



**April 2, 2025**

*Due to our upcoming conference, there will be no issue of WLA Wednesday next week. This will resume on April 16.*

*In addition, the WLA Office will be closed on Monday, April 14 and will reopen Tuesday, April 15. Thank you!*



### **Download the #WLA2025 Conference App, Whova!**

Are you attending the WLA Conference? Whova, our [#WLA2025](#) conference app, is now live! You are now able to log in to start building your schedule, updating your profile, and interacting with other attendees.

### **Building Your Schedule**

We encourage you to build your schedule in the app right away to help us make sure we have adequate seating for popular sessions. *Please note: Adding a session to your personal agenda does not guarantee you a spot if that session fills up.*

## Accessing the App

You can access Whova from your web browser or via the mobile app. You'll be able to switch back and forth between the web version and the app while you're at work, at home, or on the go. Please make sure you can access Whova **before the start of the conference**.

- **Web Version:** [Open Whova](#) using your web browser. Click "Sign up here" and create an account using the email address associated with your registration (**{{Attendee\_Email}}**).
  - *If you've already created your account or you have used Whova before, sign in. You will be taken straight to the conference site.*
- **Mobile App:** [Open this page](#) in your smartphone's web browser, or search "Whova" in your app store. Download the app, and search for the "2025 WLA Conference." On the sign-in page, click "Sign up here" and create an account using the email address associated with your registration (**{{Attendee\_Email}}**).
  - *If you've already created your account or you have used Whova before, sign in. You will be taken straight to the conference site.*

**If Whova is asking you for a code, double check that you're using the email address associated with your registration.** If you're still having trouble, email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) or call/text (206) 823-1138 to make sure you're registered correctly.

If you're a first-time user of Whova, check out their [user guide](#) for step-by-step instructions.



### Apply to be on a WLA Book Award Committee!

Applications are now open to apply to be on a 2025-2026 WLA Book Award Committee.

Committee members should:

- **Be a WLA Member** — Be sure to [sign up for](#) or [renew your](#) WLA membership, if needed.
- Participate in the meetings and activities of the committee.
- Have an interest in the work of the committee.

Please [fill out this form](#) if you are interested. Responses are due by **Wednesday, April 30.**



### **Spring Issue of *Alki*, "Rooted," Out Now!**

In this issue, the word, "rooted," is shown in its many meanings. Writings about the history of libraries, the history that led to the development of the modern-day audiobook, and the U.S. Postal Service's history in a community, demonstrate important roots. Articles and field notes on roaming reference and programs geared toward first-generation students and teens offer insight into the important underlying services that library workers provide patrons. Others write about foundational programs and policies that allow libraries to grow in positive, respectful, and, sometimes, necessarily cautious ways. What underlies all of this is the essential care that each contributor brings to their writing and their work in library spaces.

[Read the Spring Issue of \*Alki\* Here!](#)

Look for information about the summer issue of *Alki* in next week's WLA Wednesday. This issue will focus on work and ideas that come out of the annual conference and is themed "Building Bridges."



**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.



### **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 Friday, May 23.

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

## **WLA Community Happenings**

### **Public Library Division**

Please join the Public Library Division for their quarterly meeting on **Wednesday, April 2** from 12:30-1:30pm. Connect with fellow members, share ideas, and find solidarity with the Public Library community.

### **Academic Library Division/ACRL-WA**

Calling all new, current, long-standing, and members interested in joining WLA's Academic Division/ACRL-WA. We want to hear from you! Please complete this brief [member engagement survey](#) to help in planning directions for the Division and CLAWS section by **Sunday, April 6.**

If the hyperlink above didn't copy/paste correctly please use this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf1pInYC1mp4fVdCDUQKVrsxZTGI->

Please email [info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org) with any questions.

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

## Look Who's Hiring

### Washington State

Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries is seeking a [Branch Programming & Outreach Manager](#) and a [Senior Public Services Librarian](#).

Highline College Library (Des Moines, WA) is seeking a [Reference and Instruction Librarian](#).

King County Library System is seeking a [Temporary Public Services Assistant](#) (Riverview).

NCW Libraries is seeking a [Bilingual Branch Librarian](#) (Mattawa).

Seattle Central College (Seattle, WA) is seeking a [Library Associate](#).

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

Sno-Isle Libraries is seeking a [Library Associate](#) (Everett).

The Washington State Library (Clallam Bay, WA) is seeking a [Branch Librarian \(Prison Libraries\)](#).

### Outside of Washington State

Tigard Public Library (Tigard, OR) is seeking [On Call Librarians](#)

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](mailto:newsletter@wla.org) and indicate "Look Who's Hiring" in the subject line.*

## News & Notes

## 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.](#)

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### Literacy Lecture from Tracie D Hall, Warrior Librarian

Friday, April 4 | 12:30 p.m.

"Information Islands: How Disinformation and the Decline in Human Literacy are Dividing Us and What Can we Do About It"

Tracie D Hall, Time 100 List of Influential People 2023. Warrior Librarian! Past Executive Director of the American Library Association. Distinguished Practitioner in Residence at the UW iSchool. Firm believer in "free people read freely" and that libraries and books can free us from hatred and lies. Join us for lunch with Tracie and hear her vision for the future. Tickets are \$51.80 (\$56.40 with service fee).

This event is presented in collaboration with Page Ahead, a local Children's Literacy nonprofit. You can donate to Page Ahead by purchasing new children's books at the event.

Please visit <https://brownpapertickets.com/event/6582485> for more information and to purchase tickets.

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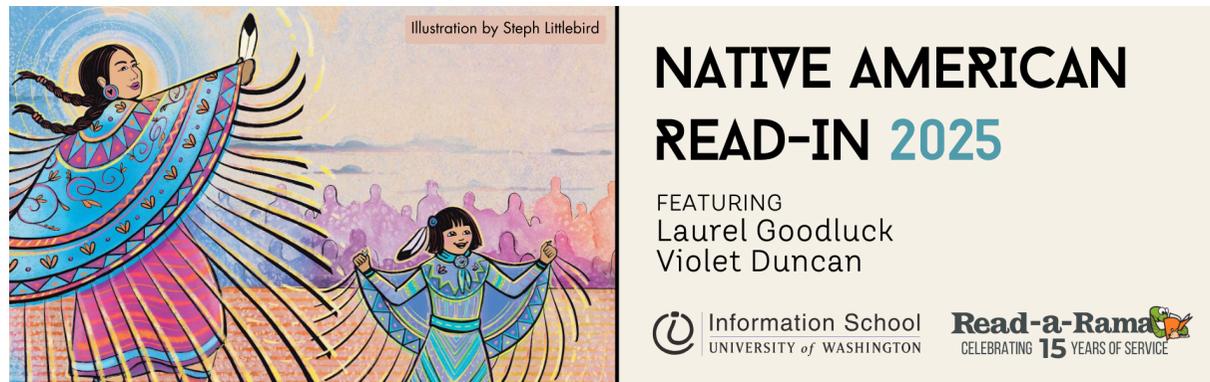
## Attend a Concert Inspired by The Devil's Highway by Luis Alberto Urrea

Saturday, April 12 | 7:30 p.m.

[The Bushwick Book Club Seattle](#) presents a concert of original music inspired by **Luis Alberto Urrea's *The Devil's Highway*** at Hugo House on Capitol Hill (1634 11th Ave.; Seattle, WA 98122) and livestreaming concurrently.

Performers include [The Go Janes](#), [Vince Martinez](#), [Mark Ippolito](#), [Aline & Wes](#), [Chris Poage](#), [Naomi Adele Smith](#), [Megan Brickwood](#), [Carl Christensen](#), [Karen Laura Peters](#), and [Where's Beth](#). Advance tickets [here](#); more information [here](#).

Informed by years of research and banned in Arizona upon publication, Luis Alberto Urrea's *The Devil's Highway* paints a harrowing portrait of America's boiling border deserts and the determined migrants who attempt the crossing. So effective was Urrea's research, in fact, that it became the first book banned in Arizona for being "satanic" and "un-American."



### Native American Read-In

Sunday, April 13 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Join online for a fun-filled event that highlights Indigenous voices through storytelling, dance, and community connection. All ages welcome!

Featuring authors Laurel Goodluck and Violet Duncan, Hoop Dancer Tony Duncan & family, and Emcee Mandi Harris.

Please [visit the website](#) for more information and to register!

foundry10

## ISTE Scholarship for Washington State Educators 2025



### foundry10 x ISTE Scholarship for Washington State Educators

foundry10, an educational research organization based in Seattle is offering nine \$3,000 scholarships for Washington State educators to attend the ISTE conference in San Antonio, TX, June 29-July 2.

[The application can be found here](#) and is due **April 16**. If you have any questions, please reach out to [anna@foundry10.org](mailto:anna@foundry10.org).

The graphic is split into two main sections. On the left, a green background features portraits of Mia Henry and JoLyn Reisdorf. Below their names are their affiliations: Freedom Lifted and Tacoma Public Library. On the right, an orange background features the Freedom Lifted logo, the workshop title 'Shared Power in Supervision', a description of the 4-hour training, and two buttons for workshop dates: March 26 and April 17.

### Freedom Lifted: Shared Power in Supervision Workshop

[Freedom Lifted](#) is now offering a new workshop: [Shared Power in Supervision](#) specific for libraries and non-profits. This live, virtual 4-hour training is for managers who want to share power with their teams. It addresses the constant question:

*“With limited time and so much to do, how can I be a better supervisor for a diverse team?”*

[Mia Henry](#) and [JoLyn Reisdorf](#) will facilitate the training which will include on.strategies, resources, and small group discussion. Supervisors will learn:

- how to understand power in the management role

- how managers can build relationships with employees by helping them identify their expertise, problem solve, and build leadership skills
- how to share decision making and authority with employees while concurrently providing clear expectations and support.

Are you ready to invest in your ability to lead?

[Sign up](#) to attend on April 17.

***If you're a Washington Library Association member, you can receive \$100 off! Simply note you are a Washington Library Association member in the registration form - your membership will be verified.***

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### 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 April 18.** 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.

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### Registration Education from Election Experts

Monday, April 21 | 5:00pm

Join a virtual event with Washington State Elections to learn how you can help get out the vote!

The education and outreach team at the office of the Secretary of State will offer elections resources, teach you how to register voters, and speak about any exciting updates that make our state voting process easier. Join in to learn how to help your community even more!

This meeting is free to the public, since anyone can help others register to vote in our state. Please email [ElectionsOutreach@sos.wa.gov](mailto:ElectionsOutreach@sos.wa.gov) for an Outlook meeting invite.

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### **Clock Hours Available: Enhancing Media Literacy Through Picture Books**

Mondays, April 21 & May 19 | 6-7:15 p.m.

Identify and select a variety of picture books related to a guiding question, unit of study, literary theme, or book award you'd like to pursue. Consider giving titles from current and previous WCCPBA titles, Towner Award books, nationally recognized titles, or SLJ starred review picture books extra consideration, since they will be more accessible to school libraries.

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

**Total Clock Hours Available:** 4 hours for attending paired with independent work for a total of 12 clock hours maximum.

[Register at this link.](#)

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### **Applying Strategic Foresight toward Future-Ready Libraries, Archives, and Museums in Washington State**

In this time of rapid change, we must explore and chart new pathways toward future success, and foster mindsets and skills to help us discover untapped possibilities. Strategic foresight is a framework to help us create multiple future scenarios, envision outcomes and evaluate current and pending strategies to support decision making and action in the present against a suite of possible futures.

Building on four years of the IMLS-supported [Transformation for Libraries: The Futures School](#), the Connecticut State Library and partner TFSX (formerly Kedge: The Futures School) are now training organizational cohorts—including library systems, archives, museums, associations, and partner networks—across the United States. The initiative is taking a systems perspective, to integrate strategic

foresight into operations and infuse futures thinking into institutional capacity, cultural shifts, technological innovation, model processes, and succession planning. Each cohort member works with a team of their colleagues to apply foresight tools to lead their organization to the future.

### [Apply Now!](#)

The June 3-5 cohort is eligible only to individuals working in a library, archive, museum or LAM-related organization within Washington State. When completing the application form, be sure to select the **Washington State cohort**. Applications are due **April 29**.

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### **Present at the PLA 2026 Conference!**

The Public Library Association (PLA) invites passionate library professionals, advocates, and thought leaders like you to participate in its conference programming! The [PLA 2026 Conference](#) will be held April 1–3, 2026, in Minneapolis, MN, and offer more than 100 educational sessions. PLA is looking for program submissions that address timely, relevant topics impacting the evolving landscape of public libraries, focused on new ideas, diverse perspectives, and actionable, scalable solutions for libraries of all shapes and sizes.

### **Program Categories**

- In-person programs can be 60-minute Panel, Peer Sharing, or Case Study educational sessions; or (new to PLA 2026) 120-minute Deep Dive educational sessions.
- Virtual programs will be delivered from your home or office, available exclusively to the PLA 2026 Virtual Conference audience, and can be 60-minute Panel or Case Study educational sessions.

The deadline for submitting a program proposal is **May 5** at 8:59 p.m. Pacific. Please visit the [conference proposal homepage](#) for more information.

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## America's Field Trip Contest

America's Field Trip is back, as a program of America250! Students in grades 3-12 are invited to participate in this year's contest by sharing their perspective about what America means to them.

Winners will receive an unforgettable field trip experience to one of our nation's most iconic historic or cultural sites. Written or original artwork answering the question "**What does America mean to you**" are now being accepted; the deadline for submissions is 2 p.m. PT on **April 16**.

For more information, please visit [America's Field Trip - America250](#)

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## 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/4iqzFqk](https://bit.ly/4iqzFqk)

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## 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!



# 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.



### **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.*



## Teacher Librarian of the Year

Award Sponsored by:



### Rachel Peters

Library Information Specialist  
Hutton Elementary School  
Spokane Public Schools



Congratulations to WLA member Rachel Peters for receiving NCCE's (Northwest Council for Computer Education) first ever Teacher Librarian of the year award!

Our members consistently go above and beyond—a true testament to their dedication and passion!



We're thrilled to congratulate the WLA School Library Division on being selected as the recipient of AASL's 2025 ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant! This award will help support the Olympic Library Leadership Incubator (OLLI), fostering growth and innovation in school librarianship.

If you are interested in learning more about OLLI, check out their session **OLLI-Oop! Leaping into Leadership & Advocacy with the Olympic Library Leadership Incubator** at our WLA 2025 Conference on Friday, April 11. There will also be an **OLLI After Dark** session Friday evening.



### **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](http://authorsagainstbookbans.com). Be sure to look for the AABB exhibitors booth at the WLA Conference in April!



## Save the Date: America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026

July 4, 2026

*Have news to share? Please send information to the WLA office at [newsletter@wla.org](mailto:newsletter@wla.org) by Monday to be included in that week's digest. Please include any relevant graphics, as well as the blurb you would like posted in our newsletter.*

Plans are already underway for the commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> 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.

*It's a great time to become a member of the Washington Library Association. [Join](#) or [Renew](#) your membership today!*

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](#).



### Contact Info:

Washington Library Association  
50 coordinator, will be working with partners  
is a state-wide effort. Please feel free to  
reach out to us at:  
(206) 823-1138  
[info@wla.org](mailto:info@wla.org)  
[America250WA.org](http://America250WA.org)

For more information about Washington State plans, visit [America250WA.org](http://America250WA.org).

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