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June 11, 2025



WLA is excited to announce the launch of the [WLA Bookend Collective](#), a new opportunity for corporate and nonprofit partners to make a meaningful impact on the future of libraries across Washington State.

The Bookend Collective offers organizations a meaningful way to contribute to the strength and sustainability of libraries and the dedicated professionals who serve their communities. Through this initiative, WLA aims to foster long-term resilience, connection, and support for Washington's library ecosystem.

We thank you for sharing this with your network and communities to support the future of Washington's libraries.

Please [visit our webpage](#) for more information!

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## ACRL-WA & OR Joint Conference

Longview, WA. Oct 17, 2025

### Leading from Our Values

#### 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!](#)

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### Send us your milestones for the summer issue of *Alki*!

Have you gotten a new job, been promoted, published something, won an award, held a successful program, done something amazing? Tell us about it! We want to publish your milestones in the next issue of *Alki*. Submissions can be sent to Traci Timmons, Editor-in-Chief, at [alkieditor@wla.org](mailto:alkieditor@wla.org) by **June 20**.

### The theme for the fall/winter issue is "Resiliency"

Possible topics might include:

- How your library has adapted to the current social/political climate
- Dealing with vocational awe, burnout, and mental health of librarians
- The characteristics of a resilient library
- How you deal with the pressures and responsibilities you face in this ever-evolving profession
- Consider this theme broadly!

We're also doing a **special call for what gives you strength**: We are asking library workers to share what keeps you going, what gives you hope or strength right now? Share a brief paragraph and we'll compile these together.

Submissions won't be due until September. Put your thinking caps on for the fall/winter issue of *Alki: The Washington Library Association Journal*.

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## Share Your WLA Story!

We'd love to hear from you! We're [gathering testimonials](#) from our members to highlight the value of being part of the Washington Library Association. Share what you love about being part of WLA—whether it's the connections, the professional growth, or the support. Your story can inspire and connect others across our library community.

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## Shop New WLA Merch!

Show your Washington WLA Community Happenings ["Protect WA Libraries"](#) collection! Whether you're a librarian, library lover, or passionate about protecting public resources now's the perfect time to show your support. Please check back next week for WLA related meetings happening within the week!

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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](#).

Grays Harbor College is seeking a [Library and Archives Paraprofessional](#) (Aberdeen).

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](#) (Marysville) 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](mailto: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.](#)

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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](#), [Kuwaitiana](#), [Jade Monroe](#), [Jean Mann](#), Jamie Irby, and [Lauren Fernandez](#).

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## **Applying Strategic Foresight toward Future-Ready Libraries, Archives, and Museums: Washington State and Oregon Cohort**

**August 5-7, 2025 (PT)**

### **Applications due July 1**

The CT State Library and partner TFSX are pleased to offer 3-day virtual professional development opportunities for organizational cohorts.

In this time of rapid change, we must explore and chart new pathways toward future success, and foster mindsets and skills to help us discover untapped possibilities. Strategic foresight is a framework to help us create multiple future scenarios, envision outcomes and evaluate current and pending strategies to support decision making and action in the present against a suite of possible futures.

Building on four years of the IMLS-supported Transformation for Libraries: The Futures School, the Connecticut State Library and partner TFSX (formerly Kedge: The Futures School) are training organizational cohorts—including library systems, archives, museums, associations, and partner networks—across the United States. The initiative is taking a systems perspective, to integrate strategic foresight into operations and infuse futures thinking into institutional capacity, cultural shifts, technological innovation, model processes, and succession planning. Each cohort member works with a team of their colleagues to apply foresight tools to lead their organization to the future.

*Note: This free professional development opportunity was circulated earlier this year. However, due to the changes at the IMLS, it had to be rescheduled for August 5-7. Applications close on July 1.*

[\*\*Apply Now\*\*](#)

[\*\*Learn more about Transformation for Libraries: The Futures School\*\*](#)

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**Apply Today to Join the Community Webs Washington Cohort!**

The Internet Archive's [Community Webs](#) program is partnering with the Washington State Historical Society to provide tools, support, training, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to public libraries, community archives, and other community-focused organizations across the state of Washington interested in preserving local stories through web archiving, digital preservation, and community archiving. Cohort members will complete asynchronous training and participate in three virtual discussion groups.

This program is **free** to participating organizations who will receive:

- Access to [Archive-It](#), Internet Archive's web archiving tool and discovery platform
- 1/2 TB of storage in [Vault](#), Internet Archive's digital preservation system
- Collections access in [archive.org](#), a digital library with over 2 million visitors per day
- In-person and online training and technical support
- Opportunities and financial support for networking and professional development

**The application deadline is July 25, 2025.** Learn more and apply to join today at [bit.ly/communitywebsWA](https://bit.ly/communitywebsWA) or contact [communitywebs@archive.org](mailto:communitywebs@archive.org) with any questions.

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### **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**

**Register Now for the 2025 PNLA Virtual Conference!**

August 7-9 | Virtual

The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) is hosting a virtual conference to be held August 7-9, 2025.

The theme for this year's conference is **Reach Further: Connecting Libraries Beyond the Screen**. As libraries continue to evolve in a digital-first world, we want to explore innovative ways to bridge the gap between virtual and physical spaces, enhancing connections with patrons, communities, and colleagues - both online and off!

**Early Bird Pricing:** Take advantage of our discounted rates by registering early! (End date: **July 3/25**)

**Mail-In Registration Option:** Registrants may choose to register using the attached mail-in form.

**PNLA Members, Non-Members, Friends/Trustees/Students please register [here](#).**

Exhibitor registrations can be made online [here](#).

Check out the conference schedule at [PNLA.org/conference-2025](https://pnla.org/conference-2025)



### **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.



### **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 AABB at [authorsagainstbookbans.com](https://authorsagainstbookbans.com).

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# 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](#)!

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### 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](mailto:robin.bradford@gmail.com)) and Becky Spratford ([bspratford@hotmail.com](mailto:bspratford@hotmail.com)).



### Save the Date: America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026

Have news to share? Please send information to the WLA office at [newsletter@wla.org](mailto:newsletter@wla.org) by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include any relevant graphics, as well as plans already underway for the commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Washington State has established an official state committee to plan events and activities; and recently launched the official America250 WA website.

Libraries are encouraged to partner with America250 WA to help educate and promote semiquincentennial activities. Join the list of partners to help promote



### Contact Info:

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For more information about Washington State

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