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June 4, 2025



WLA 2025 Spring Fundraiser

Online Silent Auction | May 6-31

Thank you to everyone who donated, bid, and spread the word about our silent auction! We raised over \$3,600 and it was all thanks to you!

Item with the highest bid:
Antique Library Card Catalog



\$1,500

Item with the most bids:
Stay at the Lodge at St. Edwards



14

Grand Total Raised:
\$3,676 with 101 bids!

Alki* Call for Papers: Summer Issue - *Building Bridges
Deadline is June 7th!

Did you participate in the [WLA Conference, Building Bridges & Connecting Communities](#)? The summer issue of [Alki: The Washington Library Association Journal](#) will focus on work and ideas that come out of the annual conference. If you presented, moderated, held a workshop, did a pop-up or exhibit, or anything else related to the conference, this is an opportunity to give a more permanent form to your work by having it published. Maybe you didn't present, but you attended? We also hope the conference itself inspired commentary or maybe an unexpected article.

Possible topics might include:

- Reflections on a conference workshop or program
- A field note about a book award—the process, the candidates, and the winners
- An article encapsulating a presentation
- Art submissions of your exhibit or table with a brief description
- Milestones—program launches, space updates, award winners A field note reflecting on your conference experience

The deadline for completed work is June 7. General submission guidelines can be found [here](#). Email your submissions to Editor-in-Chief, Traci Timmons, at alkieditor@wla.org.

For inspiration, check out [past issues of *Alki*](#), especially the summer issues devoted to the conference.

The theme for the winter issue of *Alki* is “Resiliency.” We’ll introduce more on this theme in the next *WLA Wednesday*.



Submit a Proposal for the ALD/ACRL-WA & ACRL-OR Conference this October!

Present with us on Friday, October 17 at Lower Columbia College at the 2025 ALD/ACRL-WA and ACRL-OR Conference!

The theme of the conference, ***Leading from Our Values*** will dive into what it means to lead from intention, authenticity, and purpose. Our committee selected the theme to challenge us to consider how values—both organizational and personal—inform how we teach, research, collaborate, advocate, and lead, from every role in an academic library and every stage of a career. We will explore the ways we shape these values and how values shape our work in turn, even while facing pressure to compromise. By identifying and centering our values in these conversations, we'll be able to re-calibrate our compass and find our path forward.

This committee welcomes proposals on any topic relevant to academic libraries that incorporate this theme through case studies and other forms, particularly proposals that are rooted in practical, daily workplace experiences.

The conference is accepting both in person sessions and pre-recorded, asynchronous sessions.

You may [view more information and submit a proposal here](#). Proposals are due July 15.



WLA is seeking a representative to the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) of Washington State. Applications are due by **Friday, June 20**. All applicants will be notified of their status no later than **Wednesday, June 25**.

The ELAC Representative is:

- Advisory, Non-board position, appointed by the WLA President
- Serves a term of two years; the representative may be appointed for one additional year
- A member of WLA

The Legislature created Department of Early Learning's (DEL) [Early Learning Advisory Council \(ELAC\)](#) in 2007. The Council plays a pivotal role in the early learning system as an advisory body to DEL on statewide early learning issues that contribute to the ongoing efforts of building a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services for Washington's young children and families.

[View more information and apply here!](#)

WLA Community Happenings



ACRL-WA / ACRL-OR Round Table Discussion on Fiscal Constraints

Tomorrow, Thursday, June 5th from 1pm to 2pm, WLA-ALD (Academic Library Division) and ACRL-OR will co-host a Zoom meet up to discuss how we are responding to current and anticipated fiscal constraints in libraries. Both states have had their share of cuts and struggles, not to mention individual institutions having their own unique struggles. At times like these, and with some of us not traveling due to budgetary pressures, it helps to connect even if it's in a Zoom room. [Show your Washington Library pride with our new "Protect WA Libraries"](#)

Shop New WLA Merch!

collection! Whether you're a librarian, library lover, or passionate about There will also be an option if folks want it to go into breakout rooms and have smaller sessions based on school type. Expanding our networks in times of need helps when we run into a roadblock and wonder "has anyone else found a way to fund this or get creative?"

June WALT Meeting

The next WALT (WA Library Trainers) meeting is Tuesday, June 10 from 2pm-3pm. It will be a round-table check-in, so please bring your training dilemmas, successes, and questions!



All WLA Meeting Zoom links are available on the [WLA Member calendar](#).

Look Who's Hiring

Washington State

Edmonds School District is seeking a [Library Information Specialist](#).

The City of Liberty Lake is seeking a [Children's Librarian](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Bilingual Branch Librarian](#) (Mattawa) and a [Finance Director](#) (Wenatchee).

Pierce County Library System is seeking a [Customer Experience Coordinator](#).

Seattle University is seeking a [Metadata Strategist Librarian](#).

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Public Services Assistant](#) (Edmonds) and a [Librarian \(Children's Services\)](#) (Oak Harbor).

Spokane Falls Community College Library is seeking an [Adjunct Librarian](#).

Outside of Washington State

Portland-Metro Library at Oregon Tech (Klamath Falls, OR) is seeking a [Director](#).

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.

News & Notes

Clock Hours Available: Researching Current Trends in Media Literacy and AI Education

Independent Work Time | March - June

Develop a research plan on current trends in media literacy education, conduct research using a time log, create a bibliography, and write a reflective summary.

Hosted By: [Action 4 Media Education](#)

Total Clock Hours Available: 3-10

[Register at this link.](#)

Free Online Webinar- Advocacy at Your Library: Hosting Legislator Visits

June 10 | 11:00am-12:00pm PDT

Want to know the best way you can show up for libraries in your community? Join [PLA \(Public Library Association\)](#) for a free webinar on June 10 on how you can host legislators at your library and make a significant impact in the way they think about the importance of libraries to their constituents. You'll learn best practices, tips, and advice on how to host lawmakers and how to maintain those relationships into the future.

Save your spot now: bit.ly/43yTil8



GAIL Conference: Generative AI in Libraries

June 9-12 | 10:00am-1:00pm PDT

Registration is now open for the second annual Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Conference. This year features two keynotes by AI experts in our field. GAIL is a free virtual conference aimed specifically at librarians that seeks to explore the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in libraries. It is also an opportunity for librarians to share their experiences with generative AI technologies and their applications in the library setting.

Scheduled to take place June 9, 10, 11, and 12, 2025, from 1:00-4:00 pm EDT each day, GAIL aims to promote a deeper understanding of how generative AI can revolutionize library services like instruction, research support, collection management, access services, outreach and collaboration, while also addressing the challenges and ethical considerations this new technology brings to libraries. View more details at the [conference website](#) and [register online](#).



Original music inspired by *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *Sex is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth

June 14 | 7:30-10:00pm PDT

[The Bushwick Book Club Seattle](#) presents a concert of **Original music inspired by *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *Sex is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth**, presented at [Town Hall Seattle](#) (1119 8th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101)

We've got your summer soundtrack covered! Celebrating two of the most challenged books in America, Bushwick goes big in June with a kaleidoscopic double-bill about love and self-discovery. *Gender Queer* is the reigning banned book champ, sitting atop ALA's list of most challenged books in 2023. *Sex is a Funny Word* has been banned and challenged for just about every topic it covers: sexual identity, sexual expression, and all of the weird, wonderful body parts that make us who we are.

Performers include:

[Carly Toyer](#), Evelyn Elston, [Kat Bula](#), [Sam Cori](#), [Christiana Crabbe](#), [K Van Petten](#), [Sailor St. Claire](#), [Kuwaitisiana](#), [Jade Monroe](#), [Jean Mann](#), Jamie Irby, and [Lauren Fernandez](#).

UW Online Course: Media Literacy Institute 2025

August 4-8 | 9:00-11:00am PDT

In the AI age, media literacy education has never been more important. This course addresses the pressing need for students to develop media literacy skills, including critical thinking and deeper insights about the media messages they consume and produce each day. Media literacy promotes inquiry into stereotypes, representation, biases, ethical challenges, and other concerns that must be addressed in a world where AI is becoming ubiquitous.

Participants will...

- Understand basic media literacy theory and how to apply CML's evidence-based frameworks and pedagogy to AI tools.
- Gain practice with close analysis and facilitating a media literacy class, including uncomfortable subjects, and become a confident presenter and co-learner.
- Learn how to integrate media literacy instruction into your school or district curriculum, creating engaging lessons that empower students.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#) Registration is \$300 with a 30 person limit.



Reach Further

**Connecting Libraries
Beyond the Screen**

**PNLA
Virtual Conference**

August 7-9, 2025

Registration Open: 2025 PNLA Virtual Conference

August 7-9 | Virtual

The Pacific Northwest Library Association is excited to invite you to the PNLA Virtual Conference. Early Bird Pricing is open until **July 3**.

This year's theme, *Reach Further: Connecting Libraries Beyond the Screen*, celebrates the power of libraries across the Pacific Northwest coming together online in meaningful and transformative ways.

PNLA represents library professionals from Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and beyond. What better way to connect than through virtual spaces? This conference is an opportunity to forge connections beyond physical borders, expand access to knowledge, and collaborate in ways that transcend distance.

Register at this link: <https://pnla.org/event-5940839>



Burnout in Public Libraries: A Three-Part Series

Brought to you by the Washington State Library and Available on Niche Academy

Library work is rewarding—but it can also be exhausting. This three-part series explores the realities of burnout in public libraries through first-person narratives, research-backed insights, and expert strategies for resilience

- [Part 1: Burnout & Materials Challenges](#) – Understand how moral panics and book challenges contribute to burnout.
- [Part 2: Burnout & Workplace Wellness](#) – Discover how workplace culture, vocational awe, and emotional labor impact well-being.
- [Part 3: Burnout & a Trauma-Informed Approach](#) – Learn how to manage patron-related stress and apply trauma-informed service models.

Includes interactive self-assessments:

- Life Enjoyment Inventory

- Copenhagen Burnout Inventory
- Best Possible Future Exercise

Gain valuable perspectives from library professionals, social workers, and researchers to help you navigate burnout and reclaim your passion for library service.

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.



Authors Against Book Bans is Here for Washington

A new state law prohibits schools from banning books used in curriculums solely because they were written by or about members of marginalized groups. Even so, book challenges continue to be a reality and dealing with one can be stressful. Authors Against Book Bans (AABB) in Washington State is dedicated to protecting the intellectual freedom to read and the availability of diverse voices on library shelves.

Comprised of a coalition of writers, illustrators, anthology editors and contributors, AABB offers support to librarians, teachers, and others involved in book challenges. Some of the ways members can help include:

- Writing emails and letters, sending recorded videos, and/or making phone calls to curriculum committees, school boards, and other decision-makers
- Sharing personal experiences demonstrating the importance of diverse books
- Appearing before public meetings in support of diverse books
- Sending personal messages of support (e.g., email or postcards) to individuals embroiled in challenges

For support or more information find AAB at authorsagainstbookbans.com.

NAMLE

CONFERENCE 2025

National Association for Media and Literacy Education Conference

July 11-12 | Online

Year after year, [NAMLE's annual conference](#) serves as a beacon of knowledge and inspiration, bringing together professionals from diverse disciplines and grade levels to explore the latest resources, technologies, teaching practices, and core concepts in media literacy education. By attending the conference, you'll have access to cutting-edge research, innovative practices, and practical strategies that you can bring into your work to align with the new standards in your region.

We are especially excited to share a closer look at our first programming announcement—our Friday keynotes—two powerful sessions that dive into the role of media literacy and AI in shaping more equitable, creative futures:

- From One Minute to Lasting Impact: Reimagining Media Literacy for the AI Generation
- Connecting Students to 21st Century Tech Skills: AI Literacy & the Digital Divide

For more information on the other great conference sessions, please view the schedule [here](#)!

Library Trends Call for Papers

[Library Trends](#) is pleased to announce a Call for Papers for an issue of *Library Trends* that will explore innovative Readers' Advisory concepts and approaches that reflect critically on the ways in which we serve leisure readers across a wide landscape.

The journal welcomes articles that address both longer theoretical discussions and present shorter, practical applications of service to leisure readers. Perspectives from publisher, independent bookstore owners and/or authors about how they promote books to readers will also be considered.

The complete Call for Papers, including a timeline for publication, is available on the [Library Trends](#) website. Prospective authors are invited to [submit an abstract outlining their proposed article](#) by **Aug. 1**.

Inquiries about the planned issue and ideas for articles should be directed to Guest Editors Robin Bradford (robin.bradford@gmail.com) and Becky Spratford (bspratford@hotmail.com).



Have news to share? Please send information to the WLA office at newsletter@wla.org by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include any relevant graphics, as well as the blurb you would like posted in our newsletter.

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

Save the Date: America's 250th Anniversary in 2026

July 4, 2026



Contact Info:

Washington Library Association

P.O. Box 33608 Seattle, WA 98133

(206) 823-1138

info@wla.org

Washington is commemorating the 250th anniversary of independence in 1776. Washington State has a rich history and is proud to plan events and activities, and recently launched the official America250 WA website.

Connect with Us!

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn

Libraries are encouraged to partner with America250 WA to help educate and promote quincentennial activities. Join the effort by becoming a partner to help plan activities in your community at this [link](#).

Lorraine Ralston, the state America 250 coordinator, will be working with partners to help ensure this commemoration is a statewide observance. Please feel free to contact her with questions at info@america250wa.org.

For more information about Washington State plans, visit America250WA.org.