



WELCOME TO WLA WEDNESDAY

July 22, 2020

Born on this day: in 1784, Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel, German astronomer whose measurements of positions for about 50,000 stars and rigorous methods of observation (and correction of observations) took astronomy to a new level of precision.

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MAKING HEADLINES

2020 WLA Conference: Register Today!



Registration is now open for **#WLA2020**, now online! Come and join us online October 5-10 for a virtual week of engaging keynotes, sessions and workshops, networking opportunities, and exhibitors.

The conference theme is 2020 Vision: Looking to the Future. Now more than ever, we know our library community needs opportunities to learn, build connections, and tackle the new challenges we're facing. By reflecting on our collective past and remembering that libraries have always faced change head on, let's come together to share our clearest visions for the future!

WLA Merit Awards Now Accepting Nominations

Do you know any amazing library professionals, advocates, students, or groups that deserve to be recognized for their support of or contributions to libraries in Washington? Of course you do!

Nominate a colleague today. Nominators may nominate more than one person for any given award, or one person for multiple awards.

A separate nomination form is required for each nomination. Nominations are due September 2. Learn more about each award [here](#). Submit your nomination [here](#).

2021 WLA Election Nominations Are Live!

Are you looking for leadership experience to help with your career? Need a reason to meet new library people and expand your network? Want to give back to Washington's library communities? WLA wants you!

Election nominations are open for all vacant 2020 WLA leadership positions. If you have questions about any position, you may contact the WLA Office, or go to the current Board, Division, or Section roster to find contact information for the person that currently fills the position, or to whom the position reports. Please note that WLA Committee Chairs are appointed by the Board President and do not need to go through this election process.

2020 Elections Timeline

June 17 – nominations open (may nominate self or others)
Aug 19 – nominations deadline
Aug 26-Sept 23 – online elections are open to all WLA members
Sept 24 – winners notified
Sept 30 – winners announced in WLA Wednesday newsletter
Jan 1 – new leadership terms begin

LOOK WHO'S HIRING

The Office of the Secretary of State is seeking a **State Librarian**.

The University of Washington Tacoma is seeking an **Associate Librarian**. The position is open until October 2.

Telecommute Opportunity: Hosting Solutions and Library Consulting (hslc.org) currently seeking a **Digitization Specialist**.

Whatcom County Library System is seeking several **Public Services Assistants**.

North Central Regional Library is seeking a **Branch Operations Director**, and a **Deputy Director**. The positions are open until filled.

The Bellingham Public Library is seeking a Head of **Community Relations**. The position is open until July 24.

If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email info@wla.org and indicate "For

CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE

#WLA2020 Keynote Spotlight: Finding Truth in an Infodemic



W CENTER FOR AN INFORMED PUBLIC
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

On Friday, October 9 at #WLA2020, join us for a keynote with the University of Washington's Center for an Informed Public!

The Center for an Informed Public at the University of Washington was launched in December of last year—a few months before COVID-19 closed the university. Its mission is to better understand and resist strategic misinformation, promote an informed society, and improve democratic discourse. One of our core research areas of expertise is studying rumors and misinformation during

WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) lists job openings frequently. You can also browse WLA institutional members' postings [here](#).

THE LEARNING CURVE

Book Bingo For Grown Ups

Looking for a way to connect your adult patrons with the joy of a summer reading program? The Washington Center for the Book has Book Bingo cards you can customize for your library, to either download/print or to share on social media. Available in English and in Spanish. Learn more [here](#).

ALA Holding Space: A National Conversation Series

The American Library Association's **nationwide virtual tour** highlights the innovation and impact of a diverse range of libraries and engages stakeholders to advocate for libraries and the communities they serve.

A part of ALA President Julius C. Jefferson, Jr.'s broader work to build relationships and strengthen connections, Holding Space will feature town halls, round table discussions and interviews with library leaders, state and local partners, and elected officials covering topics ranging from HBCUs and academic libraries, to school, tribal, and public libraries—all while amplifying the concerns of each community along the route.

PNLA Virtual Poster Sessions



The Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) is holding a virtual poster session from August 4-7, 2020 featuring 30 poster

crisis events. This presentation will dive into what we've learned and how you—and your communities—can help prevent the spread of misinformation.

Chris Coward is the co-founder of Center for an Informed Public, the Senior Principal Research Scientist at the UW Information School, and the Director of the Technology & Social Change Group. Jevin West is the Director of the Center for an Informed Public and Associate Professor at the UW Information School.

Registration is now open!

NEWS & NOTES

Washington State Librarian Search Announcement

The Washington Office of the Secretary of State is seeking a **State Librarian** to shape the vision, develop the strategic plan, and provide the leadership required to maintain the Washington State Library as a model public resource, through which information is available in digital form, accessible anytime and anywhere.

The Washington State Librarian serves as the State Library Director, responsible for fulfilling the library's mission through the effective and efficient administration of an innovative, creative, and complex organization.

WLA Statement on Anti-Racism

The Washington Library Association decries the brutality Black communities experience from those charged to protect and serve. Libraries are providers of vital resources for historically under-served communities, and this work has never been more important than it is now. We are responsible for continuing to do this difficult, sometimes painful work that demands we address our biases and how they impact our ability to serve our communities equitably. We urge library professionals across Washington to fight for Black lives, actively oppose systemic oppression and police brutality, and prioritize anti-racism in all that we do. The WLA Board is committed to doing this anti-racist work within our association. To be silent is to be complicit.

The Urban Libraries Council has also

presentations from professionals affiliated with a mix of academic, public, and school libraries. The theme is Empathy, Innovation, and Impact and will address Collections and Publishing, Literacy and Instruction, Partnerships and Connections, and Leadership and Administration, with a special focus on COVID-19 response.

This event is free and open to the general public; you do not need to be a PNLA member to participate! The presentations may be viewed at your convenience, with discussion boards and live chat enabled over the four days so that viewers can ask questions and interact with presenters. Afterward, the posters will be hosted on the PNLA website indefinitely. Use the hashtag #PNLA2020 to share what you learned on social media!

The poster session page is located [here](#).

released a poignant statement on race and social equity, which serves as a baseline for libraries to build policies and actions designed to make their communities more inclusive and just. The statement has been signed by 163 public libraries across North America. Learn more [here](#).

Additional Resources

Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include "For WLA Wednesday" in the subject line.

Washington Library Association | PO Box 33808 Seattle, WA 98133 | 206-823-1138 | www.wla.org
Questions? Email us at info@wla.org