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WELCOME TO
WLA WEDNESDAY

April 3, 2024



Application open for the
2025 Conference Committee

Volunteer Applications Open for 2025 Conference Planning Committee!

WLA is now accepting applications for the 2025 Conference Planning Committee. The 2025 WLA Conference will take place **April 10-12 in Tacoma, WA**. Whether you're new to WLA or a longtime volunteer, we would love for you to get involved.

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

Please complete [this form](#) by **Friday, April 19, 2024** to apply.

If you are appointed to the committee, you will be notified of your appointment by the committee's co-chairs no later than **Wednesday, May 15** for a **term starting July 2024**. 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 and some asynchronous work in-between. Appointment on the committee will run July 2024–April 2025.

Questions? Contact info@wla.org!

Apply for the 2025 Conference Committee!



Alki wants to hear from YOU!

Call for Papers: *We All Belong*

***Alki's* Summer issue submission window is open!**

Alki Summer issues are 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:

- WLA 2024 theme, “We All Belong”: What does it mean to belong within a library? What does it look like? How can libraries best support a culture of belonging? Where do they fail in this mission? What are the major obstacles or threats? What is your library currently doing to better foster a sense of belonging?
- WLA 2024 presentations and talks
- WLA 2024 happenings: events, ideas, discussions, connections, etc.
- Division, section, or committee activities
- 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 always encouraged.

Sign up for your spot today or work through a potential article concept by emailing your name and a working title of your proposed piece to alkieditor@wla.org.

Do you have an article ready? View our submission guidelines [here](#) and email your submissions as a .doc, .docx, or Google Doc to alkieditor@wla.org by **Tuesday, June 11th.**

For inspiration, [check out past issues of Alki.](#)

WLA Mentoring Program Interest Form

WLA will launch its 2024-2025 mentoring program this fall! Please fill out [this form](#) to receive updates on the program later this year. Let us know your interest by **June 30!**

The goal of the WLA Mentoring program is to create a valuable experience for members, build professional relationships, and strengthen the profession within Washington. We invite Librarians, Paraprofessionals, Program Managers, Supervisors, Consultants, Retired, other library staff to participate! **You must be a WLA member to participate.**

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.

WLA Mentoring Program Interest Form

The Sasquatch Book Award committee is seeking new members!

The Sasquatch award is for grades 4-6, with open nominations that are committee selected and student voted.

As a member of this committee, you will be responsible for:

- Nominating titles for a book list
- Reading the titles on this book list
- Attending one all-day meeting in the Spring
- Participating in virtual conversations throughout the year
- Taking on a task (i.e. secretary, webmaster, promotions, etc.) to help support the work of the committee.

Please contact Darryn Hewson at revdjh@gmail.com if you are interested!

Voting Open for the 2024
Washington Children's Choice Picture Book
(WCCPBA) Award



Votes are due on **May 24, 2024!** Thank you for your vote!

How to Vote for the 2024 Award:

- Use the nominee list: [WCCPBA Press Release](#) and [WCCPBA Summaries](#)
- Tell students about the award.
- Record votes.

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR VOTES ONLINE BY [CLICKING HERE](#).

HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS AND PUBLIC LIBRARIANS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR VOTES ONLINE BY [CLICKING HERE](#).

Votes must include all titles in alphabetical order (even if no student voted for a title) and the name of their school and the city or town of their school or library.

If you have any questions about voting or are unable to use the Google Form, please contact [Jolyn Danielson](#).

Voting Open for the
2024 Towner Award



Each spring, students in grade 2 through 6 in Washington State are invited to vote for their favorite Towner nominee if they have read or listened to a minimum of two titles. Student votes can be submitted by librarians only. Educators, make sure to vote for the Educators' Choice! This is your chance to share with others which book you found most useful with your students.

Votes for the 2024 award are due on **May 24, 2024!** Thank you for your vote!

How to Vote for the 2024 Award:

- [Use the 2024 nominee list](#)
- Tell students about the award
- Record votes online by clicking [here](#)

If you have any questions about voting or are unable to use Google Docs, please contact [Lisa Steudel](#) or [Mary-Catherine McElroy](#).



Announcing the 2025 Towner Award Nominees

The Washington Library Association (WLA) is thrilled to announce our 2025 [Towner Book Award](#) nominees! This prestigious award is presented annually in the Spring to the best nonfiction book of the year, as chosen by 2nd - 6th graders in Washington State from a selection of 10 nominated books. Honoring Bill Towner, a respected Seattle librarian and mentor, the Towner Book Award has been celebrating exceptional nonfiction picture books since 2013.

Composed of public and school librarians from across Washington State, the Towner Award Committee works together each winter to choose the 10 nonfiction picture book nominees for the Towner Award. Throughout the 2024-2025 academic year, teachers and librarians will explore the nominated books with students using [choice boards created for each nominated book by the Towner Award Committee](#). Students will cast their votes for their favorite book in the Spring of 2025. For more information, see <http://www.wla.org/towner-award>.

Voting Open for the 2024 OTTER Award



How to Vote for the 2024 Award:

- [Use the 2024 nominee list](#)
- Tell students about the award
- Record votes in the [Otter Award Voting form](#).

The OTTER Award is for ALL students in grades K-5. We recognize that elementary children transition into chapter books at different ages and, as such, do not limit our voting to a specific age or grade level.

Voting opens Friday, April 26th and closes Friday, May 24th.

The 2024 OTTER winner will be announced Monday, June 3rd!

Voting Open for the 2024 Sasquatch Award



Students choose their favorite book from a list of 12 nominees, selected by a committee comprised of Washington State school and public librarians. Students should read at least 2 of the books in order to vote. Each year the Sasquatch Award is presented to the author of the book that receives the most student votes.

Look Who's Hiring

You may view the 2024 nominees [here](#), then vote online [here](#).

2025 Sasquatch nominees have also been announced! You may view the books [here](#).
Central Washington University Libraries is seeking an [Affordable Course Materials Librarian, Full-Time Lecturer](#).

Clark College Libraries is seeking a [Tenure-track Reference and Instruction Librarian](#).

FVRLibraries is seeking a [Senior Branch Supervisor](#), [Technical Services Supervisor](#), [Catalog Librarian](#) and [Youth Services Librarian](#).

Mid-Columbia Libraries is seeking a [Branch Manager V \(Kennewick\)](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Branch Librarian](#) at multiple locations and an [Area Manager](#).

Olympic College is seeking an [Assistant Circulation Supervisor](#).

Oregon Tech is seeking a [University Librarian](#).

Pierce County Library System is seeking a

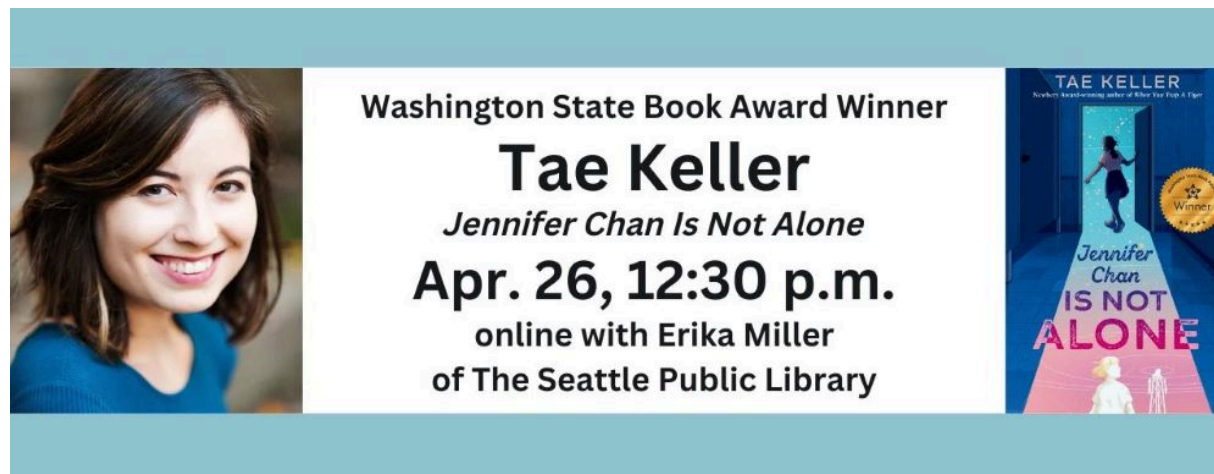
[Community Engagement Specialist](#).

Spokane Community College is seeking a [Reference Librarian](#).

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

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.

News & Notes



The banner features a portrait of author Tae Keller on the left. The central text reads: "Washington State Book Award Winner", "Tae Keller", "Jennifer Chan Is Not Alone", "Apr. 26, 12:30 p.m.", "online with Erika Miller", and "of The Seattle Public Library". On the right is the book cover for "Jennifer Chan Is Not Alone" by Tae Keller, which includes a gold "Winner" seal.

WSBA Winner Tae Keller: Jennifer Chan Is Not Alone

This Washington Center for the Book event will feature an online conversation between Tae Keller and librarian Erika Miller of The Seattle Public Library with a live Q&A for attendees. Tae Keller, winner of the 2023 Washington State Book Award for Books for Young Readers, offers a gripping and emotional story about friendship, bullying, and the possibility that there's more in the universe than just us. Tae Keller is the Newbery award winning and New York Times bestselling author of "When You Trap a Tiger" and "The Science of Breakable Things." She

grew up in Honolulu, Hawaii, where she subsisted on kimchi, purple rice, and stories. Now, she writes about biracial girls trying to find their voices, and lives in Seattle with her husband and a multitude of books.

This event is presented by the Washington Center for the Book (an affiliate of The Library of Congress Center for the Book, administered by Washington State Library) and The Seattle Public Library. The event is free and will be presented online and on Zoom. Registration is required to receive the event link. The event will be recorded and will be accessible via Washington State Library's YouTube channel.

SDL 2024-2025 Renewal Announcement

The Statewide Database Licensing (SDL) project of the Washington State Library announces the annual renewal of the SDL package of Gale digital database resources for the July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 subscription period. All WA non-profit public, academic, school, special, and government libraries are eligible to participate in this statewide cooperative purchase.

Pricing for the 2023-2024 renewal remains unchanged from the previous year. Renewal is automatic for academic, public, and special libraries, unless a [cancellation form](#) is received by the end of the renewal period (April 30, 2024). K-12 school districts, individual schools (public or private) and their libraries, renew through their respective [Educational Service Districts](#).

The SDL project is subsidized in part by federal LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) funding provided by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), administered by the Library Development Program of the Washington State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State. Any questions or comments may be directed to the Cooperative Projects Librarian, [Jude Guzzy](#).

New participants are always welcome. The official renewal period runs through April 30, although new subscriptions will be accepted at any time. More information, including signup forms and other documents and links are available on the [SDL project's signup and renewal page](#).

ALA-RUSA User Services in Public Libraries Survey Request

The ALA-RUSA subcommittee User Services in Public Libraries is currently studying the reference responsibilities of paraprofessional (non-MLS) reference workers in public libraries. We've put together a survey to help us learn how much reference work paraprofessionals do, training and support received, and if that support is sufficient for them to be successful.

Any and all participation in the survey is appreciated! The survey is confidential, and typically takes about 10 minutes to complete. We plan to share data with the profession through conference sessions and/or professional journals.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdF1cvwQU9hPwaEdnqjLry8aaxgHT4o682gP3R7BvGC6Gu7eQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Please share this information with people who did not receive this email. If you have questions or feedback about the survey, you can contact

mbuelow@hedbergpubliclibrary.org.

Conference Bulletin

Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Call for Proposals

You are invited to submit a proposal for the inaugural Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) virtual conference. This year's theme is *Prompt or Perish: Navigating Generative AI in Libraries*. GAIL is a virtual conference aimed specifically at librarians. This conference 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 11, 12, and 13, 2024, from 1:00-4:00 pm EDT each day, the GAIL virtual conference 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.

GAIL welcomes submissions from librarians, researchers, educators, and practitioners working in libraries or related fields. Submissions are now being accepted for 15- or 45-minute presentations, panel discussions, or demonstrations on topics related to generative AI and its applications in and implications for libraries. View more details and [submit a proposal here](#) (**proposal submission deadline: April 1**; notification of acceptance: May 1). Registration details for attendees will be forthcoming.

For questions, contact [Kris Stacy-Bates](#), Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Marketing Team.

Institute for Information Literacy at Purdue: Free Virtual Symposium

The Institute for Information Literacy at Purdue invites you to the annual symposium *Information & Democracy: Education, Access, Libraries, and Society (ID:EALS)*. The ID:EALS symposium spotlights innovative research and facilitates dialog amongst those working to combat misinformation, fake news, and other unethical uses of information affecting our society.

The theme for this year's symposium is Information & Identity. This event will showcase various scholarly approaches exploring how information is used to disempower and empower communities. ID:EALS will feature researchers whose work investigates the role of information literacy related to identities, such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and so forth.

Date & time: Tuesday, April 16 from 9:00am-4:00pm EST.

View the full schedule and register [here](#).

Registration for the AkLA + PNLA 2024 Conference now open!

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

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

Exhibit and Sponsor Registrations can be made online [here](#) or with the [mail-in option](#).

Please see the links below for more information:

- [Registration Types & Rates](#)
- [Exhibits & Sponsors](#)
- [Continuing Education & Travel Grants](#)
- [Juneau, AK Tourism Guides](#)

The Alaska Library Association (AkLA) and the Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) are hosting a joint conference to be held August 1-3, 2024 in Juneau, AK.

The Alaska Library Association and the Pacific Northwest Library Association have chosen "**Stronger Together: Amplifying Voices, Strengthening Communities**" as our 2024 conference theme. Libraries are at their strongest when they endeavor to provide collections, forums, and programs that actively uplift the diverse voices, stories, and experiences within our communities. The partnership between a library and its community is crucial in ensuring that our services are actively enriching the lives of every resident.

ACRL ULS Professional Development Committee presents "From boring to high-scoring: Creating playful learning experiences with games-based learning and gamification"

Friday, April 19, 2024, 1:00 - 2:00 pm PST

Register here: https://ala-events.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dHlzRwDcQqWcA1SROL-Xnw

Have you wanted to implement games and gaming in your work in academic libraries, but have been unsure how to start? In this presentation, participants will dive into the emerging field of games and librarianship by differentiating between games-based learning and gamification. The presenters will explore different contexts for instruction and outreach and which approach would be most appropriate. Presenters will share their experiences of developing playful learning experiences at their own institutions, and participants will discuss how these might be adapted to fit their own contexts. Beyond the presenters' experiences, they will share resources for how participants can utilize backward design to facilitate the development of games-based learning experiences. Participants will have the opportunity to share their ideas for implementing games in their work to elicit feedback and suggestions.

If you can't make this session but wish to view a recording later, please [register](#) so that you'll receive an email that includes a link to the video of the presentation.

Please direct questions and concerns to Colleen Quinn (colleen.quinn@umgc.edu) and Anna Sandelli (asandell@utk.edu), Co-Chairs of the ACRL ULS Professional Development Committee.

Right to Read Celebration featuring the Toni Morrison Courage Award

Monday, April 8 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm PST

Live and Livestreamed, Free to [register](#)

The New Republic will host a high-profile live and livestreamed event to celebrate Right to Read Day, a day of action launched by Unite Against Book Bans to encourage communities to stand up to censorship. Partnering with AFT, Alfred A. Knopf/Penguin Random House, the American Library Association, the Books & Books Literary Foundation, Macmillan Publishers, PEN America, the event, hosted by MSNBC's Katie Phang, will continue *The New Republic's* longstanding commitment to defend the First Amendment.

The Right to Read Day celebration will honor those who have been directly impacted by book bans and feature discussions with banned and challenged authors, including Lauren Groff, Nikole Hannah-Jones, Ellen Hopkins, George M. Johnson, David Levithan, Ashley Hope Perez, Jodi Picoult, and Jacqueline Woodson (full lineup to be announced soon). As part of the event, we will spotlight the American Library Association's Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2023, based on information from reports filed by library professionals and community members and from news stories published throughout 2023, to raise awareness for these books, authors, libraries, and schools.

The New Republic will also recognize five extraordinary people fighting against book banning with the inaugural Toni Morrison Courage Award. Named in honor of the Nobel and Pulitzer-prize winning author, Morrison was a longtime champion of free speech and the power of the written word. This award celebrates one of the most-banned authors in history and the work being done in schools, libraries, and bookstores to protect the First Amendment.

Learn more and register [here](#).

NicheAcademy Presents "Forget Hogwarts: Bringing Coding to Your Library Doesn't Have to Be Wizardry"

Too many libraries feel intimidated and overwhelmed when it comes to offering computer programming (coding) education to your patrons. In [this webinar](#) Luke Miller teaches the skills you need to run a coding program, even if you don't know how to code! Come to learn the model being used in thousands of library coding programs around the world and walk away with a free resource kit to empower any library to start its own coding program.

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 10, 11 am PST

Registration Link: <https://www.nicheacademy.com/forget-hogwarts-bringing-coding-to-your-library-doesnt-have-to-be-wizardry>

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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