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November 6, 2024



#WLA2025 Now Accepting Program Proposals!

The #WLA2025 program RFP is now open. On behalf of the conference committee, we invite you to submit a program proposal.

Our 2025 conference theme, *Building Bridges & Connecting Communities*, invites you to explore the many ways libraries and library workers can bridge divides, connect individuals to valuable resources, and strengthen ties within their communities.

Join us in **Tacoma, April 10-12, 2025**, to connect with fellow library professionals and work together to build a brighter future for libraries in Washington and beyond!

Programs relevant to all kinds of libraries are sought. Additionally:

- Pre/Post-Conference Workshops are either 3 or 4 hours in length, or all day.
- Standard conference sessions are either 45 or 75 minutes in length.

- "WLA After Dark" sessions are 45-minute evening programs that are more fun or provocative than our standard fare.
- Lightning Talks are 10-minute presentations that focus on a concept, project, or how-to.

As you collect your proposal information, you may wish to refer to a preview of all questions here: <https://tinyurl.com/yef79uwm>.

Submit Your Proposal Here!

Due to the number of proposals received, not all will be accepted. In some cases, strong proposals covering similar topics may be asked to combine into one program to provide varying perspectives on the topic and to ensure that we have room on the schedule for diverse offerings. Program Coordinators may suggest alternative presentation opportunities, such as panel discussions, lightning talks, or poster sessions, to allow for as much engagement and collaboration as possible at the conference.

Proposals are due no later than **December 4**.

Applicants will be notified of their proposal status by **January 10, 2025**.



2025 WLA Pawsident

Do you have a pet who loves watching you read? Do they try to attend your online library-related meetings? Do they inspect your tote bag after every library trip you make? If so, your pet probably loves libraries! That's already worth celebrating—give yourself (or your pet) a pat on the back. But why stop there? WLA is hosting a "Pawsidental" election fundraiser, and we'd love for you to [nominate](#) your furry friend!

The [pawsident election](#) is part of our ongoing #SupportWALibraries fundraising, which assists with WLA scholarships, member services, and more!

2024 Past-Pawsident Chewy

Take a look at Pawsident Chewy's whirlwind term as WLA's very first Pawsident. He received his own library card, became the face of the WLA Advocacy campaign, and got to "hang" with some cool library workers.



Join us Nov. 16 for the WLA Bibliotherapy in Libraries Summit!

Exciting News for WLA Student Members!

We're thrilled to announce that registration for the upcoming WLA Summit is now only **\$10 for all WLA students!** Join us for an inspiring day of sessions, networking, and professional growth designed to support your career journey in libraries. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to attend at a fraction of the cost—register now and take the first step towards a bright future in the library field!

The Washington State Library is excited to provide **statewide access** for the WLA Bibliotherapy in Libraries Summit. With this all-access pass, library staff

from **any** kind of library in Washington from *all* levels, roles, and career stages can attend the day-long virtual event courtesy of the Washington State Library. Ask your library's leadership for the Washington Registration Code, or contact Brianna Hoffman at the State Library at brianna.hoffman@sos.wa.gov to receive the code.

WLA and WSL will work together to make clock hours for Washington folks available for as many sessions as possible.

Register Here!

The virtual [Bibliotherapy in Libraries Summit](#) will offer day-long programming around the concept of bibliotherapy in collection development, readers' advisory, programming, outreach, and more. Come away with the tools and knowledge to help your library community find "shelf help."

All sessions will be recorded and made available to all registrants.

Have questions? Please contact info@wla.org to learn more.



Applications Open for WLA *Alki* Editor-in-Chief

WLA is seeking an Editor-in-Chief for the [Alki Journal](#), an online publication. A minimum two-year commitment is requested, and the position will begin by January 2025. The Editor-in-Chief receives a \$3,600 annual stipend to be delivered in three equal installments, plus approved expenses. The Editor-in-Chief must have previous library experience and must be a member of WLA.

More information about the position can be found in the [Alki Editor-in-Chief Application](#), which is open through **this Friday, Nov. 8**. Thank you for sharing this opportunity far and wide within your professional network!

If you have any questions, please reach out to the WLA Office at info@wla.org.



Interest Form Now Open for WLA 2025 Committees

Whether you're new to WLA or a longtime volunteer, we are looking for dedicated members like you to join a committee! Our committee interest form is now open, and we'd love for you to get involved. This is a great opportunity to contribute your skills, connect with fellow professionals, and help shape the future of WLA.

Committee members should:

- Participate in monthly online meetings (year-round) and periodic email discussions
- Have an interest in or previous experience with the focus area of the committee
- Be a WLA Member

Please visit our [committee interest form](#) for more information! We ask that you please complete this form by **this Friday, Nov. 8.**

There will be a committee member orientation on **Friday, Dec. 6 from 3:30-4:30 pm.** A Zoom link will be sent ahead of the meeting. Please contact info@wla.org if you have any questions.

Call for Responses: 2024 Election Reflections

WLA Community Happenings

Libraries have played an increasingly politicized role in American civic life; we are asking for libraries to respond back.

Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)

Next Meetings

- October 22nd @ 4pm
- November 19th @4pm



Learn more at:

<https://www.wla.org/srrt>

SURVIVING THE ELECTIONS

*How libraries support communities in the
election landscape*

SRRT Meeting Nov. 19 @ 4 p.m.

Submit a reflection by emailing your name and response to alkieditor@wla.org.

The WLA Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) will be holding space on Nov. 19 to talk about your experience supporting patrons and each other during the election cycle.

Reflection submissions are due by November 15.

- What does your library do during elections?
- In what ways does your library support communities or yourselves during this stressful season?

Drop-in and chat with library colleagues across the state to brainstorm new ways of service or share your challenges in our brave space.

WLA Special Libraries Game Night

Everyone is welcome to join the WLA Special Libraries Division for an entertaining evening with guests from the [Alexandria RPG Library](#) and hear about library hosted tabletop role-playing games (TTRPGs) in WA.

Let the games begin on Wednesday, November 20th at 6pm!



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

Look Who's Hiring

Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries is seeking a [Branch Manager](#).

Jefferson County Library District is seeking a [Public Records Analyst \(part-time\)](#).

King County Library Systems is seeking a [Children's Services Coordinator](#).

Lewis & Clark Law School, Boley Law Library (Portland, OR) is seeking a [Research Librarian and Lecturer in Law](#).

NCW Libraries is seeking multiple [Bilingual Branch Librarians](#).

Olympic College is seeking [Library & Archives Paraprofessional 2](#) (closes Nov. 24).

Oregon Tech is seeking a [Director, Portland Metro Campus Library](#) (closes Nov. 25).

Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences is seeking an [Education and Reference Librarian](#).

Tigard Public Library is seeking [On Call Librarians](#).

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

Washington Talking Book & Braille Library is seeking a [Circulation and Audiobook Production Technician](#) and a [Circulation and Systems Librarian](#).

Whitman County Rural Library District is seeking an [Executive 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

Questionnaire: Funding Barriers to Digitizing Library/Archive Collections

A student currently enrolled in the MLIS program at the University of Washington is conducting research for a project looking at practical experience with funding barriers to digitizing collections and archives.

Information for this project will be gathered from a ten-question, anonymous survey via Google forms about your experience. The information collected will be included in this project only and will not be published, shared, or included in any other project.

Please find the link to this short survey here:

<https://forms.gle/UKmKtuoSMPBkrDws7>

Survey for Rural Librarians

As part of an intro research course, a group of UW MLIS students are looking into the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Washington state rural libraries and their collection needs. Please consider taking this 15-minute questionnaire as soon as possible to assist these graduate students!

Link to survey: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4hcpye>

Any and all responses will be reported anonymously. Please reach out to the research team at the following email addresses if you have any questions or concerns:

Hannah Heizer: hbheizer@uw.edu

Alex Kushner: ack34@uw.edu

James O'Brien: jameso9@uw.edu

Ellie Rogers: erogers6@uw.edu

Gracie Wehner: gwehner@uw.edu

UW Teen Info Literacy Project – Call for Library Participants

The University of Washington (UW) is [looking for six public libraries](#) to help create new teen programming resources and pilot those resources in their own communities over the next two and half years.

This project will develop (1) a program specifically designed for public library contexts, to engage teens in understanding the ways online information can spread misinformation; (2) a website with a fake social media feed for use in library instruction; (3) resources to help library workers in developing locally-tailored programming that draws on those examples.

[This project is funded by IMLS](#) and includes a stipend for participating libraries. UW is in the process of identifying libraries potentially interested in participating in the project.

If you are interested in participating in the project, [please fill out this form](#) no later than **Nov. 8** for UW to learn more about your library and the teens you serve. You may be asked to participate in a 30 minute follow-up interview to learn more about your community and for you to answer any questions about the project.

If you have questions, email project Principal Investigator Stacey Wedlake at staceyaw@uw.edu.

A group of students in the Masters of Library and Information Science Program at the University of Washington are planning and conducting a research project on current issues in librarianship. They are surveying current public school librarians, technology specialists, and others in related professional positions about how the national trend in book challenges and bans may be affecting public school libraries in Washington state.

If you are willing to participate in this study, [please fill out this questionnaire](#) (link provided below, as well). Your participation is anonymous; you are not required to provide an email address or any specific school or district information.

The questionnaire should take about 10-15 minutes to complete.

It will be open November 1-15, 2024.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Gianna Craig at gcraig2@uw.edu.

Link address (copy/paste into browser if above link does not work):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgvoca7juz054z7o1OnDXEh1j9eeAXVP9HNc0BWY_ATdsHMg/viewform?usp=sf_link

King County Library System to host a series of fall author events

[King County Library System](#) (KCLS) invites community members to attend a series of inspiring and educational author events. Visit kcls.org/authorevents for more information!

[Author Voices with Waubgeshig Rice](#)

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7:30–8:30 p.m. | Online

Join a discussion with Waubgeshig Rice, bestselling author and journalist from Wasauksing First Nation on Georgian Bay, Ontario, Canada. Rice's new novel, [Moon of the Turning Leaves](#) is an exhilarating return to the world first explored in the phenomenal breakout bestseller, [Moon of the Crusted Snow](#). It is a brooding story of survival, resilience, Indigenous identity and rebirth.

[Author Voices with Meredith Maran](#)

Thursday, Nov. 14, 5:30–6:30 p.m. | Online

Meredith Maran, award-winning author, keynote speaker, and regular contributor to The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times and O Magazine, will dig into her book [The New Old Me](#). Maran's post-divorce memoir explores her experience starting over at 60 — in youth-obsessed, beauty-obsessed Hollywood.

The ALA Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT) welcomes your submissions for two awards created to recognize excellence in information literacy and instruction.

- The **LIRT Librarian Recognition Award** honors a practicing librarian for their contributions to information literacy and instruction.
- The **LIRT Innovation in Instruction Award** honors a library for their innovative approach to information literacy and instruction.

Submissions from all types of libraries (public, school, special, academic) are encouraged. Winners will receive a \$1,000 award, a plaque, and a \$500 stipend to be used to attend the 2025 ALA Annual Conference.

Submissions will be accepted until **Jan. 15, 2025**. For full details on how to apply for these awards or to nominate someone to receive them, please see the LIRT Awards site (<http://www.ala.org/rt/lirt/awards>).



[The 10th Annual Washington State Zine Contest is now open!](#)

You can find downloadable posters and double-sided entry forms and submission guidelines to share with your community at the [Washington Center for the Book website](#).

If you have questions or want to share zine programming you are doing in your library, please email Sara Peté at sara.pete@sos.wa.gov.

Thank you to Tien Triggs, WLA's Special Library Division Vice Chair and Advocacy Committee Chair, for this year's beautiful poster design!

Native Youth Reading Challenge

The Native Youth Reading Challenge program has officially launched! This initiative is a partnership with school districts across Western Washington and tribal and public library systems. Friends and family to register and join in!

Youth and families can register from here: <https://nyrc.beanstack.com/>

For more information: <https://unitedindians.org/services/uiatec/>

Book Bans and the Freedom to Read Virtual Panel Discussion

WLA member Antioch University and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) recently hosted, "Celebrating the Freedom to Read: Book Banning, Censorship, and Democracy." During the event, five librarians came together to hold a virtual panel discussion about today's threats to intellectual freedom, the rising number of book bannings, and the importance for school librarians to act ethically and strategically to support their students.

Read more and watch the video [here](#).

Grant Opportunities

Have grants to share with the WLA community? 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 requirements, as well as the blurb you would like posted.

Conference Bulletin

Institute for Research Design in Librarianship (IRDL) Online Research Conference

The IRDL Online Research Conference will showcase some of the most creative thinking in research methods geared for the 21st century librarian Nov. 18-19. The conference is the first research methods-focused conference of its kind in the United States and will offer a friendly and inclusive environment to increase participants' understanding of methodologies and research in practice. During an engaging two days, participants will have opportunities to share their current research, reflect on research challenges and enjoy a variety of presentations and hands on practice sessions with some of the most inventive researchers in the field.

The conference is designed to foster a sense of community and promote research collaboration. Its purpose is to facilitate discussions of new perspectives, experiences, and innovations in library research design and methodologies.

Please visit the [conference webpage](#) for more information.

The Learning Curve



WASHINGTON Secretary of State

Washington State Library

2024 ALSC Institute Share Out Webinar

On Nov. 6 at 2 p.m., join the recipients of the Washington State Library's Association of Library Services to Children (ALSC) Institute 2024 Professional Development grant. Hear about memorable sessions, takeaways, and actions that have been taken as a result of attending this conference. [Register now!](#)

This program is 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.

Rural Health Webinar Series November 2024

This series includes 8 webinars, exploring the community partnerships and health information resources that address the unique health needs of rural communities. Registration is free and open to all.

Please [visit the homepage here](#) for more information and to register.

The [Network of the National Library of Medicine](#) (NNLM) Free Upcoming Webinars

Please visit the [NNLM website](#) for a full list of upcoming webinars.

Please note that you need to [create a user account](#) (free) to register. If you can't attend, visit the registration page to view a recording (posted a few weeks after the session is over).



8th Annual LibraryCon Live!

Join Library Journal and School Library Journal on Nov. 14 for the 8th Annual LibraryCon Live! Join a day-long celebration of fandom, spotlighting genre fiction for adults and teens with panels devoted to comics and graphic novels, horror, sf/fantasy, and more.

In addition to panels and keynotes, fast-track learning sessions hosted by librarians and studio spotlights focusing on visual artists will be offered. [Learn more and register.](#)



Quest for Career Success: A Library Training Campaign

The Washington State Library is excited to announce a new training series opportunity for you and your staff. Embark on an epic quest with the Quest for Career Success series, where library staff become the ultimate career guides in a role-playing adventure for job seekers! Equip yourself with powerful strategies and magical tools to help patrons level up their career skills and achieve their professional goals. Ready your gear, gather your party, and join us on this heroic journey to transform your library into a legendary career hub!

Please click on each campaign for more information and to register!

[Career Coach Quest: Mastering the Art of Personalized Career Guidance](#)

Tuesday, Nov. 19 | 12:30-1:00pm | Online

Embark on a transformative journey with the Career Coach Quest module of the Quest for Career Success series! Whether you're a job help hero or a seasoned career coach, this session will cast a confidence spell on you to provide tailored, strategic guidance to patrons. This 30 min session will be recorded and live attendees and those who watch the recording by January 1st are eligible to win TTRPG-themed raffle prizes!

Please contact Brianna Hoffman (brianna.hoffman@sos.wa.gov) or Joyce Abbott (joyce.abbott@sos.wa.gov) with any questions.

Artful Connections: Stephanie Haines' Vision for Inclusive and Inspiring Communities

From [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#), join Stephanie Haines on Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. for a presentation on the fundamentals of accessibility through the lens of creative arts activities.

Haines will cover what it means to be accessible; common adaptations you can make to creative tools and materials in your programming; and how you can be flexible and inclusive in your approach to planning arts experiences for a diverse community. [Learn more and register](#).

CSLP Summer Symposium 2024

Get ready for the 2025 "Color Our World" Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) theme with a virtual symposium on Dec. 5 from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. PT.

The opening keynote will welcome [Mychal Threets](#) with his keynote address, "You Belong in Libraries." Attendees will be able to participate in sessions about summer reading marketing, creative programming, and sustainability.

[Learn more](#) about the Symposium. Registration is now open!

[Demystifying LIS profession to BIPOC undergraduate students: BIPOC Become Librarians](#)

Dr. Mantra Roy from San Jose State University will present about a project to increase diversity in the library profession on Dec. 5 from 11am-12pm PST.

In this presentation, our guest presenter will share the premise of the IMLS-funded program, 'BIPOC Become Librarians' which addresses the lack of diversity in the LIS profession. They will discuss the process they developed and what was learned.

This presentation champions increasing diversity in health sciences librarianship, highlighting an NLM and NIH priority.

In addition, if you are in Region 5 (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States in the Pacific) you are invited to register to attend the [first virtual Town Hall](#) Nov. 13 to connect with Region 5 staff - hear updates, ask questions, and share ideas.

Visit our [NNLM website for more training opportunities](#).

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!



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