**

**Please join us for a  
casual, no-host  
gathering of school  
library professionals  
in the SW WA area.**

Celebrate the end of the school year and discuss how we can continue to connect moving forward.

**ALL school library professionals are welcome**

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### 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](mailto:WSLtrainings@sos.wa.gov).

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### **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.

## **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 4**. 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](#).

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### **Joyful Music for Social-Emotional and Language Development**

Join this interactive and fun webinar to learn to connect social-emotional development and music for joyful classroom experiences. Early childhood music expert, Pam Gittleman will share examples that illustrate how both lyrics and melody impact social-emotional learning, literacy skills, and the role of songs in building those skills. You will learn how to use music and stories to support skills and engage students in early childhood settings throughout their daily routines and help families extend the experience at home.

Pam will share research-based ways to integrate music into daily routines and practices. You will also become aware of how music/songs/stories can be shared with families to increase engagement and participation in each child's growth and development.

This Early Childhood Investigations Webinar will be held on **June 8 from 12-1:30 pm PT**. Webinar will be recorded. [Register here](#).

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### **ACRL Presents: Creating Welcoming Spaces in Academic Libraries**

Join members of ACRL's New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee and invited panelists for this discussion of strategies and assessment techniques for making your library welcoming to all users. The panel will address four main questions:

- What does it mean to be welcoming? How do you apply this to academic libraries?
- What are some ways that your library has created a welcoming space for people of diverse backgrounds as related to accessibility, library users with disabilities, cultural backgrounds, language, first generation

students, safety, events, policies, working with other academic departments, etc.?

- What are some ways you have measured progress or success in making your library a welcoming space?
- What tips or suggestions do you have for academic libraries and library workers to help make their library a welcoming space for people of diverse backgrounds?

This ACRL webinar will be held July 11 at 11 am PT. [Register here](#).

Presenters include Dr. Shavonn Matsuda, Head Librarian, University of Hawai'i Maui College; Kristin Meyer, Associate Dean of Collections, Digital Strategy, and Strategic Organizational Development, Grand Valley State University; Denise Leyton, Strategic Projects Coordinator in Library Environments, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI); and moderator Sarah Dornback, Instruction Librarian, University of Texas at Dallas.

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*Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office at [newsletter@wla.org](mailto: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!*



### Contact Info:

#### Washington Library Association

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(206) 823-1138

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