

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY

FLICKERTALE

VOLUME 47 · NUMBER 10 · OCTOBER 2017

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

Submitted by Al Peterson

It's October and for the Reference Department here at the North Dakota State Library, that means assisting our school librarians finding materials students need for research projects. If your resources are limited or you don't have the time to do research for students, let us help you out!

One of the easiest ways to ask us for help is to simply e-mail us. In the e-mail, give us the topic, the grade level of the student needing the materials, the last possible date that the student needs this information and still have it useful, and the amount of research materials needed, i.e. 3-4 books, articles, websites, etc., on the topic. We'll search WorldCat, our databases, and other sources.

If you or a teacher at your school choose to have students apply for their own North Dakota State Library card, here are a couple of things to keep in mind before sending us the applications. First, if they are under 18 years of age, they **MUST** have a parent or guardian signature on their application. Please make sure that the student is providing the correct mailing address and a telephone number where we can reach them. Also, if they can fill out the application legibly, that would be greatly appreciated. If they choose to include an e-mail address, they will receive overdue notices in their e-mail. You do have the option of faxing or scanning/e-mailing as well as putting the completed applications in postal mail.

Once the student checks out materials on their card, **THEY** are responsible for returning the materials or contacting us for a renewal request. Some schools have sent back materials to us that were checked out on a student State Library card. This is fine, but if the item is lost in mail or somehow doesn't get back, it is still the responsibility of the student for paying the replacement fee.

If you have any questions or want to request materials, please feel free to contact us at 1-800-472-2104 or statelib@nd.gov.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN DUE DATES

Submitted by Krista Kurtz

We have recently had many questions relating to the difference between the due dates that are on the paperwork that arrives with requests versus the due date that appears on your library account.

After an ILL (or Interlibrary Loan) request is shipped, our system automatically takes off 3 days to give you the time that is needed to return it to the library by its due date. For example, if the lending library gives you a due date of November 17th, the due date that will show up on your account is November 14th. If, after it takes off the 3 days, the due date falls on a weekend, it will be moved to the first day that we are open.

If you have any further questions, please contact the North Dakota State Library at statelib@nd.gov or 701-328-4622.

News and Thoughts...

from Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

I know I've said this before but I really love my job. More than loving my job, I love my profession. There are so many reasons to love being a librarian, of any kind, working in any type of library.

Right now, I feel like I should be nicknamed "the traveling librarian". Last month, I was in beautiful St. George, UT for the annual Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) conference, one of my absolutely favorite conferences. Each and every session is applicable to our ND libraries. We had a dozen ND librarians head to Utah this year. If you haven't explored joining ARSL, I highly recommend it.

ARSL was followed up by my other favorite conference, the North Dakota Library Association's (NDLA) annual conference. NDLA was held in Grand Forks this year. I thoroughly enjoyed serving on the conference committee and assisting at the conference. I had the opportunity to give one solo presentation and to be part of a panel presentation. I appreciated the chance to share some thoughts about Librarian of the Year Kelly Steckler and was honored to be able to share Christine Kujawa's speech. It was bittersweet to visit with Kelly's mom as she accepted the award. We also celebrated the inaugural Library Champion Award which will honor leaders at the federal, state, or local levels that support libraries. Congratulations to Senator Holmberg and Representatives

Mock and Mitskog and many thanks to each of them for their years of library support at the local and state levels. The best thing about NDLA is networking with other North Dakota librarians. The other best thing about this year's conference was the talent show; kudos to all the talented singers and puppeteers that performed!

Next, I'm off to the Mountain Plains Library Conference (MPLA) in sunny Lake Tahoe, NV. MPLA is a regional library association with members from 12 states. It is always a good opportunity to learn from colleagues in our region. I enjoy that there are librarians from all types of libraries at MPLA. The other fun thing about MPLA is that it partners with one of the 12 member states for the annual conference and so the location moves each year to a different state in the region.

I will finish up this month's travels with the fall COSLA meeting in Nashville, TN. COSLA is the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies or in other words my state librarian peeps. It is my opportunity to receive continuing education that is aimed at the Chiefs as well as the time to reconnect and renew. I feel truly blessed to be a member of COSLA; I have several mentors in the group that have greatly assisted me these last few years.

I really enjoy being able to represent ND libraries locally, regionally and on a national level. It is one of the fun aspects of my job.

ONLINE LIBRARY RESOURCE

NEWSSTREAM - PROQUEST NEWS

With all this talk about “fake news” many patrons do not know where to go to in order to get reliable news sources. Newspapers are always a good source of news! Did you know that you have access to papers like the Bismarck Tribune, Grand Forks Herald, and even The New York Times? These are all part of the database Newsstream (formerly ProQuest News). This database searches like all of the others only you can narrow it down by publication if you would like. In order to search the publications you would need to choose “Publication” on the homepage and then you can pick which type you would like. Whether it be a newspaper, magazine, or even a blog this database has it!

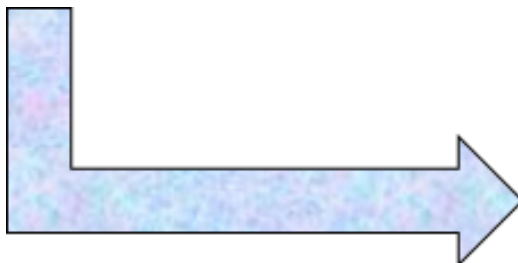
This database is great for teaching students how to search reliable news sources like The New York Times. Unlike the other subscription databases these news articles do not come with the photograph and advertisements so a student will not get distracted by those. You can still access the original news story through a link at the bottom of the article if you would like to see any of the photographs. So take a look at this database when you are teaching patrons and students about reliable news sources!



Global Newsstream enables users to search the most recent global news content, as well as archives which stretch back into the 1980s featuring content from newspapers, newswires, and news sites in active full-text format. This product provides one of the largest collections of news from the US, Canada, Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Australia. All titles are cross-searchable on the ProQuest platform allowing researchers easy access to multiple perspectives, resources, and languages on the topic they are researching.

Coverage: 1980 - current

[View title list](#)



Publication Search



You've been asking and we've been listening! We are pleased to be able to offer you a new e-book option in our RBdigital database. As you know, RBdigital is the database where you can download audiobooks and e-magazines straight to your phone or tablet. Through this app we have also added e-books!

Each book can be checked out for a 14 day period and can be renewed one time. Additionally, you can put holds on books that you want just like any other library service. Because it is the same app that you are used to, it does not require a new login or a reverification of your information. You can just add an e-book to your checkout list right away.

Since it is a new system we will be adding books periodically so if you don't see the one you want, we may be in the process of adding it. Come back often to check out the developing collection!

2017 NDLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Submitted by: Tawnie Jensen

This year NDLA's annual conference theme was "Libraries Transform" and it was located in Grand Forks. There were a few sessions that I was able to attend that stuck out to me. Like this year's theme, a lot of the sessions included ways to transform libraries with informational services and fun activities/collections.

First, I will start with the informational services. Thursday morning started out with "Fake News and Media Literacy" presented by Elizabeth Smithmeyer, a school librarian at Fargo South High School and Edie Thiel, an educator with the Fargo Public Schools. Although this is geared more towards school libraries and teachers on how to educate their students, it was still interesting to see how people/students think when reading news and how we can make sure that it is reliable. With fake news all over the internet, it is great to see that we can still know what's really happening in the world. Then on Friday morning, I went to "Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government" presented by Jaime Hays who is an outreach librarian at the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO). In this session, Jaime shows us the free learning platform created by the GPO for kids (and adults) to learn about how the U.S. government works. You can visit the website at <https://bensguide.gpo.gov/> and it includes games and printable content for teachers. The site is divided into age groups so it encourages all ages of learning.

Here, I am going to mention the fun activities/collections that were presented in sessions at the conference. Thursday afternoon brought me to Hot Topics: Public Libraries / Youth Services which included a variety of topics. The one I would like to mention and was incredibly happy to see, "A Haunting Good Time: Making Your Library a Halloween Destination Event" presented by Tonya Palmer from the Grand Forks Public Library. Tonya talked about the decorations she used, the games/activities she had, and how she made everything work. She was full of ideas and she even included pictures of each of the things she talked about. On Friday afternoon, I found myself at "Unusual Collections - Binge Boxes and Beyond" that was presented by Troy Hamre and Lora Rose from the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. Troy and Lora talked about their process, how they catalogued the boxes, and the solutions to problems that have arisen. They even brought some binge boxes (boxes filled with DVDs that fit a theme) to pass around, as well as other ideas for unusual collections. Both ventures have become staples in their communities and they have plans to expand.

In conclusion, this year's conference really kept on theme and sessions were informative and fun. I look forward to attending next year as the co-chair of the GODORT/TS Roundtable. If you have any questions, you can contact the presenters and they are willing to answer them for you.

SCHOOL LIBRARY DIRECTORY

We are working on updating a school librarian directory and are in need of the following information: your name, years as a Media Specialist, library name(s), grades it serves, the automation system(s) you use, your e-mail address, phone number, principal and/or superintendent, and name of school(s). A SurveyMonkey has been set up to help you complete the directory information.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8258W53>



MPLA Leadership Institute

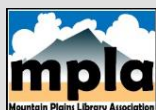
April 29 – May 4, 2018

YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado

Apply now!

DEADLINE: Monday, October 30, 2017

- ✓ Employed in a library organization in MPLA's 12-state region
- ✓ Current member of one of MPLA's 12 state library associations
- ✓ Minimum of 5 years in a library-related job
- ✓ Record of experience that demonstrates leadership potential
- ✓ Expected continued contribution to the profession
- ✓ A thoughtfully completed application
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation



More information at: <http://mpla.us/quick-links/leadership-institute.html>

BOOK CLUB KITS

We have added several new Book Club Kits to our collection. Our kits can be checked out through KitKeeper, <http://bit.ly/1tgOGKP> or by contacting the North Dakota State Library at 1-800-472-2104 or statelib@nd.gov.

As a reminder, please have the Book Club Kits back by their due date. When they are returned late, that often delays the next patron in the holds queue from getting the kit on time, which could delay the next patron and so on.

NEW KITS AVAILABLE

My Name is Not Easy (young adult)
by Debbie Dahl Edwardson

A Game For All The Family
by Sophie Hannah

The Royal Nanny
by Karen Harper

Don't Tell Anyone (middle school)
by Peg Kehret

BUYING GRAPHIC NOVELS; MONEY WELL-SPENT

Submitted by Carmen Redding

Do they have literary value? I can say, with confidence, that graphic novels do indeed have literary merit. In fact, because of how the story is shared, I believe that students are required to be extremely intuitive and discerning. Graphic novels may require more critical thinking, not less and may not be the panacea for all struggling readers as some teachers and librarians may have thought because of the visual form.

Dr. Aimee Rogers, Assistant Professor at the University of North Dakota in the College of Education and Human Development, shared her research findings from her doctoral dissertation on graphic novels with us at NDLA this past week. I walked away with a new understanding and appreciation for this medium. This is what I learned.

Graphic novels are not a genre. They are a medium. They present stories in a distinctive layout. Panels are one unique component of the layout which separates picture books from graphic novels. Like any other story (except manga), they read from left to right.

Many graphic novels, similar to books, are long and complex. This complexity is what requires intuitive thinking. Some authors have chosen to adapt their novels to graphic novel form. Strong adaptations will plant the seed of the plot and deliver the narrative with subtleties, yet present all the literary elements of the book itself. Graphic novels are a form of composition, a craft, which deserves utmost respect.

Panels and gutters (white space between panel) control the element of time. Size and content of panels as well as the number of panels and the size of the gutters contribute to the passage of time. Narrow gutters indicate a shorter span of time—wider gutters, a greater expanse. The reader needs to infer this message from the layout.

Other inferences can be made with the content, size, font and shape of speech and thought bubbles or balloons. The text in a balloon is usually dialogue or stream of conscious thoughts which are differentiated by the presence of a tail on the shape balloon or the little circles that trail from the bubble to the speaker's head. Sound effects or onomatopoeias are usually written in a jagged bubble with no tail.

Tags in dialogue aren't needed. The tail replaces it, but the descriptive phrases that often occur in typical novels has to be conveyed in an artistic manner within that panel, an often complicated task.

Dialogue and thought bubbles provide a window into a character's mind. The size and font can indicate tone, volume and intention of the character.

Graphic novels are not reading material that we give to students as a form of entertainment when they have nothing else to do. They are not frill or unnecessary reading. Graphic novels require perception and the ability to read between the lines or deduce what has happened in the gutter between the panels. They can strengthen the very core of reading because of what they require in critical thinking skills. Additionally, these novels are a beautiful blend of words and art.

Dr. Roger's presentation on literary value at NDLA was the lightbulb I needed when considering graphic novels. She shared the amazing perceptions the students had as they were reading and after they finished reading the graphic novel. Not all of the participants would have chosen graphic novels as their first choice, but they were able to articulate all the elements typical novels exemplify. The depth of understanding that these students had was demonstrated in their interviews. Some, I think, were surprised at their insights, and the conversation that resulted was as rich or richer than any other book discussion they have had. Graphic novels are worth the investment.

HOUR OF CODE

Submitted by: Tom Stokke (tstokke@cs.und.edu)

North Dakota Hour of Code Coordinator, University of North Dakota

The Hour of Code was started by Code.org in 2013 as an initiative to introduce students to coding, or computer programming. Code.org believes that “every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science.” To this end, a variety of engaging hour-long activities have been designed to introduce the concepts of computer science, in fun and engaging programming tutorials. In subsequent years, Hour of Code activities have been designed for everyone, from kindergarten through high school and beyond, to engage audiences from all levels of education and experience.

Even though the use of computers has become ubiquitous, currently there are limited opportunities for students to learn to use computers as problem solving tools. As a society we are very good at consuming content with computers, but our abilities to innovate, design, and create new problem solving tools are limited at best. By improving students’ understanding of how to use the computational abilities of computers to solve their problems, in their fields of interest, we can develop a prepared workforce better suited to meet the demands of tomorrow.

It is anticipated that the United States will not produce anywhere near the number of computer science graduates required to meet future demand. While the Hour of Code will create interest in computer science to help meet that need, the goal of the Hour of Code is not to turn all students into computer science majors. Rather, the overarching goal of the Hour of Code is to introduce the basics of computer science to a large audience and show that anyone can learn to use computers problem solving tools. Computing has become a vital component in literally all career fields. So it is important that all students have the opportunity to learn to use computers to solve problems.

To date, over 400 million people from more than 180 countries have participated in the Hour of Code using over 40 different languages. Code.org has been especially effective at reaching a wide and diverse audience, helping to break stereotypes that may discourage some students from pursuing computer science classes. Roughly half of the participants in the 2016 Hour of Code were female and nearly 40% were underrepresented students of color.

While the Hour of Code was initially promoted for use in elementary and middle schools, today anyone can offer an Hour of Code. Libraries are an ideal setting for the Hour of Code. Libraries are developing new ways to engage their patrons in STEM learning, especially by focusing upon 21st Century-related competencies such as collaboration, digital literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving. The Hour of Code fits the American Library Association STEM in Public Libraries Initiative.

Continued on page 8

PERSONNEL UPDATES

The State Library is pleased to announce that BreAnne Meier has accepted the Marketing Specialist position, formerly known as Public Information Officer. Please contact BreAnne (ndslpa@nd.gov or 701-328-4656) to request marketing materials for databases, programs, etc., as well as sample press releases. BreAnne has been with NDSL for 8 years. She has worked in several different departments, most recently Library Development.

We plan to hire a new Library Development Specialist soon.

Hour of Code continued from page 7

For libraries that will offer the Hour of Code for the first time, the CSEdWeek website has excellent tutorials to help you prepare for your Hour of Code. The activities for the participants are easy to follow, but it is a good idea for library staff to work through them beforehand to eliminate surprises. There are dozens of different activities to engage everyone from the novice to the expert, including tutorials with themes for Minecraft, Star Wars, Frozen, and Moana. Additionally, there are tutorials for creating actual working apps that can be installed on cell phones. Libraries can also print off stickers and certificates of completion for those that participate.

The Hour of Code is traditionally held during Computer Science Education Week (Dec 4-10, 2017), although it can be held at any time during the year. The date for Computer Science Education Week was selected to honor Grace Murray Hopper's birthday (December 9, 1906), a pioneer in the field of computer science and Navy Admiral.

Steps to get started:

Organize your promotional materials. Reserve the library computers for the event. Register your event before December 11th at <https://hourofcode.com/us>.

Make an Hour of Code account for your library (use account type Teacher) <http://bit.ly/2yWkAaf>. If your library does not have many computers but does have WiFi, include in your advertising that patrons should bring their own devices (laptop, tablet, or smart phone).

Recruit volunteers that will be able to assist Hour of Code participants. Make sure everyone has worked through at least a couple of the tutorials. Test the tutorials in the library to determine if they work with all browsers in your library, some work best with a particular browser.

Identify tutorials for different levels of experience. Not everyone likes Minecraft or Frozen, so be prepared to make suggestions.

How will you share the tutorials? You might consider bookmarking the starting webpages to eliminate worries about mistyped URLs.

Have a plan on how to work with patrons when they experience problems. One of the skills learned from working with computers is perseverance. That is great, but only to a point. Pair programming is a great tool for helping patrons work together, and it doubles the number of people working on each computer. To find out more about pair programming watch this video (<http://bit.ly/2yDbldN>).

Decide if you are comfortable with a noisy library or if you will request that computer speakers be muted. With your Hour of Code teacher account, you can print participation certificates and stickers (mailing label style) beforehand or you can login to your account, type in names and print individual certificates.

Be prepared to answer "What's next?" Code.org offers 6 courses aligning with grades K-5. They have also developed courses for middle school and the new high school AP course Computer Science Principles, so there is something to keep everyone engaged, regardless of age or experience. There are also numerous other websites/companies, such as Scratch (from MIT), Tynker, Codecademy, and Khan Academy, just to name a few. You could also offer a Scratch Day (<https://day.scratch.mit.edu>), which is similar to the Hour of Code, but it only uses Scratch. Scratch Day is typically held in May, but can be held anytime during the year.

Useful websites:

- Computer Science Education Week <https://csedweek.org>
- Code.org <https://code.org>
- Hour of Code <https://hourofcode.com>
- Hour of Code promotional material <https://hourofcode.com/us/promote>
- Hour of Code resources <https://hourofcode.com/us/promote/resources>

LESS OBVIOUS BENEFITS OF ATTENDING NDLA

Submitted by James Murphy

Why have a conference when teleconferences are so much cheaper? We know the usual answer to that is networking, but networking is a concept that may sound dull to many and evoke the imagery of exchanging business cards. That is part of networking, but I find the unplanned and informal situations at conferences will help you remember the person who gave you that business card. Here are a few examples of situations that I found myself in at the NDLA conference that were not planned, but were definitely beneficial.

The first situation happened to be the four hour car ride to Grand Forks. This was with my colleagues at the State Library, but we are from mostly different departments that do not get to interact much on a daily basis. I shared the perspective of my department, Talking Books, on various issues and about the new challenges we are facing in beta testing a new digital distribution system. Normally, a lengthy conversation about problematic software might bore someone to tears, but it comes off as much more interesting when you are passing time on the road. I felt like I was able to effectively communicate in a way that does not happen in a usual meeting, or when someone drops by your department for a few minutes.

The next day I took a turn at working the State Library booth. Although it is handy to have someone there all the time, you do not get many visitors when your scheduled time is during one of the morning sessions. Although I did not have many visitors, I did end up chatting with the staff at the North Dakota United booth which was pretty close to our booth. I ended up visiting longer than I would have if I would have just stopped by, and I also asked a few questions. I was surprised to learn that collective bargaining for state employees only failed by one vote the last time the legislature considered it. This reminded me of how very different state politics are compared to national politics and that legislators are willing to listen to their constituents, regardless of what their political affiliation might be. Once again, I found that a situation that involved "passing time" turned out to be more engaging and informative than I would have thought beforehand.

Over the course of the whole conference, I had several one-on-one and small group conversations with colleagues and former colleagues. Some of these were causal, but a few turned into lengthy conversations that managed to defy the conference schedule. Without going into details, these types of conversations allow us to express challenges, difficulties, and feelings in ways that we would not in a public session or even a telephone call. Although videoconferencing has come a long way, there will always be this human element that will never be replicated with technology. There are more cost effective ways to learn than going to a conference, but personal, human interaction is priceless.

NEW LIBRARIAN RESOURCES AT THE STATE LIBRARY

- Picture-perfect science lessons : using children's books to guide inquiry, 3-6
- More picture-perfect science lessons : using children's books to guide inquiry, K-4
- Even more picture-perfect science lessons : using children's books to guide inquiry, K-5
- Patent, copyright & trademark : an intellectual property desk reference (Nolo, 14th edition)
- Leading for school librarians : there is no other option
- This is what a librarian looks like : a celebration of libraries, communities, and access to information
- The maximum security book club : reading literature in a men's prison
- From cover to cover : evaluating and reviewing children's books (Revised edition)
- Footsteps : from Ferrante's Naples to Hammett's San Francisco, literary pilgrimages around the world
- Come and take it : the gun printer's guide to thinking free
- The ninja librarians, book 1: The accidental keyhand (ages 8-12)
- The ninja librarians, book 2: The sword in the stacks (ages 8-12)

FREE TRAINING WEBINARS

These webinars are free, live, and interactive. You will connect to audio using a headset or speakers. If you do not have a microphone, you can use chat to ask questions.

- Shocking Report: Fake News Webinar Affects Millions and You Too! (NDSL) Register: <http://bit.ly/w3pTgC>
- Thursday, October 19, 1:30-2:00 PM CT
- Presented by Trevor Martinson, Library Development Specialist
- Did Pope Francis endorse Donald Trump for president? Is Facebook implementing user fees? Did President Obama try to run for a third term? The answer to all of these questions is: No! These are all examples of fake news. Can you identify fake news? Are you able to help others discern between fiction and fact? Join us to sharpen your information literacy skills! This webinar will cover the history and rise of fake news, ways to identify and categorize it, and the methods to prevent it.

Getting Started with Social Media Register: <http://bit.ly/2crutXP>
for your Library (WebJunction & TechSoup)
Tuesday, October 24, 1:00-2:30 PM CT

Social media has the potential to increase community engagement with new and existing library patrons. Join us to learn how libraries can effectively use social media tools, even with limited staff and time. Learn how to identify the appropriate social media platforms to market library services and events, and how to integrate best social media practices in your library's marketing plan. We'll help you build a foundation for your social media strategy and provide practical ideas and tactics for immediate use in your library.

Introduction to the U.S. Indian Health Service Website (FDLP Academy) Register: <http://bit.ly/2fzVzOe>
Thursday, October 26, 1:00-2:00 PM CT

Federal Government Information Specialist, Steve Beleu, will teach participants how to find information on the recently-revised website of the U.S. Indian Health Service

Winter is Coming: Stocking Your Series Nonfictions Shelves (Booklist) Register: <http://bit.ly/2qdFgaR>
Friday, October 27, 1:00-2:00 PM CT

Report season is upon us, and lucky for you Amicus, The Creative Company, Lerner, Mason Crest, and Teacher Created Materials are here to help you survive it. In this webinar, they will present their new Fall 2017 releases, which may include tips on weathering a zombie apocalypse or makerspace mania.

Looking for Commonsense? Register: <http://bit.ly/w3pTgC>
Thursday, November 16, 1:30-2:00 PM CT

Presented by Carmen Redding, School and Youth Services Specialist

Join the crowd! Check out what *Commonsense Education* has for teachers. In this webinar, I will show you around the website, especially the Digital Citizenship portion for librarians. If you haven't checked out this valuable resource, be prepared to be impressed with lesson plans, activity sheets, short videos, and even resources for parents. All lessons are aligned to the Common Core Standards. I will even correlate the digital citizenship lessons to the ND standards. Join me for the "commonsense" scoop!

Disclaimer: There must be at least 5 participants signed up for the webinar by Monday, November 13. We will not have the session if there are not enough participants.

DISCLAIMER: The ND State Library highlights third-party webinars as a way to alert the library community to training opportunities. By doing so, we are not endorsing the content, nor promoting any specific product.

SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

EBSCO ALA MIDWINTER MEETING SPONSORSHIP

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 6

This award is designed to allow librarians to attend the Midwinter Meeting of the American Library Association. The grant provides up to \$1,500 in reimbursed expenses. Applicants must be ALA members and currently work as a librarian.

For more information and to apply: <http://bit.ly/2cLVotF>

BAKER & TAYLOR SUMMER READING PROGRAM GRANT

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 15

This grant from the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is designed to encourage reading programs for children in public libraries by providing \$3,000 in financial assistance. Applicants must be members of ALCS and ALA.

For more information and to apply: <http://bit.ly/1qu9aOB>

AGRIBANK RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30

Grants up to \$50,000 will be available within the Rural Community Grant Fund to facilitate infrastructure improvement and/or development initiatives encompassing housing projects, health, safety and environmental programs, medical facilities, educational programs and more. Disbursements through this fund are designated for projects and programs in rural communities in western North Dakota.

For more information and to apply: <http://bit.ly/2tqx0WJ>

BAKER & TAYLOR/YALSA COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT GRANT

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

The purpose of this award is to give \$1,000 for collection development to public libraries who work directly with young adults (ages 12-18). Applicants must be members of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA).

Find out more and apply here: <http://bit.ly/2dfAzj5>

JAN MERRILL-OLDHAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

This award, established by the Preservation and Reformatting Section of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), allows librarians with 5 or fewer years of experience in the libraries and archives preservation field to attend the ALA Annual Conference. The award is a \$1,250 cash grant to be used toward registration fees, airfare, and lodging.

For more information and to apply: <http://bit.ly/HKX9Wz>

REGIONAL STEM DAYS FOR STUDENTS

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 29

ND STEM is looking to encourage educational entities and business/industry partners to participate in STEM activities and projects for K-12 students. K-12 districts, Area Career and Technology Centers, REA's, Universities, and other entities who directly impact K-12 education are eligible to apply. Grant requests may not exceed \$4,000. Funds may be used for presenter travel and fees, activity supplies, transportation of students, and facility rental, but not to supplant state and local funds nor to fund existing programs.

Find out more and apply here: <http://bit.ly/2hrh18d>

If you have applied for a grant you found in The Flickertale and received it, please let us know!

North Dakota Library Tidbits

Minot Public Library hosted an event where attendees learned about the history of video games.

Heart of America Library and Prairie Village Museum held a community book discussion on the WWI novel *Fear* by Gabriel Chevallier.

Williston Community Library had its 17th annual Table of Contents fundraiser, which featured 21 elaborate place settings to give attendees ideas on entertaining guests.

Mayville Public Library held its 12th annual Amateur Juried Photography Show.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has expanded its coverage to include all of Pembina County. There are currently 88 children enrolled throughout the county.

Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation hosted an evening campfire event that included a talk about the Elkhorn Ranch cabin project, music, cowboy poetry, and an appearance by a Theodore Roosevelt impersonator.

Jennifer Kross, a Lamaze certified childbirth educator, led a childbirth education program at the Alfred Dickey Library in Jamestown.

Adams County Library received a memorial donation that will be used to purchase children's nonfiction books.

Heart of America Library had a photograph display in the library with "People of Pierce County" being the theme.

McVile Community Library held a Mosaic Workshop and a Geocaching event.

Professor Anna Andrzejewski, University of Wisconsin-Madison, presented "Investigating the Folk Farmstead of the Germans from Russia" at the Dickinson Area Public Library.

Minot Public Library hosted the discussion event "Freedom! Libraries and Banned Books" to celebrate the start of Banned Books Week.

Visits to the Margaret Fraase Public Library in Buffalo are up 200% from last year and circulations have increased by 600%.

Edna Ralston Library in Larimore has a newly fenced in patio.

The board of the Lake Region Public Library in Devils Lake held a farewell party for library director Angela Plummer.

A retirement party was held at the Williston Community Library for Debbie Slais, library director. Debbie has worked in the library since 1974 and has served as director since 2001.

SUMMER READING MANUALS

Summer Reading 2017 has officially come to an end. No time like the present to start planning for next year! The State Library has ordered the 2018 Summer Reading Manuals. If you would like a manual, please fill out the request form, which is available here: <http://library.nd.gov/summerreadingmanual.html>

Like last year, the State Library will be providing downloadable manuals. Directions on how to receive an access code will be sent via e-mail once the manuals are available. More information should be available soon, but, if you have any questions, please contact Carmen at credning@nd.gov



Letters About Literature

Read. Be Inspired. Write Back.

CALL FOR STUDENT ENTRIES!

The Library of Congress invites students in grades 4 through 12 to enter the

25th Annual LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE WRITING COMPETITION

Polish up your reflective writing skills and write a letter to an author—living or dead—explaining how his or her work changed your view of yourself or your world.

ENTER ON ONE OF THE THREE COMPETITION LEVELS:

Level 1: Grades 4, 5 and 6

Level 2: Grades 7 and 8

Level 3: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Deadline (all competition levels): January 12, 2018

HOW TO ENTER IN 10 EASY STEPS!

1. Select a book that you have read and about which you have strong feelings.
2. Imagine sitting down with the author of this work and sharing your personal thoughts. Your letter should be personal and sincere, more like a private conversation rather than book report or a fan letter.
3. Share specific details both about the book and about your reaction to the book.
4. Keep in mind that this is a reflective writing contest and that means you need to think about what you read and the meaning you gleaned from the author's words.
5. Type your entry.
6. Complete the entry coupon (see page 2) and staple it to your entry.
7. Enclose the letter in a large, flat envelope 8" x 10" (or larger). Please do not use letter-sized envelopes. **TEACHERS' NOTE: PLEASE MAIL CLASS SETS IN ONE LARGE ENVELOPE.**
8. Indicate the competition level on the envelope—Level 1, or Level 2 or Level 3—depending on your grade. If you are submitting for more than one level, use a separate envelope for each level.
9. Mail your entry to:
Letters About Literature
Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20540-4921
10. Download participation certificate at <http://read.gov/letters> (available November 1, 2017)

Letters About Literature is a reflective writing competition sponsored by the Library of Congress Center for the Book and presented in association with affiliate State Centers for the Book with funding provided by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

TEACHERS: Please go to <http://read.gov/letters> to review the online teacher's resource page for specific tips and to download our free Teacher's Guide. Teachers should submit class sets in one envelope rather than submitting letters individually in single envelopes.

ASSESSMENT: All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

Round 1: Audience. Is the essay in letter format and does it address the author of the work? Entries that are not in letter format and are written about the author, rather than to the author, will be eliminated.

Purpose. Does the essay address the contest theme of how an author's work changed the reader's view of self or the world? Is personal reflection evident in the letter? Entries that are book summaries or fan letters will be eliminated. Letters that meet these criteria advance to Round 2.

Round 2: Grammatical conventions. Is the essay written in a clear and organized way with specific details to support the essay's main ideas? Single-paragraph letters and those with significant grammatical errors will be eliminated.

Originality. Does the essay express ideas creatively, communicating a unique or powerful point of view? Letters that are formulaic without evidence of a writer's voice will be eliminated.

Letters that meet these criteria advance to state-level judging.

Judges selected by affiliate Centers for the Book choose the top letters in each competition level for their state and coordinate recognition ceremonies and awards. The first-place state-level winners advance to the national-level judging.

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress selects a panel of judges to award National Winners and National Honor Winners.

AWARDS

Each state recognizes and awards prizes to winning participants. The Library of Congress will announce all National and National Honor Winners and will publish all state-level winners on its website.

National Winners in each competition level will receive a \$1,000 cash award
National Honor Winners in each competition level will receive a \$200 cash award
Check read.gov/letters for details on state awards and ceremonies

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR LETTERS AND ENTRY COUPON


Entry Coupon: Each letter must be accompanied by an entry coupon. Staple the coupon to the last page of the letter. Affiliate Centers for the Book will contact State Winners using this information, so be sure entry coupons are complete and legible! Letters without a coupon will be eliminated.

Class Set of Letters: Teachers must submit their name and contact information with a list of the names of each student submitting a letter. This list does not take the place of entry coupons. Each student's letter must have its own entry coupon. Mail class sets in a flat envelope 8" x 10" or larger.

Ownership: All letters become the property of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Please keep a copy of your entries, as no letters will be returned.

Mailing Address:

Letters About Literature
Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20540-4921



Letters About Literature Entry Coupon for 2017-18

Please complete the form, cut and staple to your letter

Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Book / Story Title _____ Author _____

FOR CLASS ENTRIES

School / Library _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School / Library Phone _____ School / Library Email _____

Teacher / Librarian (signature required) _____ Email _____

FOR INDIVIDUALS

Fill out ONLY if you are submitting a letter individually. Otherwise, this section is optional.

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature (required) _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Contact Shari Mosser at ssandwick@nd.gov or 701-328-3252

ELECTORAL COLLEGE PRESENTATION Grand Forks Public Library



Through a grant from the North Dakota Council on the Humanities, Dr. Eric Burin from the University of North Dakota History Department gave a presentation on understanding how the electoral college works.



Makerspace at the Griggs County Central Public School

LaRee Misek has developed a makerspace at the Griggs County Central Public School. It includes a littleBits kit, Makey Makey, Ozobot, bridge construction materials, Hue Animation Studio, and many other things for the kids to use.



LIBRARY RECEIVES INNOVATOR AWARD

The Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) awarded several Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library employees the 2017 Innovator Award for their creative and resourceful efforts in organizing and implementing the Bismarck community's first ever local Comic Con event. The award recognizes an up-and-coming individual or group for a creative, inventive, trail-blazing project that has significance to the library's community.

The Comic Con event took place this past May and brought in over 1,100 comic and pop culture enthusiasts of all ages. The library's Comic Con committee has started preparation for the 2018 Comic Con event, with plans to incorporate programs with authors and illustrators.



Employees being honored are: Traci Juhala, Laura Rysavy, Becky Needham, Troy Hamre, Lexie Smith, Matt Hovland, Sheldon Steckler, Sarah Matthews, Nicole Ortega, Allison Keller, and Karen Thompson.

DIGITAL DELIGHTS



This lithograph from the 1880s is titled "Disappointed masher". It portrays the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and possibly Washington as young women walking arm in arm with an elephant (symbol of the Republican Party), while the Democratic Party is portrayed as a disappointed lion.

Credit: Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU, Fargo (Folio 102.PoS72.2)

Check out Digital Horizons at:
<http://bit.ly/2yjcAms>



DIGITAL
HORIZONS

Please submit library news and Flickertale
 "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" requests to ndslpa@nd.gov.

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www.library.nd.gov

