

[Join](#)[Renew](#)[Donate](#)[Shop](#)

WELCOME TO
WLA WEDNESDAY

March 27, 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!

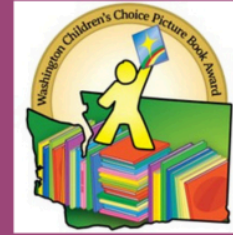
The Sasquatch award is for grades 4-6, with open nominations that are committee selected and student voted.

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.

View the 2024 nominees [here](#).

Vote online [here](#).

Look Who's Hiring

2025 Sasquatch nominees have also been announced! You may view the books [here](#).

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

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

Pierce County Library System is seeking a [Customer Experience Assistant-SH Region Float](#).

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Community Engagement Specialist](#) and a [Library Associate \(Granite Falls\)](#).

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

Tigard Public Library is seeking a [Confidential Executive Assistant](#).

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

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](#). 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 be directed to wslgrants@sos.wa.gov.

Applications are open starting now and are due no later than **due Monday, April 1, 2024**. No foolin', this deadline was extended. 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.

[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



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.

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.

ALA NMRT Call for Applications - Annual Conference Professional Development Attendance

Would you like to attend one of this year's ALA conference events, but don't have the means to do so? Apply for the Annual Conference Professional Development Attendance award by **11:59 PM on March 31st , 2024**.

The award offers \$100 to two people to attend an event of their choice at this year's Annual Conference in San Diego, California on June 27-July 2, 2024. You must be a current ALA and NMRT member to apply. To join, visit the ALA website and follow the "[Join ALA](#)" link.

To apply, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/eventaward>. Applicants will be notified in the last week in April.

For questions, please contact the chair of the NMRT Awards Committee, Jennifer Huston: jhuston@sailsinc.org

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.

Use the hashtag **#AKLAPNLA2024** on social media. ([AKLA Facebook](#) / [PNLA Facebook](#))

The Learning Curve

NicheAcademy Presents "Anxiety in Academia: Librarians' Guide to Recognizing, Responding, and Collaborating for Student Well-Being"

Join Beatriz de la Espriella for an enlightening webinar tailored for academic library staff, where we delve into the intricate realm of anxiety, its impact on students and how a trauma-informed approach can enhance overall well-being and academic success for students.

[This webinar](#) is designed to empower librarians with the knowledge to recognize anxiety, their role in supporting student's mental health and the importance of collaboration over direct intervention. This webinar will also explore collaborative strategies with other campus departments equipped to address student's mental health concerns.

Date & Time: Wednesday, **March 27, 11 am PST**

Objectives:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of anxiety, recognizing its manifestations and impact on students within the academic context.
- Acquire practical strategies for collaborating with other campus departments specialized in addressing mental health issues, fostering a supportive network for students.
- Cultivate a trauma-informed approach within academic library services, empowering librarians to play a vital role in creating an environment conducive to student well-being.

Registration: <https://www.nicheacademy.com/anxiety-in-academia-recognizing-responding-and-collaborating-for-student-well-being>

If you're interested in the webinar but not able to attend the live presentation, go ahead and [register here](#). All registrants will be sent a recording of the presentation after the fact.

NNLM Presents "Advancing Climate Resilience, Sustainability, and Environmental Justice: A Public and Academic Libraries Partnership in San Diego County"

Join NNLM to learn how the San Diego Circuit Libraries, a consortium of 6 public and academic libraries in San Diego County, cohosted community author talks, built a resource guide focused on advancing climate resilience, sustainability, and environmental justice, utilized a logic model to make data driven decisions, and used free survey software to demonstrate the impact of the programs, while also promoting *UCSD All of Us* enrollment opportunities at each of these community access points.

Guest speakers:

- Oscar Gittemeier - San Diego Public Library
- Cecilia Salgado - Adult Services Manager at San Diego County Library
- Sarah Tribelhorn - Sciences Librarian at San Diego State University

Date & Time: Wednesday, **March 27**, 12:00-1:30 pm PST

Registration: <https://www.nnlm.gov/training/class/advancing-climate-resilience-sustainability-and-environmental-justice-public-and>

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!



Contact Info:

Washington Library Association

PO Box 33808 Seattle, WA 98133

(206) 823-1138

info@wla.org

Connect with Us!

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn