

Annual Report and State Aid Walk-Through Webinars

Public Library State Aid applications and Annual Reports will be available on February 1, 2021, and need to be completed by March 31, 2021. Library directors can access and submit both documents via the [Counting Opinions website](#).

The North Dakota State Library will be offering virtual State Aid Application and Annual Report Walk-Throughs.

Please register in advance for these events through the links below.

State Aid Application Walk-Throughs
[Monday, January 11, at 2:00 PM CST](#)
[Monday, January 25, at 11:00 AM CST](#)

Annual Report Walk-Throughs
[Wednesday, January 13, at 10:00 AM CST](#)
[Wednesday, January 27, at 3:00 PM CST](#)

If you have questions regarding State Aid to Public Libraries, please contact [Cynthia Clairmont-Schmidt](#) at 1-800-472-2104.

Questions regarding the Annual Report can be directed to [Michele Balliet Unrath](#) at 1-800-472-2104.

Need Help with OverDrive?

OverDrive is hosting a webinar on getting started with Libby on January 21 (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM CST).

If you need help getting your patrons set up with the Libby reading app or just need a refresher yourself, please sign up for this [webinar](#).

This session will demonstrate:

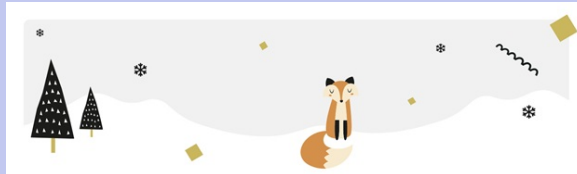
- How to browse and borrow ebooks and audiobooks on a mobile device
- Tips for customizing the experience
- Answers to frequently asked questions from end-users
- Where to find Libby marketing and help resources

This session will benefit public library staff who support OverDrive digital library patrons.

Unable to attend the session live? Everyone who registers will receive a follow-up email containing a recording of the session and a PDF copy of the presentation.

[Register today](#)

Winter Reading Challenge



Winter is for reading! Please join the North Dakota State Library in Beanstack's Annual Winter Reading Challenge.

Simon & Schuster's Books Like Us program will sponsor the challenge, which supports public libraries and school systems throughout the United States. The publisher will award book collections and virtual author visits to the winning libraries and schools.

"Public and school librarians are always looking for ways to better engage their communities, and Winter Reading is the perfect opportunity," said Zoobean co-founder Jordan Lloyd Bookey. In past years, libraries that participated in Winter Reading saw a lift in patron engagement continue into spring and summer, as well.

Simon & Schuster's [Books Like Us](#) is a celebration of diversity, harnessing the transformative power of seeing oneself reflected in a book. This Winter, participating communities are invited to explore books from bestselling and acclaimed authors, including Cozbi Cabrera, Sharon Draper, Stuart Gibbs, Stephen Graham Jones, Hena Khan, Debbie Ohi, Christina Hammonds Reed, and Rebecca Roanhorse. Each author will participate in a virtual event at a library or school that achieves the highest level of participation from their community.

Challenge participants will be able to read any books they like during the challenge and will be provided with recommendations from Simon & Schuster's featured authors along the way.

[Templates for marketing materials.](#)

Sign up your patrons [today](#).

Digital Dimension

Looking Back on 2020, Looking Forward to 2021

2020 is finally coming to an end. It has been a year that many would like to forget. If you would like to commemorate 2020, there are plenty of options for [dumpster fire ornaments](#) available online.

However, there are also many things about this last year that are worth remembering. 2020 has challenged everyone, so in a year like this, it is important to stay positive and reflect on the good things. With that in mind, [Digital Initiatives](#) (DI) would like to look back on its accomplishments over the last year and also focus on the future.

DI focused a lot on the metadata projects for its digital collections. Metadata is the information about an item (like title, date, location, etc.). Thanks to a procedural change, organizations that have contributed content to NDSL in the past are now [listed as partners](#) on the [Digital Public Library of America](#) (DPLA).

[Read More](#)

Library News From Around the State

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library received a donation from the Bismarck Scheels during their 2020 Season of Giving

Hankinson Public Library received a grant from the Hankinson Community Endowment Fund to start up a coding club

Leach Public Library collected donations for a sock tree. Boxes of socks will be given to the Three Rivers Crisis Center

Minot Public Library received \$1,000 from the Minot Scheels during their 2020 Season of Giving

West Fargo Public Library hosted its annual Mitten Drive for kids in need by collecting hats, mittens, and scarves

Virtual Summer Reading Workshop

Thank you for attending the virtual presentation of the summer reading workshop. Here is [a link to the recording](#). The chat is attached to the recording. There was a request in one of the surveys to include the links to the weekly newsletter, so they are shared below with a very brief explanation.

[Information about the Summer Slide from ALA](#)

[CSLP Summer Reading Manual registration link](#)

This [Book Request Form](#) is shared from a librarian who wanted to start an online virtual [book recommendation service](#) (Additional links from this same librarian are below):

Her [Linktree](#) where the book request form and other items live.

Booktalks:

[Jazz Up Your Booktalks: 31 Practical Tips \(Part 1\)](#)

[Booktalk It: Developing a Booktalk Program to Network with Area Schools
Scholastic Authors & Books](#)

[North Dakota Children's Librarian FB page](#)

[Badge link](#)

Whether you were at the live presentation or watched the recording, please [complete the survey for the virtual summer reading presentation](#).



Digital Delight

Ed Neidlinger stands on a farm in Ramsay County next to a team of horses and a foal. This photo was taken in the early 1900s, probably between 1900 and 1906.

Credit: North Dakota Memories Collection, North Dakota State Library.

<https://bit.ly/3aPLqqO>



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