WELCOME TO **WLA WEDNESDAY**

March 20, 2024

Alki **wants to hear from YOU!**

Call for Papers: *We All Belong*

***Alki's* Summer issue submission window opens today!**

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*](#).

Voting Open for the 2024 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](#).

Ballots submitted through Google Docs are preferred and 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 Google Docs, please contact [Dave Sonnen](#).

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 [Brandi Gates](#) or [Lisa Steudel](#)

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.

Look Who's Hiring

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 [Public Services Assistant I](#), a [Community Engagement Specialist](#) and a [Library Associate (Granite Falls)](#).

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

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)](#).

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

Evergreen Book Award 2025 Nominees Announced

The Evergreen Book Award has announced their 2025 nominees!

The 2025 MS Nominees are:

All That's Left in the World – Erik J. Brown
Shot Clock – Caron Butler & Justin A. Reynolds
Rain Rising – Courtne Comrie
Invisible – Christina Diaz Gonzalez with art by Gabriela Epstein
Wildoak – C. C. Harrington
Attack of the Black Rectangles – Amy Sarig King
Frizzy – Claribel Ortega with art by Rosse Bousamra
Air – Monica Roe
The Clackity – Lora Senf
Spells for Lost Things – Jenna Evans Welch

Download the poster for the MS Nominees here.

The 2025 HS Nominees are:

Lightlark – Alex Aster
My Mechanical Romance – Alexene Farol Fullmuth
The Getaway – Lamar Giles
The Silence That Binds Us – Joanna Ho
The Red Palace – June Hur
The Lesbiana's Guide to Catholic School – Sonora Reyes
I Must Betray You – Ruta Sepetys
Victory. Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice – Tommie Smith and Derrick Barnes with art by Dawud Anyabwile
All My Rage - Sabaa Tahir
No One Is Alone – Rachel Vincent

Download the poster for the HS Nominees here.

Starting in the 2026 Cycle, Evergreen Book Award will be adding the Geoduck Graphic Novel Award (current working title) to the Evergreens.

This will be a separate (but related) award—overseen by WASHYARG—that focuses on curating developmentally appropriate graphic novels and manga nominees for Middle School and High School ages.

Teens will then be able to vote for their favorite graphic novel in addition to voting for their favorite Evergreens.

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 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.

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 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/1FAIpQLSdF1cvvQU9hPwaEdnqjLry8aaxgHT4o682gP3R7BvGC6Gu7eQ/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-Bate](#)s, Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Marketing Team.

**2024 Northwest Interlibrary Loan & Resource
Sharing Conference - Call for Proposals Open**

The NWILL Planning Committee is excited to open the call for proposals for the 2024 Northwest Interlibrary Loan & Resource Sharing Conference. The **hybrid** conference will be held September 18-20, 2024 **in person** at the [University of Oregon](#) in [Eugene](#), and **virtually** on the Whova conference platform. Presenters are invited to share their knowledge and experiences through a real-time **45 minute session**, a short pre-recorded **lightning session**, a real-time 60 minute **panel discussion**, or an in-person **poster session**.

We welcome submissions from library professionals and paraprofessionals working in all types of libraries. Topics can be directly related or adjacent to interlibrary loan and library resource sharing. Preference may be given to presenters who will attend the conference in person.

Our past conference survey results suggest that the resources sharing community is interested in learning more about these topics:

- Budget challenges and logistics
- Censorship
- Controlled Digital Lending
- Copyright and CONTU alternatives
- eBook ILL
- Patron outreach/education
- Serving under-served populations
- Training & Position Documentation
- Resource Sharing in Public Libraries

Conference registration fees will be waived for presenters and co-presenters.

The deadline to [submit proposals](#) is midnight PST on March 25, 2024.

Please email the NWILL Planning Committee at nwillconf@gmail.com with any questions.
[Click here to submit your proposals](#).

National Storytelling Network Conference comes to Washington!

The [National Storytelling Network (NSN) Annual Conference](#) will be held July 11-13 at the Dumas Bay Centre in Federal Way.

Over 90 workshops and concerts will be held, featuring Antonio Rocha, Adam Booth, Eth-Noh-Tec, Elizabeth Ellis, Angela Lloyd, and Gene Tagabon.

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

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, Jennifir Huston: jhuston@sailsinc.org

---

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](#)

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 Assocation 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

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.

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.

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.

Washington State Library: "Supporting Emerging Readers in Libraries"

Registration is open for the four-part virtual workshop series, **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 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

---

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.

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   Twitter   LinkedIn