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May 21, 2025



WLA 2025 Spring Fundraiser

Online Silent Auction | May 6-31

We invite you participate in the [WLA Silent Auction](#), our 2025 Spring Fundraiser event! [View the items that are available here](#). Keep an eye on our auction website as more items will be added on an as-donated basis.










All members and partners are welcome to solicit or make donations! Items that can be sent digitally or are easily mailed are preferable, but we also welcome highly desirable items that are "worth the trip," like the card catalog donated this year by Primary Source. Restaurant, lodging, bookstore, and other retail gift certificates are always popular, and businesses are often delighted to show this support for WA libraries. [You may view item ideas in our document here!](#) 100 percent of auction proceeds will help fund WLA's programs and services, and as a 501(c)3 non-profit, all donations are tax deductible!

If you, your library, or anyone in your network have unique items or experiences to donate, please fill out our [donation form](#). Thank you for your support in

making this annual event a success!

Questions? Contact info@wla.org.

Peek at some of the items available:

 <p>Family membership to the WA State History Museum</p>	 <p>Signed copy of <i>Winning Grants</i> by Stephanie Gerding</p>	 <p>4 free admission passes to Oregon Historical Society</p>
 <p>1-hour Strategic Planning Consult with Audrey Barbakoff</p>	 <p>\$50 gift card to Burgerville</p>	 <p>Signed copy of <i>That Librarian</i> by Amanda Jones</p>
 <p>Walla Walla Wine! Bottle of Syrah</p>	 <p>I love Books Giclee Print</p>	 <p>Lengua Rica Spanish Language Instruction, Interpretation & Translation Services 8-week Online Adult Spanish Course at any Level</p>



Applications open for WLA Conference Committees





Apply for the 2026 WLA Conference Committee!

Looking for an opportunity to get involved? WLA invites you to apply to be on the 2026 WLA conference committee.

Please find all details and apply [using this form](#) by **this Friday, May 23**.
Questions? Email us at info@wla.org.

We thank you for your continued support in helping make these conferences a success!



Vote for Your Favorite 2025 Book Award Nominees!

Please click on the following book award to view the 2025 nominees and to vote!
Votes from students are due **this Friday, May 23**.

- [OTTER Award](#)
 - [Sasquatch Award](#)
 - [Towner Award](#)
 - [WCCPBA](#) (Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award)
-



OLLI Application is NOW LIVE!

The School Library Division is excited to announce the second annual [Olympic Library Leadership Incubator](#) (OLLI) for current and pre-service teacher-librarians. Whether you are studying to begin your library career or have been working in libraries for a while, you are invited to join this group designed to supercharge your leadership skills. Invigorate your practice, share your passions, and elevate your impact with librarian leaders from across the state.

If you are interested in applying, please [complete this form](#) by **May 31, 2025**. A limited number of travel stipends are available. Accepted applicants will be notified no later than Monday, June 2.

If you have any questions, please email Sarah Logan at sarah.logan.wla@gmail.com

Alki* Call for Papers: Summer Issue - *Building Bridges

Did you participate in the [WLA Conference, Building Bridges & Connecting Communities](#)? The summer issue of *Alki* will focus on work and ideas that come out of the annual conference. If you presented, moderated, held a workshop, did a pop-up or exhibit, or anything else related to the conference, this is an opportunity to give a more permanent form to your work by having it published. Maybe you didn't present, but you attended? We also hope the conference itself inspired commentary or maybe an unexpected article.

Possible topics might include:

- Reflections on a conference workshop or program
- A field note about a book award—the process, the candidates, and the winners
- An article encapsulating a presentation
- Art submissions of your exhibit or table with a brief description
- Milestones—program launches, space updates, award winners
- A field note reflecting on your conference experience

Sign up for your spot today or get help working through a potential article concept by emailing your name and the topic of your proposed piece to Editor-in-Chief, Traci Timmons, at alkieditor@wla.org. General submission guidelines can be found [here](#). The deadline for completed work is **June 7**.

For inspiration, check out [past issues of *Alki*](#), especially the summer issues devoted to the conference.



Share Your Story Today!

The National Museum & Library Services Board is pushing back against Executive Order 14238, warning that it endangers vital programs supporting libraries and museums nationwide. [Read the letter here](#).

[Share your story](#) on how your library, community, school, or other organization has been impacted by IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) and/or State Library funding. These testimonials will be used to raise awareness of the work being done by these vital institutions through social media, campaigns, and more. Thank you for sharing your story with us and our community.



Shop New WLA Merch!

Show your Washington Library pride with our new "[Protect WA Libraries](#)" collection! Whether you're a librarian, library lover, or passionate about protecting public resources, now's the perfect time to show your support.

WLA Community Happenings

Please check back later for more WLA meetings happening in our community!

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

Look Who's Hiring

Washington State

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Bilingual Branch Librarian](#) (Mattawa) and a [Finance Director](#) (Wenatchee).

Neill Public Library is seeking a [Library Services Director](#) (Pullman).

Seattle University is seeking a [Metadata Strategist Librarian](#).

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Children's Librarian- Library on Wheels](#) (Marysville).

Spokane Falls Community College Library is seeking an [Adjunct Librarian](#).

Outside of Washington State

Portland-Metro Library at Oregon Tech (Klamath Falls, OR) is seeking a [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

Clock Hours Available: Researching Current Trends in Media Literacy and AI Education

Independent Work Time | March - June

Develop a research plan on current trends in media literacy education, conduct research using a time log, create a bibliography, and write a reflective summary.

Hosted By: [Action 4 Media Education](#)

Total Clock Hours Available: 3-10

[Register at this link.](#)

The Humanities Washington Award

The Humanities Washington Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the public humanities—people and organizations who bring new stories to light, connect their communities, and encourage us all to think, reflect, and learn.

Anyone can nominate, and nominations are due this Friday, May 31. Those chosen for this honor will receive \$1,000 and the opportunity for public recognition at one of our 50th anniversary regional events.

Ten awards will be given in five geographic regions across Washington State (Central, Central Puget Sound, Eastern, Northwestern/Islands, and Southwestern/Coast).

Please [visit here](#) for more details and to submit a nomination.

[CALMA Round Table : Preserving the past and sustaining the future amid environmental change: Cross-cutting approaches in cultural heritage](#)

Thursday, May 22 | 1:00-2:30pm PDT

The [Center for Advances in Libraries, Museums, and Archives \(CALMA\)](#) at the UW iSchool is sponsoring a roundtable discussion on climate change and GLAM institutions.

How are museums, archives, and libraries adapting to environmental change while continuing to safeguard cultural memory? This session brings together consultants working across the GLAM sector to share practical strategies, lessons learned, and emerging best practices for sustainability and climate resilience. A moderated discussion will explore areas of convergence and divergence, challenges, innovations, and cross-sector collaboration, with a focus on bridging the gap between research and day-to-day practice. The session will conclude with audience Q&A, offering an opportunity to engage directly with experts working at the intersection of preservation and environmental responsibility.

Panelists include Rebekka Smith Aldrich (Sustainable Libraries Initiative & Mid-Hudson Library System), Stephanie Shapiro (Environment and Culture Partners), Eira Tansey (Memory Rising), and Meena Selvakumar (UW iSchool).

[Register for Preserving the past and sustaining the future amid environmental change](#)



Apply to be part of Roadtrip Nation's Public Television Series

Love libraries? Hit the road to explore how you can be part of their future!

Libraries are so much more than a collection of bookshelves—they're hubs of opportunity, community, and curiosity. If knowledge is power, these are the

places that ensure **everyone** has access to that energy.

But have you ever thought about **what it takes to build a career in these spaces?** If you're curious about working in a library—or just passionate about what libraries bring to the world—this could be the trip for you.

This year, [Roadtrip Nation](#) is sending three people on a life-changing journey to explore careers in libraries.

Fueled by **the Carnegie Corporation of New York and Strada Education Foundation**, you'll travel across the country, meet inspiring mentors who've turned their passion for books, curiosity, and community-building into careers, and discover all the surprising ways you can be part of shaping the future of libraries.

For more information and to apply, please [visit their website](#). **Applications due May 25, 2025.**

Survey: Instructional Programming for Adults in Public Libraries

Laura Saunders, Professor at the Simmons University School of Library and Information Science and Don Simmons Jr, Associate Professor at Simmons University School of Library and Information Science invite you to take a survey that they are conducting on instructional programming for adults in public libraries.

They are interested in learning about the extent and types of instructional programs offered to adults through public libraries in the United States, as well as the factors that might enable or hinder such programming. The study received approval from the Simmons University Institutional Review Board (IRB 25-233).

Please answer as many of the following questions as you wish based on your own experience. Your participation is voluntary. You may decline to participate or discontinue your participation at any time. If there are any questions you do not feel comfortable answering, you may skip them. Your decision to participate, not participate, or to withdraw at any time from this study will in no way affect your standing with your library.

The survey should take you about 20 minutes to complete. All of your responses will be recorded anonymously. You can access the survey using this [link](https://simmons.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vwIP4AVjd3C2we) (https://simmons.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5vwIP4AVjd3C2we)

If you have questions about the research, please contact Laura Saunders at laura.saunders@simmons.edu and/or Don Simmons at don.simmons@simmons.edu.

ALA: Support IMLS by Sharing Your Library Story with Congress

Since ALA announced the Show Up For Our Libraries campaign after the Inauguration, we've seen a barrage of attacks on a wide array of federal agencies, programs, and policies. Unfortunately, in the year ahead, we expect continued efforts to slash the federal budget. ALA, like many of you, is concerned about the broad-reaching effects of these efforts and other newly implemented policies and decisions.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the only source of federal funding dedicated to libraries. Every member of Congress needs to know why libraries are not just a "nice to have," but a necessity. Tell Congress your library story:

bit.ly/4iqzFgk



Registration Open: ACL Annual Conference

June 1-4 | Nampa, ID

The librarians at Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, ID) and [The Association of Christian Librarians](#) cordially invite you to participate in the 2025 ACL Annual Conference, **June 1-4** for a week of learning, encouragement, and connections as we explore this year's theme: **Libraries: Gems of the Community**. This conference is ACL's annual keystone event, and YOUR opportunity to engage in professional development, network with colleagues, and explore a variety of topics relevant to librarianship.

[Registration is now open!](#) Review the conference registration site for information related to the presentation/conference schedule and more!

Free Online Webinar- Advocacy at Your Library: Hosting Legislator Visits

June 10 | 1:00-2:00pm CDT

Want to know the best way you can show up for libraries in your community? Join [PLA \(Public Library Association\)](#) for a free webinar on June 10 on how you can host legislators at your library and make a significant impact in the way they think about the importance of libraries to their constituents. You'll learn best practices, tips, and advice on how to host lawmakers and how to maintain those relationships into the future.

Save your spot now: bit.ly/43yTil8



GAIL Conference: Generative AI in Libraries

June 9-12 | 1:00-4:00pm

Registration is now open for the second annual Generative AI in Libraries (GAIL) Conference. This year features two keynotes by AI experts in our field. GAIL is a free virtual conference aimed specifically at librarians that 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 9, 10, 11, and 12, 2025, from 1:00-4:00 pm EDT each day, GAIL 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. View more details at the [conference website](#) and [register online](#).



Original music inspired by *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *Sex is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth

June 14 | 7:30-10:00pm

[The Bushwick Book Club Seattle](#) presents a concert of **Original music inspired by *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *Sex is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth**, presented at [Town Hall Seattle](#) (1119 8th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101)

We've got your summer soundtrack covered! Celebrating two of the most challenged books in America, Bushwick goes big in June with a kaleidoscopic double-bill about love and self-discovery. *Gender Queer* is the reigning banned book champ, sitting atop ALA's list of most challenged books in 2023. *Sex is a Funny Word* has been banned and challenged for just about every topic it covers: sexual identity, sexual expression, and all of the weird, wonderful body parts that make us who we are.

Performers include:

[Carly Toyer](#), Evelyn Elston, [Kat Bula](#), [Sam Cori](#), [Christiana Crabbe](#), [K Van Petten](#), [Sailor St. Claire](#), [Kuwaitisiana](#), [Jade Monroe](#), [Jean Mann](#), Jamie Irby, and [Lauren Fernandez](#).



Reach Further

Connecting Libraries
Beyond the Screen

PNLA
Virtual Conference

August 7-9, 2025

Registration Open: 2025 PNLA Virtual Conference

August 7-9 | Virtual

The Pacific Northwest Library Association is excited to invite you to the PNLA Virtual Conference. Early Bird Pricing is open until **July 3**.

This year's theme, *Reach Further: Connecting Libraries Beyond the Screen*, celebrates the power of libraries across the Pacific Northwest coming together online in meaningful and transformative ways.

PNLA represents library professionals from Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and beyond. What better way to connect than through virtual spaces? This conference is an opportunity to forge connections beyond physical borders, expand access to knowledge, and collaborate in ways that transcend distance.

Register at this link: <https://pnla.org/event-5940839>

A THREE PART SERIES

BURNOUT IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES



sonya schryer norris
ann marie sanders

PLUM LIBRARIAN LLC

Burnout in Public Libraries: A Three-Part Series

Brought to you by the Washington State Library and Available on Niche Academy

Library work is rewarding—but it can also be exhausting. This three-part series explores the realities of burnout in public libraries through first-person narratives, research-backed insights, and expert strategies for resilience

- [Part 1: Burnout & Materials Challenges](#) – Understand how moral panics and book challenges contribute to burnout.
- [Part 2: Burnout & Workplace Wellness](#) – Discover how workplace culture, vocational awe, and emotional labor impact well-being.
- [Part 3: Burnout & a Trauma-Informed Approach](#) – Learn how to manage patron-related stress and apply trauma-informed service models.

Includes interactive self-assessments:

- Life Enjoyment Inventory
- Copenhagen Burnout Inventory
- Best Possible Future Exercise

Gain valuable perspectives from library professionals, social workers, and researchers to help you navigate burnout and reclaim your passion for library service.

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.



Authors Against Book Bans is Here for Washington

A new state law prohibits schools from banning books used in curriculums solely because they were written by or about members of marginalized groups. Even so, book challenges continue to be a reality and dealing with one can be stressful. Authors Against Book Bans (AABB) in Washington State is dedicated to protecting the intellectual freedom to read and the availability of diverse voices on library shelves.

Comprised of a coalition of writers, illustrators, anthology editors and contributors, AABB offers support to librarians, teachers, and others involved in book challenges. Some of the ways members can help include:

- Writing emails and letters, sending recorded videos, and/or making phone calls to curriculum committees, school boards, and other decision-makers
- Sharing personal experiences demonstrating the importance of diverse books
- Appearing before public meetings in support of diverse books
- Sending personal messages of support (e.g., email or postcards) to individuals embroiled in challenges

For support or more information find AABB at authorsagainstbookbans.com.



Save the Date: America's 250th Anniversary in 2026

July 4, 2026

Plans are already underway for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Washington State has established an official state committee to plan events and activities, and recently launched the official America250 WA website.

Libraries are encouraged to partner with America250 WA to help educate and promote semiquincentennial activities. Join the list of partners to help promote activities in your community at this [link](#).

Lorraine Ralston, the state America 250 coordinator, will be working with partners to help ensure this commemoration is a statewide observance. Please feel free to contact her with questions at info@america250wa.org.

For more information about Washington State plans, visit America250WA.org.

NAMLE

CONFERENCE 2025

National Association for Media and Literacy Education Conference

July 11-12 | Online

Year after year, [NAMLE's annual conference](#) serves as a beacon of knowledge and inspiration, bringing together professionals from diverse disciplines and grade levels to explore the latest resources, technologies, teaching practices, and core concepts in media literacy education. By attending the conference, you'll have

Inquiries about the planned issue and ideas for articles should be directed to Guest Editors Robin Bradford (robin.bradford@gmail.com) and Becky Spratford (bspratford@hotmail.com).