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WELCOME TO  
**WLA WEDNESDAY**

February 7, 2024



### Register for #WLA2024 & Conference Workshops by Feb. 21!

Registration is still open for #WLA2024. **Advance registration will close Wednesday, Feb. 21.** On-site registration will be available in Spokane for an increased rate; however, meal availability cannot be guaranteed for on-site registrants.

Don't forget to also **register for workshop(s) by Feb. 21.** Find descriptions on the [conference workshop](#) page and a Featured Workshop description below. You can include these new workshops on your conference registration today.

**Already registered for the regular conference? Click "Add Workshop(s) to my Registration" below to register for these new workshops.**

[Add Workshop\(s\) to My Registration](#)[Register for #WLA2024](#)



**JENNIFER LAGARDE**  
Library Girl

## This Is a School Library: Creating Libraries for the Learners Who Need the Most

### Postconference Workshop Spotlight

#### **This Is a School Library: Creating Libraries for the Learners Who Need the Most**

**Sunday, March 3 | 8:30 am- 12:30 pm**

With a focus on equity and inclusion, this session unpacks how to make systemic changes to library policies and procedures in a way that refocuses the school library on our most vulnerable learners and readers. Together we'll explore next and best practices in collection development, space planning and programming. Participants will leave with practical strategies for creating library spaces that truly reflect their mission.

- **Jennifer LaGarde**, [Librarygirl](#) / Teacher Librarian

If you have any questions, please contact the WLA Office at [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) or (206) 823-1138. We hope to see you in Spokane!

2024   
WLA Merit Awards

**Announcing: WLA 2024 Merit Award Recipients**

The WLA Merit Awards offer the opportunity to recognize and highlight the outstanding work ongoing in Washington libraries. On behalf of the 2024 WLA Awards Committee, we're honored to recognize this year's Merit Awards recipients:

**Candace Morgan Award:** Neighbors United for Progress  
*Nominated by Sara Jones*

**Honorary Lifetime Membership:** Steve Hobbs  
*Nominated by Sara Jones*

**President's Award:** Alki Editorial Committee, 2023  
*Nominated by Johanna Jacobsen Kiciman*

**Outstanding Service Award:** Loly Gomez  
*Nominated by Haley McNealey*

**Outstanding Service Award:** Anna Trammell  
*Nominated by Amita Lonial*

**Outstanding Service Award:** Amanda Six  
*Nominated by Jessica Varang*

**Outstanding Service Award:** Millissa Macomber  
*Nominated by Anne Booker*

**Outstanding Service Award:** Jessica McClinton Lopez  
*Nominated by Nancy Henkel*

**Elementary Teacher-Librarian of the Year:** Sarah Logan  
*Nominated by Cathy Sork & Lisa B. Webb*

**Elementary Teacher-Librarian of the Year:** Jennifer Vega  
*Nominated by Ryan Grant*

**Excellence in School Leadership:** Michael Christianson  
*Nominated by Carolyn Olsen*

**Excellence in School Leadership:** Emily Jensen  
*Nominated by Alicia Rogers*

**CAYAS Award for Visionary Library Services to Youth:** Erin Smith and Mikayla Kittilstved  
*Nominated by Georgette Rogers*

Congratulations to this year's recipients, and thank you to all who participated in

the nomination process! Winners will be celebrated on Saturday, March 2 at the [WLA Conference Awards Lunch](#) in Spokane.

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### **Don't Forget to Register for WA Library Legislative Day!**

The annual [WA Library Legislative Day](#) will take place on **Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024**. Make a date with your legislators and WLA this Valentine's Day and join us for a day of library advocacy! Please **register today, Feb. 7 to attend**.

We are excited to once again be hosting this event in the John A Cherberg building of the Washington Capitol campus in Olympia.

By attending WA Library Legislative Day, you can expect to:

- Connect with library supporters from all types of libraries around the state.
- Hear from special guests
- Attend sessions and hear testimony from fellow library professionals along with WLA lobbyist **Carolyn Logue**.
- Meet with State legislators and their staff to discuss the value of libraries and the impact laws have on them.
- Understand how to track and search for bills, give effective testimony, and advocate for libraries, to better support them in years to come!

This free event is a great way to become involved in library advocacy and help WLA push its legislative goals over the finish line!

[Register for 2024 WA Library Legislative Day](#)

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**WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group**

The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group has new meeting dates! The next **upcoming meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 12 from 7-8 pm.** . The WLA Peer-to-Peer Book Challenge Support Group offers Zoom gatherings for WLA members to share their experiences with book challenges, library challenges, and other issues encountered that relate to intellectual freedom.

The WLA [Member Services Committee](#) and [Intellectual Freedom Section](#) saw a need for these meetings, and the Member Services Committee will minimally facilitate them. The meetings are a member benefit, so there is no cost to attend. Upcoming meetings will be held at the following dates and times:

- Monday, Feb. 12 | 7-8 pm
- Saturday, Feb. 17 | 2-3 pm

**This group is not professionally facilitated or meant to replace professional resources.** It is intended for peer-to-peer support only. This group will not be about legislative or activist work. [Registration](#) to attend meetings is required. You must be logged into your WLA account to register. Attendees will receive Zoom access information the day before each meeting they sign up to attend. Attendees will be asked to read and agree to the [WLA Code of Conduct](#) as well as Support Group [Ground Rules](#) during registration.

Please contact the WLA Office at [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) or call/text (206) 823-1138 if you have any questions.

A promotional graphic for the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) meeting. The background is a dark teal color with white polka dots. On the left, there is a white rounded rectangle containing the text "Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)". Below it, in a smaller white rounded rectangle, is "Next Meetings". Underneath that, two bullet points list the meeting dates: "Wednesday, January 31st @9am" and "Wednesday, February 28th @9am". To the right of the second date, the text "6pm" is written in a large, white, stylized font. Below the dates, there is a white rounded rectangle with the text "Dates or times don't work for you? Take our survey to establish our new meeting time going forward:". At the bottom of this section is a white rounded rectangle with the URL "https://bit.ly/SRRT2024". On the right side of the graphic, the words "SRRT MEETING" are written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the text is a photograph of a white coffee cup with a latte art design on top, sitting on a white saucer. The graphic also features several white starburst icons.

### Join the February SRRT Meeting

Another chance to connect over coffee and tea! We'll be discussing how the SRRT can look inward on the WLA to enhance membership experience. What social responsibilities do you want the SRRT to focus on in the new year? A safe-space for neurodivergent library professionals and support staff? Boundary

building techniques? Drop-in and share your insight!

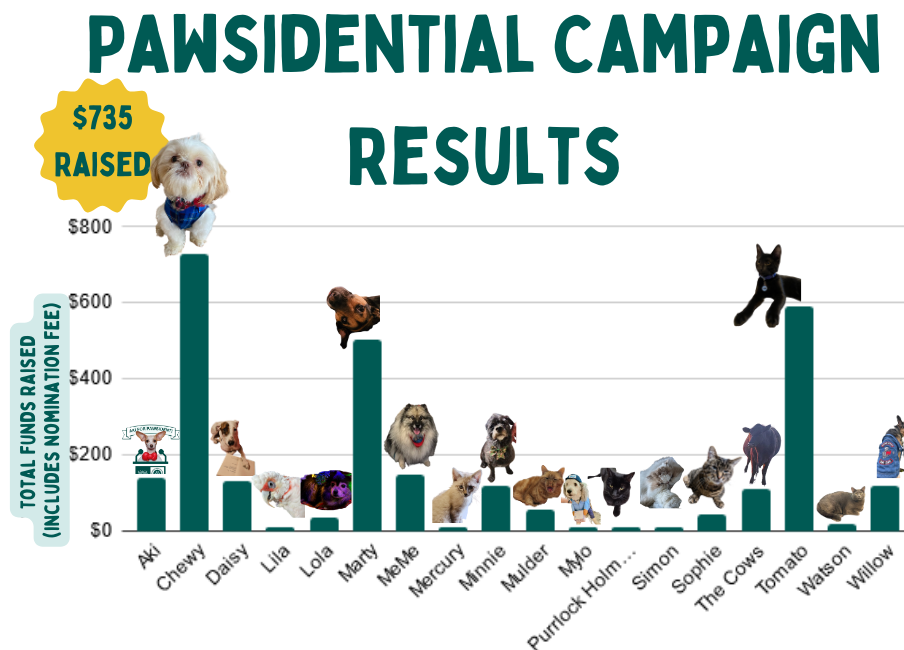
Our **next meeting is:**

- Wednesday, February 28th, 6 pm

Our Zoom link is available on the [WLA Events Calendar](#).

Dates or times don't work for you? Take our survey to establish our new meeting time going forward : <https://bit.ly/SRRT2024>

Questions? Please reach out to [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) or call/text [\(206\) 823-1138](tel:(206)823-1138).



PAWSIDENTIAL NOMINEE

**\$2800 RAISED TOTAL!**

The results are in! **Chewy** has been elected as the [2024 WLA Pawsident](#). It was an exciting race with bark-to-bark donations at the last moment, but Chewy secured the lead with a **total of \$735 raised.**

Give all of our nominees and generous donors a round of a-paws for the success they fetched in this fundraiser - you all raised the woof



by raising a total of \$2800 for our ongoing #SupportWALibraries fundraising, which assists with WLA scholarships, member services, and more.

Stay tuned for 2024 WLA Pawsident merchandise to be added in the [WLA store!](#)

We hope you'll join us in Spokane as we recognize Chewy at [#WLA2024](#).



## Look Who's Hiring

Cornish College of the Arts is seeking a [Library Cataloger](#).

Dayton Memorial Library is seeking a [Library Assistant](#).

Everett Public Library is seeking a part-time [Circulation Assistant II](#).

King County Library System is seeking [Information Services Coordinator](#), and a [Library Technical Assistant](#).

Kitsap Regional Library is seeking an [Adult Services Librarian](#), a Youth Services Librarian, and a [Teen Services Librarian](#).

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

Seattle Public Library is seeking a [Regional Manager](#).

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Library Manager III](#) and a [Librarian - Outreach](#).

University of Washington Bothell is seeking a [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility \(DEIA\) & Student Engagement Librarian](#).

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

Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL) is seeking a [Training & Assistive Technology Librarian](#).

Yakima Valley Libraries is seeking a [Community Library Supervisor IV - Yakima Central](#) and a [Regional Library Manager - Region 2](#).

*If your institution has a posting for libraries in the WLA community you would like to submit, please email [newsletter@wla.org](mailto:newsletter@wla.org) and indicate "Look Who's Hiring" in the subject line.*

## News & Notes

### Note from the WLA Towner Committee

The Towner Committee would like to thank Nancy Edwards and Brandi Gates for their time serving on the committee! Congratulations Brandi on your new position at the Idaho National Laboratory!

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Beginning Fall 2024, grants of \$1,200 are available to libraries and other public institutions for programs exploring Latino poetry and its ongoing relevance to American national life. Presented by Library of America with generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), these grants will fund scholar-moderated discussions and other programs in communities across the nation from September 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025.

Grants may be used for: honoraria for local poets and scholars; travel expenses; actor/performer fees; publicity and promotion; refreshments; or other costs associated with programs.

Applications are open to all public, academic, and community college libraries, museums, and nonprofit community organizations. Each applying institution must designate a project coordinator who will oversee the administration of the grant. Partial or incomplete applications will not be considered.

**Application deadline:** February 15, 2024

**Notification:** March 1, 2024

Visit <https://www.latinopoetry.org/> for more information and to apply!



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## 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](mailto:wslgrants@sos.wa.gov).

Applications are open starting now and are due no later than **11:59 PM on March 15th, 2024**. 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.

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## **Washington Stories Fund Grant!**

Washington Stories Fund grants are now available! The purpose of the Washington Stories Fund is to record and share with the broader community the little-known stories of people or groups whose contributions add to the cultural richness and health of Washington State.

**The deadline to apply is February 15.**

Grant summary:

- Up to \$5,000 awarded, match required.
- Seeking to fund projects that elevate public awareness of lesser-known Washington stories, especially those of underrepresented groups.
- Any nonprofit organization, public agency, or group is eligible to apply. While groups do not need to be incorporated or have tax-exempt status, they must be organized for nonprofit purposes. Individuals are not eligible to receive Washington Stories Fund grants.
- Two Washington Stories Fund grants will be awarded this year.

Questions? Contact [grants@humanities.org](mailto:grants@humanities.org).

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## **Institute of Museum Services Native American Library Services Grants**

IMLS is currently offering two grants designed to assist Native American tribes in improving core library services for their communities.

### **[Native American Library Services: Basic 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 services for learning and accessing information in a variety of formats to support needs for education, workforce development, economic and business development, health information, critical thinking skills, digital literacy skills, and financial literacy, and other types of literacy skills.
- Enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership through training, continuing education, and opportunities for professional development.

**Eligibility:** Federally recognized tribes including any Alaska native village, regional corporation, or village corporation, that offers library services to its community are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services Basic Grants Program.

**Application Due Date:** March 1, 2024

### **[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, 2024



### **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 [grace@wla.org](mailto:grace@wla.org) **Conference Bulletin**



### **Become a 2024 WLA Sponsor or Exhibitor!**

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

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

Register Now!

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### **Registration Open for nErDcamp Bellingham**

Registration is open for [nErDcamp Bellingham](#), which will take place on **Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024, at Whatcom Middle School!**

nErDcamp is an “unconference,” based on the [EDcamp](#) model, but with a focus on literacy in learning. It is dubbed “nErDcamp” in a nod to the online movement known as [#nerdybookclub](#) and to appeal to the book nerds we are all proud to be.

An unconference differs from a traditional conference because the topics and sessions are determined and led by the participants. It is an opportunity for attendees to share their expertise and learn from each other. There are no exhibitors or commercial components.

nErDcamp is a free event - [register here](#).

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**TechAccess Foundation: "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](mailto:nwew@techaccess.org) for any questions.

**The Convening: Journey Towards Liberation** on **Feb. 23-24** 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](mailto:nwew@techaccess.org) for any questions.

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### **National Storytelling Network Conference Comes To Seattle!**

July 11-13, 2024 the NSN annual conference will be held at the Dumas Bay Centre on the sound near Federal Way.

Over ninety workshops and concerts featuring Antonio Rocha, Adam Booth, Eth-Noh-Tec, Elizabeth Ellis, Angela Lloyd and Gene Tagabon.

See the [NSN website](#) for more information.

## Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries.

Registration is open for the four-part virtual workshop series titled **Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries**. This workshop is open to anyone in public or school libraries who is interested in gaining a better understanding of science-based reading instruction practices and how to support emerging and struggling readers in your public and school libraries. More information and registration information can be found below.

**NOTE:** If you are not able to attend **any** of the workshops live on Zoom, please input your information into this [SurveyMonkey survey](#). We will inform everyone who signs up at that link when the recordings are made available. There is limited space in the workshop, so if you can't attend live, use the SurveyMonkey link instead! If you'll be attending **any** of the four workshops live on Zoom, register via LibCal at the link in the below program description.

### **Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries:**

Tuesdays – March 12 and 26, April 16 and 30: 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Alicia Roberts Frank, Regional Administrator for Special Programs/Dyslexia Expert at Capital Region ESD 113

[Register Here](#)

All library staff who work with youth and youth collections are invited to this four-part workshop series exploring the science of reading. Throughout the four sessions we will explore how children learn to read, understanding literacy strengths and struggles, and how libraries can support emerging readers of all abilities. By the end of these workshops, you will have a better understanding of how early learning practices can lead to reading success, ways to support struggling readers, how to guide families toward books that support learning to read, and strategies you can use to better support patrons who are learning to read in your library using science-based practices. Clock Hours are available for School Library staff who are able to attend the live sessions or watch the recordings. *A more detailed agenda of what will be covered in each of the four sessions will be available soon.*

[Register here](#) if you plan to attend any of the four Zoom sessions live. If you are hoping to watch the recordings, you can [fill out this SurveyMonkey form](#) and we'll inform you when the recordings become available.

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.

**WebJunction Presents: Switching it Up! Creating a Video Game**

## Collection for Your Library

Video games are a dynamic, modern, popular medium worthy of a place in every library, but starting a collection can feel overwhelming. You might have questions like, how much funding will it require? Are these materials more prone to theft? Is this a juvenile collection, young adult, or one for all ages? This webinar will provide you with practical solutions for all your questions. This webinar will walk through the process of creating, maintaining, and promoting a new video game collection. You'll hear lessons learned and tips for success that Billings Public Library used to create a successful collection, along with strategies from other libraries around the country. You'll leave ready to get started creating what is sure to be one of your library's most well-circulating collections.

Thursday, Feb. 22, 12 pm PT. [Register here](#) to attend.

Presented by: **Joseph Lanning**, Reference Librarian and Archivist, Billings Public Library (MT)

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### NNLM Region 5 Library Carpentry Virtual Workshop

NNLM Region 5 is excited to announce that they will be hosting a [free online Library Carpentry workshop](#) on **March 19 – 21, 2024 from 12:3 – 1:00 pm PT**. They have 25 spots available and are **prioritizing equitable geographic representation of members in Region 5 (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States)**.

Library Carpentry focuses on building software and data skills within library and information-related communities. Their hands-on, approachable workshops empower people in a variety of roles to use software and data in their own work and support effective, efficient, reproducible practices. [Learn more about Library Carpentry on their website.](#)

In this 3-day interactive, hands-on virtual workshop you will learn core data skills to help you build confidence in working with data in library- and information-related settings. The March 2024 workshop will be covering the following lessons:

- [Introduction to Working with Data \(Regular Expressions\)](#)
- [OpenRefine](#)
- [Tidy Data for Librarians](#)
- [The UNIX Shell](#) and/or [Introduction to Git](#)

To be considered for enrollment, please apply by **Tuesday, February 20th at 6:00 p.m. PT**. You will be notified of your enrollment or wait list status by Wednesday, February 21st at 6:00 pm PT.

For more information and to apply, [please visit the workshop page here](#).

Any questions about the Library Carpentry workshops can be directed to [nnlm@uw.edu](mailto:nnlm@uw.edu)

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*Have news to share? Please send it to the WLA office at [newsletter@wla.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@wla.org)

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