

## Welcoming Libraries

Mary Soucie, State Librarian

The theme for this year's National Library Week, which was celebrated April 4-10, was "Welcome to your Library". National Library Week (NLW) was first celebrated in 1958 with libraries of all types from across the country joining the American Library Association in celebrating all things libraries. It is one of my favorite weeks of the year. NLW is celebrated each year during April with various events happening during the week, including National Library Workers Day which is celebrated on the Tuesday of NLW.

North Dakota libraries worked hard during the last year to continue to provide exemplary service to their communities, through what we all know was one of the most challenging times that many of us have lived through. In my testimony to the Senate Appropriations committee and the House Appropriations subcommittee, I said that "Libraries faced challenges in 2020 like so many entities but I am proud to say that North Dakota libraries quickly pivoted and were able to provide much needed services to their communities. Libraries across the state began home delivery and curbside pickup of physical library materials and increased the e-materials offered. Libraries offered "take and make" craft kits and virtual programs- both live and pre-recorded for all ages, assisted people with completing the Census, and provided needed printing services for patrons through email and contactless pickup. Libraries are more important than ever as showcased by the increase in database usage and e-materials."

Libraries are continuing to offer the services that were instituted during the pandemic including virtual programs, holds pickup lockers, curbside and home delivery. Many of the libraries are open and offering in-person programs or planning to move in that direction soon. The theme for this year's NLW is so true of our local libraries of all types. Librarians and library staff welcome patrons regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, ethnicity, gender, ability or sexual orientation. We need to remain diligent to the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion in our collections, the programs and services that we offer and our library environments. I invite you to focus on providing a welcoming environment for all that enter your library whether in person or virtually as you work on figuring out your "new normal".

## Upcoming Webinars

We are constantly adding to our list of webinars being offered each month.

**WebJunction Webinar:**  
[Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines: A REALM Project Webinar](#)

April 15  
(2:00 PM - 3:30 PM CT)

**OverDrive Webinar:**  
[AudioFile & OverDrive Present: SYNC Audiobooks for Teens](#)

April 15  
(1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT)

**Gale Webinar:**  
[15 Minutes to Mastery: Advanced Search](#)

April 22  
(1:00 PM - 1:15 PM CT)

**Webjunction Webinar:**  
[Smart Spaces are Community Places](#)

April 27  
(2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CT)

For the latest listing, please visit our [Training page](#).

## Digital Delight



This photo of people watching a baseball game was taken in the 1910s in Emmons County, ND. You can see the batter swinging the bat and the catcher standing behind him with his mitt held out.

This photo is available on [Digital Horizons!](#)

North Dakota Memories Collection, North Dakota State Library.

# THE READING NOOK

I'll start this list with what's my favorite book so far in 2021, *Aftershocks* by Nadia Owusu. *Aftershocks* is a beautifully written memoir by a writer who lived all over the world, thanks to her Ghanaian father's job in the UN. Owusu takes a specific time in her life—the week she spent in her room following a shattering fight with her stepmother—and goes back and forth through the different places she lived and the complicated relationships she had with her absentee mother, her controlling stepmother, and her beloved father, who died when she was thirteen.

*The Three Mothers* by Anna Malaika Tubbs takes three remarkable women—Berdie Baldwin, Alberta King, and Louise Little—and discusses their trials and tribulations as Black mothers in the Jim Crow era. Their stories would be interesting by themselves, but these three particular women raised three men who grew to shape a generation—James Baldwin, Martin Luther King Jr., and Malcolm X.

When Suleika Jaouad graduated from college, she thought she was about to start her real life. Instead, she learns that she has leukemia and spends the next four years in the hospital trying to survive. When she emerges on the other side, Jaouad realizes she had no idea what she is supposed to do next. *Between Two Kingdoms* follows her on a road trip across America, meeting with the strangers who had reached out to her in the hospital.

[Read More](#)

## Virtual Summer Reading Kickoff

We are looking for libraries across the state who would like to join our LIVE virtual Summer Reading Kickoff on June 9, 10, and 11.

The plan is to have people from different libraries host Facebook live events to be viewed by people across the state (and maybe farther!). Each person or group of people will get at least a 30-minute time slot (25 minutes for a program and 5 minutes for a switchover). Mornings will focus on programs for children. Lunch and early afternoon will be specifically for teens and adults. Ideas could be to host a storytime, craft project, STEAM activity, a performance piece, or host an expert like a vet, animal shelter caretaker, or someone who uses animals to help people.

Please [e-mail Shari](#) and let her know you are interested in being part of this statewide virtual event along with your top two days/time slots prior to **April 16th**. If you already know what you would like to do for your time slot, please include that in your e-mail. This way, we won't have two storytimes back to back.



Librarians, are you ready to SAVE again? The North Dakota State Library is partnering with the Bank of North Dakota on the College SAVE Summer Reading Champions.

Check out this [video](#), which will tell you how to register and the benefits that new OR existing patrons can get when your library enrolls for the program.



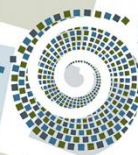


Save Your Stuff and Pass It On!

# Preservation Week

[www.ala.org/preservationweek](http://www.ala.org/preservationweek)

April 25–May 1, 2021



Preservation Week is coming! What is Preservation Week? It's a week-long event sponsored annually by ALA's Association of Library Collections & Technical Services. Preservation Week "inspires actions to preserve personal, family, and community collections in addition to library, museum, and archive collections. It also raises awareness of the role libraries and other cultural institutions can play in providing ongoing preservation education and information" ([About Preservation Week](#)).

The event and the need to promote preservation were born out of a survey that was conducted several years ago. Thousands of institutions responded to the survey, and the [results](#) were shocking. In the United States, cultural heritage institutions hold almost 5 billion items (books, documents, photographs, drawings, maps, textiles, paintings, etc.), over 60% of which are housed within libraries. Over 1 billion of these items were deemed to be at risk or in danger of damage. This survey is over 15 years old, so these numbers are likely even higher now.

[Read More](#)

## New Library Science Books Available at the North Dakota State Library

*The readers' advisory guide to genre fiction* / Neal Wyatt, Joyce G. Saricks

Everyone's favorite guide to fiction that's thrilling, mysterious, suspenseful, thought-provoking, romantic, and just plain fun is back and better than ever in this completely revamped and revised edition. A must for every readers' advisory desk, this resource is also a useful tool for collection development librarians and students in LIS programs. Both insightful and comprehensive, this matchless guidebook will help librarians become familiar with many different fiction genres, especially those they do not regularly read, and aid library staff in connecting readers to books they're sure to love.



*Helping patrons find their roots : a genealogy handbook for librarians* / Janice Lindgren Schultz

Commercials for genealogy websites make it look as if a person enters a name and a plethora of information unfolds without effort. Genealogy librarianship involves knowing your subject; good research skills; and uncovering networking opportunities. Which is more important in a genealogy room: staff with excellent library skills, or staff with knowledge in genealogy, but needing training in library procedures? Schultz provides a handbook that can be used for both training and management.



*Your technology outreach adventure : tools for human-centered problem solving* / Erin Berman

The library is the great equalizer. Today, for access to information, for informed and engaged citizenship, technology must be part of the mix. Are you getting to the people who don't walk in your doors? It's time to take technology on the road. This design-thinking guide will develop staff's creative problem-solving skills. You will learn to design and prototype ideas safely, quickly, and with confidence.



## North Dakota Libraries in the News





## Grand Forks Public Library begins new chapter with major ...

People are noticing and commenting, said Wendy Wendt, director. She has enjoyed watching patrons, after the library's year-long closure due to pandemic restrictions, as they come in for the first time after the remodel and react to the...

[Read more](#)  
[www.grandforksherald.com](http://www.grandforksherald.com)

## NDSL Digital Initiatives Survey

The Digital Initiatives Department needs your help!

Please take a few minutes to fill out this [survey](#) about your library's digitization efforts and plans. Your responses are appreciated and will help the Digital Initiatives department at the North Dakota State Library plan and provide appropriate services.

Libraries of all types (academic, public, school, special, etc.) are encouraged to provide feedback. Your responses are greatly appreciated.

## Other News, Webinars, and Grant Opportunities:



## ALA Releases 2020 Most Challenged Books List

For the third year in a row, Alex Gino's George has topped the American Library Association's list of most challenged books in American libraries. The ALA's Most Challenged Books list, released annually in conjunction with National Library Week,...

[Read more](#)  
[www.publishersweekly.com](http://www.publishersweekly.com)



## When the Going Gets Tough: Alaskans Come Together to...

This summer, the community of Sitka hosted its first USDA-sponsored Summer Food Service Program in years to address food insecurity among youth. Twice a week, throughout July and August, over 400 locally-prepared meals were available to Sitkans ...

[Read more](#)  
[sustainablesoutheast.net](http://sustainablesoutheast.net)



## Webinar: Library Love for LibraryReads

LibraryReads is a librarian-driven venture that allows public library staff to vote on and spread the word about exciting new titles, connecting readers to as many books as possible. In this free, one-hour webinar, representatives from...

[Read more](#)  
[ala-events.zoom.us](http://ala-events.zoom.us)

## Webinar: Magnificent Middle Grade

Mad about middle grade? Join us for this free, hour-long presentation and hear about must-have upcoming middle-grade titles from Charlesbridge, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Books for Young Readers, and Workman Publishing. Middle-grade ...

[Read more](#)  
[ala-events.zoom.us](http://ala-events.zoom.us)

## Virtual 2021 Emerging Technology Symposium

### 2021 Virtual Emerging Technology Symposium Call For Posters

The 2021 Virtual Emerging Technology Symposium will showcase the incredible ability of the nation's libraries to explore, adapt and transform through the use of emerging technology. Libraries are always seeking new and responsive ways in which ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.neo-rls.org](http://www.neo-rls.org)

## Webinar: The Importance of Seeing "Me" In Within the Doors..

In the "Importance of Seeing "Me" Within the Doors of the Library" Teen Summit, we will ask a diverse panel of teens -- some who are active patrons and some who don't use their library -- what they want and need from us.

[Read more](#)  
[ala-events.zoom.us](http://ala-events.zoom.us)

## 2021 Data Summit Series

You are Invited to join the U.S. Census Bureau's 2021 Data Summit Series. Designed for the novice data user, the series will present a high-level overview of several data products and demonstrate how they can be used to assist organizations and ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)



## Webinar: Taking Care of Grandma: Resources for Senior

Almost 500 million people worldwide are 65 and older. By 2030, that total will be 1 billion, according to the National Institute on Aging, a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Whether you are one of those people over the age of ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.fdlp.gov](http://www.fdlp.gov)

## Collecting and Preserving after Tragedy

Following the 2016 Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, FL, the Orange County Regional History Center launched an extensive rapid response collecting initiative to preserve the history of the tragic event and the community's response.

[Read more](#)  
[www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)

## The ALA COVID Library Relief Fund

The ALA COVID Library Relief Fund will

assist public, school, academic, and tribal libraries across the United States and US Territories that are experiencing substantial economic hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic, which has impacted their ...

[Read more](#)  
[www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)



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