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December 6, 2023



Nominations Open for WLA 2024 Merit Awards

With [#WLA2024](#) approaching, the WLA Merit Awards are back again! We look forward to hearing about accomplishments in the past year by library professionals from around the state!

The WLA Merit Awards offer the opportunity to recognize and highlight the outstanding work that has been ongoing in Washington libraries. To nominate an outstanding individual or group for an award, please complete the [WLA 2024 Merit Award Nomination Form](#) by **Wednesday, Jan. 10**.

What library achievement did you see in your community or workplace that you'd like to see celebrated? Examples can include, but aren't limited to, outstanding service in the areas of:

- Programming (virtual, educational, community building)
- Outreach to users
- Services
- Access to technology

- Access to collections
- Serving the needs of people who were vulnerable, underserved
- Providing innovative ways to deliver services, materials

Library workers at all levels and in all types of libraries are eligible! Nominees do not need to be WLA members (with the exception of the Emeritus Award and the WALE Award). Additionally, nominators do not have to be WLA members. Award winners will receive a complimentary year of WLA membership!

Winners will be notified by February 5, announced in WLA Wednesday on February 7, and celebrated on March 2 at the WLA 2024 Conference in Spokane.

If you have questions or wish to discuss eligibility requirements, please contact the WLA Office at info@wla.org or (206) 823-1138.



Nominate Your Pet to be 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! This alone is wonderful, and you should give yourself a pat on the back (or theirs!). Additionally, WLA is holding a [“Pawsidental” election fundraiser](#), and we’d love if you nominated your friend!

You can [nominate your pet](#) for a \$10 donation fee. **Nominations will close on Jan. 5**, and elections to vote on the Pawsident will be open through Jan. 31. Donations for nominations and voting will go towards our #SupportWALibraries campaign which funds WLA scholarships, member services, and more.

The pet that raises the most funds will be declared [2024 WLA Pawsident!](#) The winner will be recognized at the 2024 conference, will become an unofficial non-voting member of the WLA Board, and will have their picture available on merchandise in the WLA Store for the next year!

Alki

The Washington Library
Association Journal

Seeking New Editor!

Apply by Dec 6

***Alki* Journal Editor Application Closes Today**

The Washington Library Association (WLA) is seeking an Editor for the *Alki* Journal, an online publication. A minimum two-year commitment is requested, and the position will begin by January 2024. Editor receives an annual stipend and approved expenses. Editor must have previous library experience and must be a member of WLA. Applications are due **TODAY, December 6, 2023**. All applicants will be notified of their status by December 20, 2023.

Alki Journal is an official publication of WLA published three times a year on the electronic platform, PubPub. It provides WLA members and the statewide library community in-depth information about library issues and concerns, exposure to library research, and an opportunity for writers to publish articles in a library journal.

The *Alki* Editor is responsible for providing a balanced mixture of relevant and thoughtful articles and features on the interests, responsibilities, and concerns of all library personnel. The journal should be a leader in the field by raising the consciousness of the profession which it serves. *Alki* should be a responsive, accountable, and inspirational voice reflecting WLA to a diverse library community.

Read about the position responsibilities, desired qualifications, and the values of *Alki* here.

[Apply Here](#)

To apply, complete the [Alki Editor Application](#) and upload your resume/cv. Full position description, responsibilities, desired qualifications, and Alki's values can be found in the application. Questions? Contact info@wla.org.



Alki wants to hear from YOU!

Call for Papers: *The Library is a Growing Organism*

Alki's Spring issue submission window is open!

Almost all librarians are familiar with the Five Rules of Library Science: Books are for use, every book its reader, every reader their book, save the reader time, and *The Library is a Growing Organism*. Let's start the year off talking about that last rule. Our libraries grow and change over time, whether due to changing patron bases, new technologies, or new needs in our communities. *Alki* wants to know all the ways in which your library is alive. Refer to the following ideas and questions as you write your article:

- How has your library grown or evolved?
- How have you grown your patron base? Tell us stories!
- How has working in a library helped you develop as a professional and as a person?
- How do you nourish, sustain, and tend to your organization as the cultures around and within it change?
- If you work in an institutional library, tell us how your library has provided fertile ground for personal growth in your patrons?

Creative pieces, art, and photos are always encouraged.

Sign up for your spot today by emailing your name, a working title of your proposed piece, your bio, and a headshot to alkieditor@wla.org.

Do you have an article ready? Email your submissions as a .doc, .docx, or Google Doc to alkieditor@wla.org **before Tuesday, February 6th**. For inspiration, [check out past issues of Alki](#). Before submitting a piece, please visit

Asotin County Library is seeking [Youth Services Librarian](#).

City of Puyallup is seeking a [Library Services Manager](#).

KCLS is seeking a [Librarian & Information Services Manager – Cedar](#), [Public Services Assistant – Olympic Region](#), and a [Public Services Assistant – Newport Way](#).

Kitsap Regional Library is seeking an [Youth Services Librarian](#).

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

NNLM Region 5 is seeking an [Executive Director](#).

San Juan Island Library is seeking an [Outreach Coordinator](#).

Seattle Public Library is seeking an [Adult Services Librarian Business, Science and Technology](#), an [Adult Services Librarian Humanities](#), and a [Regional Manager](#).

Tacoma Public Library is seeking an [Executive Assistant & Policy Analyst](#).

UW Tacoma Library is seeking a [Science and Engineering Librarian](#).

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

Yakima Valley Libraries is seeking a [Community Library Supervisor IV – Yakima Central](#).

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



[ALA](#) American Library Association

**A SPECIAL GRANT
OPPORTUNITY
FOR SMALL AND
RURAL LIBRARIES**

ala.org/LTCAccess



Grant Opportunity for Rural and Small Libraries

Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Accessible Small and Rural Communities is an initiative of the [American Library Association \(ALA\)](#) in partnership with the [Association for Rural and Small Libraries \(ARSL\)](#) that

provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities.

Through these grants, ALA strives to:

- Increase the accessibility of library facilities, services, and programs for people with disabilities in small and rural communities.
- Support libraries' community engagement efforts by providing resources to help them to work with impacted populations to guide improvement of library services.

Deadline for Submission: Monday, December 11, 2023 by 11:59 pm (CT)

Award Notification Date: Friday, February 8, 2024

Learn more about this opportunity and apply [here](#).

For questions, contact the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office staff at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5045, or publicprograms@ala.org.

A promotional banner for an author event. On the left is a portrait of Margaret Owen, a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a red scarf. In the center, text reads: "Washington State Book Award Winner", "Margaret Owen", "Little Thieves", "Dec. 12, 5:30 p.m.", "in person at The Seattle Public Library", and "Southwest Branch and ONLINE". On the right is the book cover for "Little Thieves" by Margaret Owen, featuring a red-haired woman in a blue dress and a white deer head with antlers, with a gold "Winner" seal.

Washington State Book Award Winner Author Event

Washington State Book Award winner, Margaret Owen, will be speaking at the Southwest Branch of The Seattle Public Library on Dec. 12th at 5:30. You may attend this event in person or online.

[Register for the online event here.](#)

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 **Conference Bulletin** 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



Become a 2024 WLA Sponsor or Exhibitor!

[Registration](#) is NOW OPEN for #WLA2024 Sponsors and Exhibitors! Thank you for considering a partnership with the Washington Library Association for its 2024 Conference in Spokane, March 1-3 at the Spokane Convention Center.

View the [2024 Sponsor & Exhibitor Prospectus](#) for registration rates and more details.

Register Now!

CSLP's Virtual Summer Symposium Adventure Begins at Your Library

Thursday, December 7, 2023

8am – 1:30pm PST

[Registration now Open](#)

The CSLP Summer Symposium is a half-day virtual offering for public library staff to connect, learn, and collaborate as we plan for summer library programming around the 2024 theme of **Adventure Begins at your Library**.

Sessions will include:

- Simplifying Summer: Adventurous Observations from a Seasoned Storyteller
 - Get inspired and organized while streamlining the planning process.
- 2024 Manual Highlights: Adventure Begins at Your Library!
 - Gather ideas to jumpstart planning for summer 2024!
- Once Upon an Adventure: Practical Tips for Gathering Stories to Promote Your Library
 - Learn how a good story becomes good marketing, as well as practical tips to find stories that you can use for advocacy and promotion.
- Taking Adventure Outdoors: Programming and Partnerships facilitated
 - Panel discussion on ideas, resources, and partners that can support outdoor library programming.

Learn more and register at: <https://www.csipreads.org/summer-symposium/>
Not able to attend? [Sign up to receive a notice when recordings are posted](#)

TechAccess Foundation Presents "The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation"

tl:dr: BIPOC Educators, Librarians, Activists, & Co-Conspirators, this professional development is to help you build the skills and community to sustain you in a time of unprecedented political pressure aimed at education and related fields. Clock Hours are available for educators. Reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

[The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation](#) on **Feb. 23-24, 2024** is two full days to imagine, connect, heal, and build.

TechAccess Foundation aims to have all the session content (24 sessions!) up on the website below by the end of the year. In the meantime, check out the hot-off-the-presses keynote title and description for Ruha Benjamin on the event website.

Content will be wide-ranging across headwork, heartwork, and community.
Sneak peek on some session titles:

"Working With the Live Wire of Oppression"

"Nourishing Black Bodies in Colonial Spaces"

"Healing Ourselves Deep: Tools for Rest & Liberation"

What else to know:

- BIPOC Educators and ALL leaders in education and related fields are welcome to register
- Please share with any educators of color in your circles
- Early registration costs \$150 (by Dec 8,2023)
- Use the ambassador toolkit to put out the news on your social networks, please!

Please reach out to nwew@techaccess.org for any questions.

The Learning Curve

Free Workshop Series from OSPI:

Tools for Aligning Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship Instruction to School & District Goals

This series of six interrelated Zoom sessions is open to all Washington State K-12 educators interested in integrating Media Literacy & Digital Citizenship (ML&DC) instruction into school or district curriculum. Administrators, curriculum developers, and other decision-makers are encouraged to attend, ideally with at least one "buddy" who can be part of a team of brainstormers and implementers.

The series will feature nationally-recognized educators and leaders in the field, as well as breakout rooms with colleagues from across the state. Special focus will be on implementing ML&DC beyond a single lesson or classroom, and on aligning to existing standards, instruction, and inclusive practices.

This interrelated series will be held on the following Thursdays **from 5:00 - 6:30 pm, PT:**

Dec. 7, 2023

Jan. 11 2024

Feb. 8, 2024

Mar. 7, 2024

Mar. 28, 2024

May 2, 2024

Learn more and register for the series [here](#).

For questions, please contact **Lesley James** at lesley.james@k12.wa.us.

Niche Academy Presents
"ChatGPT: Engaging With Technology in the Generative AI Era"

Dates: December 13, 2023

Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Have you heard about ChatGPT or Generative AI in 2023? It is a powerful and revolutionary tool that has gained 100 million users. Despite the complex technology behind it, its user interface is designed to ensure seamless interaction for users of all levels. Many may think it is a new Google-like search engine where you get information from the internet. This is only half correct. Generative AI goes a step further – it creates.

Borui Zhang will introduce you to the concept of generative AI and show you how you can adapt ChatGPT as your personalized assistant for planning activities, learning new skills, and drafting text-based communication. Borui will compare ChatGPT with traditional search engines as well as provide tips for some best prompting practices with the new conversational AI tool. Further, we will also discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by conversational AI in educational settings.

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.

Humanities Washington Presents "Un-Author-Ized: A.I., Literature, and Creativity"

Dates: December 11, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm PT

What if you found out that your new favorite book was written by A.I.? We've taken it for granted that creativity was a core human trait—a way for us to connect and understand each other. What happens when machines can write compelling plots, rich characters, and meaningful ideas?

Join Humanities Washington for a live online discussion about writing in the age of A.I. Can A.I. be truly creative? Is it wrong to feed authors' novels to A.I. without their consent? Will A.I. diminish the role of the author and cheapen human language—or could it open up new possibilities for creativity, poetry, and

thought? Can it create things that are truly beautiful? Could it have done a better job writing this event description? Explore how A.I. could forever change our relationship to language, literature, creativity, and beauty.

Featuring Chirag Shah, professor at the University of Washington's iSchool; Ryan Calo of the School of Law at the University of Washington; and Sharma Shields, author. Moderated by Tara Campbell, author.

This free event is open to all, but [registration](#) is required to attend.

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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