February 14, 2024

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Only a few days left! Order by Feb 16 to receive in time for #WLA2024

Register for #WLA2024 & Conference Workshops by Feb. 21!

Registration is still open for #WLA2024. Advance registration will close Wednesday, Feb. 21, so you still have one week left to register! On-site registration will be available in Spokane for an increased rate; however, meal availability cannot be guaranteed for on-site registrants.

Don't forget to also register for workshop(s) by Feb. 21. Find descriptions on the conference workshop page and a Featured Workshop description below. You can include these new workshops on your conference registration today.
Already registered for the regular conference? Click "Add Workshop(s) to my Registration" below to register for these new workshops.

Add Workshop(s) to My Registration

Register for #WLA2024

WLA 2024 Postconference Workshop Spotlight

This Is a School Library: Creating Libraries for the Learners Who Need the Most
Sunday, March 3 | 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

With a focus on equity and inclusion, this session unpacks how to make systemic changes to library policies and procedures in a way that refocuses the school library on our most vulnerable learners and readers. Together we'll explore next and best practices in collection development, space planning and programming. Participants will leave with practical strategies for creating library spaces that truly reflect their mission.

- Jennifer LaGarde, Librarygirl / Teacher Librarian

If you have any questions, please contact the WLA Office at info@wla.org or (206) 823-1138. We hope to see you in Spokane!
Announcing: WLA 2024 Merit Award Recipients

The WLA Merit Awards offer the opportunity to recognize and highlight the outstanding work ongoing in Washington libraries. On behalf of the 2024 WLA Awards Committee, we're honored to recognize this year's Merit Awards recipients:

**Candace Morgan Intellectual Freedom Award:** Neighbors United for Progress  
_Nominated by Sara Jones_

**Honorary Lifetime Membership:** Steve Hobbs  
_Nominated by Sara Jones_

**President's Award:** Alki Editorial Committee, 2023  
_Nominated by Johanna Jacobsen Kiciman_

**Emeritus Award:** Betha Gutsche  
_Nominated by Steph Harmon on behalf of the WebJunction team at OCLC_

**Outstanding Service Award:** Loly Gomez  
_Nominated by Haley McNealey_

**Outstanding Service Award:** Anna Trammell  
_Nominated by Amita Lonial_

**Outstanding Service Award:** Amanda Six  
_Nominated by Jessica Varang_

**Outstanding Service Award:** Millissa Macomber  
_Nominated by Anne Booker_

**Outstanding Service Award:** Jessica McClinton Lopez  
_Nominated by Nancy Henkel_

**Elementary Teacher-Librarian of the Year:** Sarah Logan  
_Nominated by Cathy Sork & Lisa B. Webb_

**Elementary Teacher-Librarian of the Year:** Jennifer Vega  
_Nominated by Ryan Grant_
Excellence in School Leadership: Michael Christianson
Nominated by Carolyn Olsen

Excellence in School Leadership: Emily Jensen
Nominated by Alicia Rogers

CAYAS Award for Visionary Library Services to Youth: Erin Smith and Mikayla Kittilstved
Nominated by Georgette Rogers

Congratulations to this year's recipients, and thank you to all who participated in the nomination process! Winners will be celebrated on Saturday, March 2 at the WLA Conference Awards Lunch in Spokane.

WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group

The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group has new meeting dates! The next meeting will be on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 2 - 3 pm. Registration to attend this meeting is required. The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group offers Zoom gatherings for WLA members to share their experiences with book challenges, library challenges, and other issues encountered that relate to intellectual freedom.

The WLA Member Services Committee and Intellectual Freedom Section saw a need for these meetings, and the Member Services Committee will minimally facilitate them. The meetings are a member benefit, so there is no cost to attend.

You must be logged into your WLA account to register. Attendees will receive Zoom access information the day before each meeting they sign up to attend. Attendees will be asked to read and agree to the WLA Code of Conduct as well as Support Group Ground Rules during registration.

Please contact the WLA Office at info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138 if you have any questions.
Join the February SRRT Meeting

Another chance to connect over coffee and tea! We'll be discussing how the SRRT can look inward on the WLA to enhance membership experience. What social responsibilities do you want the SRRT to focus on in the new year? A safe-space for neurodivergent library professionals and support staff? Boundary building techniques? Drop-in and share your insight!

Our next meeting is:

- **Wednesday, Feb. 28, 6 pm**

Our Zoom link is available on the [WLA Events Calendar](https://www.wla.org/events).

Dates or times don’t work for you? Take our survey to establish our new meeting time going forward: [https://bit.ly/SRRT2024](https://bit.ly/SRRT2024)

Questions? Please reach out to info@wla.org or call/text (206) 823-1138.
Announcing the 2024 WLA Pawsident - Chewy!

The results are in! Chewy has been elected as the 2024 WLA Pawsident. It was an exciting race with bark-to-bark donations at the last moment, but Chewy secured the lead with a total of $735 raised.

Give all of our nominees and generous donors a round of a-paws for the success they fetched in this fundraiser. You all raised the woof by raising a total of $2800 for our ongoing #SupportWALibraries fundraising, which assists with WLA scholarships, member services, and more.

You can now buy Pawsident Merchandise in the WLA Store - find a design exclusively honoring Chewy, as well as a second design including a collage of all the Pawsidential Candidates on the back.

We hope you'll join us in Spokane as we recognize Chewy at #WLA2024.

Look Who's Hiring

Cornish College of the Arts is seeking a Library Cataloger.

Dayton Memorial Library is seeking a Library Assistant.

Everett Public Library is seeking a part-time Circulation Assistant II.

King County Library System is seeking an Information Services Coordinator.

Kitsap Regional Library is seeking an Adult Services Librarian, a Youth Services Librarian, and a Teen Services Librarian.

NCW Libraries is seeking a Branch Librarian at multiple locations and an Area Manager.
PCLS is seeking a Coordinating Librarian, Customer Experience Clerk, and a Youth Services Librarian.

Primary Source is seeking a Full-Time Grants Coordinator.

Seattle Public Library is seeking a Regional Manager.

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a Library Manager I, Public Services Assistant I, and a Library Manager III.

Saint Martin's University is hiring an eResources Librarian.

Tacoma Public Library is hiring a Librarian II, Cataloging and Processing.

University of Washington Bothell is seeking a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) & Student Engagement Librarian.

Washington State Library is seeking a Branch Librarian (Prison Libraries).

Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL) is seeking a Training & Assistive Technology Librarian.

Yakima Valley Libraries is seeking a Community Library Supervisor IV – Yakima Central and a Regional Library Manager – Region 2.

*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.*
Attend Jamestown S’Klallam Tribal Library’s Grand Re-Opening!

The Jamestown S’Klallam Tribal Library will celebrate its grand re-opening with the public on Feb. 24 at 12 p.m. at 1070 Old Blyn Hwy in Sequim.

A private blessing ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. for Jamestown Tribe elders, citizens, descendants, and families.

For more information, contact 360-681-4632 or library@jamestowntribe.org.

Beginning Fall 2024, grants of $1,200 are available to libraries and other public institutions for programs exploring Latino poetry and its ongoing relevance to American national life.
Presented by Library of America with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), these grants will fund scholar-moderated discussions and other programs in communities across the nation from Sept. 1 to April 30, 2025.

Grants may be used for: honoraria for local poets and scholars; travel expenses; actor/performer fees; publicity and promotion; refreshments; or other costs associated with programs.

Applications are open to all public, academic, and community college libraries, museums, and nonprofit community organizations. Each applying institution must designate a project coordinator who will oversee the administration of the grant. Partial or incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Application deadline:** Feb. 15
**Notification:** March 1

Visit [latinopoetry.org](http://latinopoetry.org) for more information and to apply!

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**Tabletop Role-Playing Games (TTRPG) for All Grants Open**

Grant applications for the Tabletop Role-Playing Games (TTRPG) for All project are officially open! These grants are open to Washington State public, tribal, and community college libraries. You can find complete details, including allowable costs, ideas of what grant funds could be used for, and links to the applications on the [project LibGuide](http://projectLibGuide). Due to limited funding, grants are unfortunately not open to school libraries at this time. We are in the process of planning TTRPG professional development opportunities that will be open to any staff from any type of library and will send out an announcement when those trainings are officially scheduled.

Any questions can directed to [wslgrants@sos.wa.gov](mailto:wslgrants@sos.wa.gov).

Applications are open starting now and are due no later than **11:59 PM on March 15, 2024**. There are two different grants available:

**TTRPG Mini-Grants**

- $400 per library system/standalone library (not per branch)
- Non-Competitive (Every library who successfully completes an application will be awarded a grant)

**TTRPG Innovation Grants**

- Up to $2,000 per selected applicant
- Applications will be assessed on a rubric by a WSL committee
Competitive ($6,000 total in awarded funding)
- Designed for bigger projects with innovative or larger scale ways of using funding to integrate TTRPGs into library services

Supported by funding provided by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Library Services and Technology Act, through the Washington State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Washington Stories Fund Grant!

Washington Stories Fund grants are now available! The purpose of the Washington Stories Fund is to record and share with the broader community the little-known stories of people or groups whose contributions add to the cultural richness and health of Washington State.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 15.

Grant summary:
- Up to $5,000 awarded, match required.
- Seeking to fund projects that elevate public awareness of lesser-known Washington stories, especially those of underrepresented groups.
- Any nonprofit organization, public agency, or group is eligible to apply. While groups do not need to be incorporated or have tax-exempt status, they must be organized for nonprofit purposes. Individuals are not eligible to receive Washington Stories Fund grants.
- Two Washington Stories Fund grants will be awarded this year.

Questions? Contact grants@humanities.org.

Institute of Museum Services Native American Library Services Grants

IMLS is currently offering two grants designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities.

Native American Library Services: Basic Grants

Program Overview: This program is designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities. Reflecting IMLS's agency-level goals of championing lifelong learning, strengthening community engagement, and advancing collections stewardship and access, the goals for this program are to:

- Improve services for learning and accessing information in a variety of formats to support needs for education, workforce development,
economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy, and other types of literacy skills.

- Enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership through training, continuing education, and opportunities for professional development.

**Eligibility:** Federally recognized tribes including any Alaska native village, regional corporation, or village corporation, that offers library services to its community are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services Basic Grants Program.

**Application Due Date:** March 1

**Native American Library Services: Enhancement Grants**

**Program Overview:**

This program is designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities. Reflecting IMLS’s agency-level goals of championing lifelong learning, strengthening community engagement, and advancing collections stewardship and access, the goals for this program are to:

- Improve digital services to support needs for education, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, and digital literacy skills.
- Improve educational programs related to specific topics and content areas of interest to library patrons and community-based users.
- Enhance the preservation and revitalization of Native American cultures and languages.

Projects may involve, but are not limited to, activities such as educational programming for all ages; oral history collection and documentation; digital media and technology enhancements; institutional planning and policy development; professional training, internships, and mentorships; supporting and engaging with cultural practitioners and scholars; research and development of language and cultural material and tools; digitization and digital asset management, and retrofitting of library spaces for staff and public.

**Application Due Date:** April 1
The 9th Annual Washington State Zine Contest Now Open!

- Participants must be Washington State residents.
- Zines must be created in 2023 or 2024 and be at least 8 pages long.
- Submissions will be read by people of all ages; please only non-offensive content in your zine.
- Make at least 7 copies of your zine. Submit 5 and keep the others for yourself. Sharing and trading is a traditional aspect of zine culture! Entries will not be returned and may be added to a library's collection or used in promotional materials.

Find more submission guidelines and view the winners of the 8th Annual Washington State Zine Contest here. For more information email sara.pete@sos.wa.gov.

Conference Bulletin

Become a 2024 WLA Sponsor or Exhibitor!

Registration is still open for #WLA2024 Sponsors and Exhibitors! Thank you for considering a partnership with the Washington Library Association for its 2024 Conference, March 1-3 at the Spokane Convention Center.

View the 2024 Sponsor & Exhibitor Prospectus for registration rates and more details.
Registration Open for nErDcamp Bellingham

Registration is open for nErDcamp Bellingham, which will take place on Sunday, Feb. 18 at Whatcom Middle School!

nErDcamp is an “unconference,” based on the EDcamp model, but with a focus on literacy in learning. It is dubbed “nErDcamp” in a nod to the online movement known as #nerdybookclub and to appeal to the book nerds we are all proud to be.

An unconference differs from a traditional conference because the topics and sessions are determined and led by the participants. It is an opportunity for attendees to share their expertise and learn from each other. There are no exhibitors or commercial components.

nErDcamp is a free event — register here!

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TechAccess Foundation: "The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation"

tl;dr: BIPOC Educators, Librarians, Activists, & Co-Conspirators, this professional development is to help you build the skills and community to sustain you in a time of unprecedented political pressure aimed at education and related fields. Clock Hours are available for educators. Reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

**The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation** on Feb. 23-24 is two full days to imagine, connect, heal, and build.

TechAccess Foundation aims to have all the session content (24 sessions!) up on the website below by the end of the year. In the meantime, check out the hot-off-the-presses keynote title and description for Ruha Benjamin on the event website.

Content will be wide-ranging across headwork, heartwork, and community. Sneak peek on some session titles:

"Working With the Live Wire of Oppression"
"Nourishing Black Bodies in Colonial Spaces"
"Healing Ourselves Deep: Tools for Rest & Liberation"

What else to know:

- BIPOC Educators and ALL leaders in education and related fields are welcome to register
Please share with any educators of color in your circles
Early registration costs $150 (by Dec 8, 2023)
Use the ambassador toolkit to put out the news on your social networks, please!

Please reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

National Storytelling Network Conference comes to Washington!

The National Storytelling Network (NSN) Annual Conference will be held July 11-13 at the Dumas Bay Centre in Federal Way.

Over 90 workshops and concerts will be held, featuring Antonio Rocha, Adam Booth, Eth-Noh-Tec, Elizabeth Ellis, Angela Lloyd, and Gene Tagabon.

See the NSN website for more information.

The Learning Curve

Washington State Library: "Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries"

Registration is open for the four-part virtual workshop series, Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries. This workshop is open to anyone in public or school libraries who is interested in gaining a better understanding of science-based reading instruction practices and how to support emerging and struggling readers in your public and school libraries. More information and registration information can be found below.

NOTE: If you are not able to attend any of the workshops live on Zoom, please input your information into this SurveyMonkey survey. We will inform everyone who signs up at that link when the recordings are made available. There is limited space in the workshop, so if you can't attend live, use the SurveyMonkey link instead! If you'll be attending any of the four workshops live on Zoom, register via LibCal at the link in the below program description.

Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries:
Tuesdays – March 12 and 26, April 16 and 30: 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Alicia Roberts Frank, Regional Administrator for Special Programs/Dyslexia Expert at Capital Region ESD 113

Register Here

All library staff who work with youth and youth collections are invited to this four-part workshop series exploring the science of reading. Throughout the four sessions we will explore how children learn to read, understanding literacy
strengths and struggles, and how libraries can support emerging readers of all abilities. By the end of these workshops, you will have a better understanding of how early learning practices can lead to reading success, ways to support struggling readers, how to guide families toward books that support learning to read, and strategies you can use to better support patrons who are learning to read in your library using science-based practices. Clock Hours are available for School Library staff who are able to attend the live sessions or watch the recordings. A more detailed agenda of what will be covered in each of the four sessions will be available soon.

Register here if you plan to attend any of the four Zoom sessions live. If you are hoping to watch the recordings, you can fill out this SurveyMonkey form and we'll inform you when the recordings become available.

Supported by funding provided by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Library Services and Technology Act, through the Washington State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

WebJunction: "Switching it Up! Creating a Video Game Collection for Your Library"

Video games are a dynamic, modern, popular medium worthy of a place in every library, but starting a collection can feel overwhelming. You might have questions like, how much funding will it require? Are these materials more prone to theft? Is this a juvenile collection, young adult, or one for all ages? This webinar will provide you with practical solutions for all your questions. This webinar will walk through the process of creating, maintaining, and promoting a new video game collection. You’ll hear lessons learned and tips for success that Billings Public Library used to create a successful collection, along with strategies from other libraries around the country. You’ll leave ready to get started creating what is sure to be one of your library’s most well-circulating collections.

Thursday, Feb. 22, 12 pm PT. Register here to attend.

Presented by: Joseph Lanning, Reference Librarian and Archivist, Billings Public Library (MT)

NNLM Region 5 Library Carpentry Virtual Workshop

NNLM Region 5 is excited to announce that they will be hosting a free online Library Carpentry workshop on March 19-21 from 12:30-1:00 pm PT. They have 25 spots available and are prioritizing equitable geographic representation of members in Region 5 (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States).
Library Carpentry focuses on building software and data skills within library and information-related communities. Their hands-on, approachable workshops empower people in a variety of roles to use software and data in their own work and support effective, efficient, reproducible practices. Learn more about Library Carpentry on their website.

In this 3-day interactive, hands-on virtual workshop you will learn core data skills to help you build confidence in working with data in library- and information-related settings. The March 2024 workshop will be covering the following lessons:

- Introduction to Working with Data (Regular Expressions)
- OpenRefine
- Tidy Data for Librarians
- The UNIX Shell and/or Introduction to Git

To be considered for enrollment, please apply by Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. PT. You will be notified of your enrollment or wait list status by Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. PT.

For more information and to apply, please visit the workshop page. Any questions about the Library Carpentry workshops can be directed to nnlm@uw.edu.

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!

Contact Info:
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