

Public Library Specialist Monica Struck

Hello, Library Land!

I'm Monica Struck, your new Public Library Specialist. I started at the State Library in September, and I am excited to get to work with you all. I have been a librarian in North Dakota for the last ten years, and I am interested to see what the next ten years bring!

I live in Dickinson with my husband, four children, and an army of cats. In my free time, I like crocheting, reading YA dystopias, and baking tasty treats. I wish that I could talk to you about the latest movies, but with four children at home, if it's not animated and/or Rated G, I probably haven't seen it. However, I can sing the Bubble Guppies theme song on demand.



Again, I look forward to working with you all. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me for assistance (mcstruck@nd.gov or 701-328-4680).

Digital Collection Spotlight

By Trevor Martinson

North Dakota State Documents

"North Dakota State Documents," a collection contributed by the North Dakota State Library, consists of government publications (reports, magazines, videos, manuals, newsletters, etc.) generated by state entities since pre-statehood to today. Items from the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches are included. The collection contains ten sub-collections and content from over thirty state entities (such as agencies and commissions). The collection is accessible on [Digital Horizons](#).



Libraries in the News

[Chocolate Chocolate Day? Yes, please, yes, please!](#)

Sweet treats benefiting a nearly 100-year-old landmark were served Thursday, Oct. 13 at the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton.

[Cost to operate libraries separately is cheaper, official says](#)

Stutsman County Commissioner Joan Morris presented information on the costs per taxpayer to operate the James River Valley Library System.

[Dickinson residents argue over sex education book in public library](#)

DICKINSON, N.D. (KFYR) - More than 50 people gathered at a Dickinson Area Public Library meeting Tuesday, October 10, to voice their concerns about a book that could soon hit the shelf.

[Library funding mistake prompts effort to improve city-county communication](#)

Commissioners for Bismarck and Burleigh County say they hope a mistake in collecting tax dollars for the public library will help improve communication between the two governments.

[Real estate agents discuss future buildings for new library in Jamestown](#)

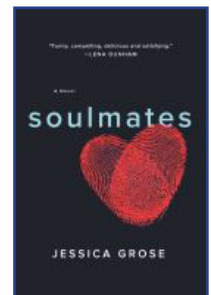
The James River Valley Library System is working on moving forward with plans for a new or expanded library.

[Tense Dickinson Public Library Board meeting centers on controversial sex book](#)

Advocates and concerned citizens filled the meeting room of the Dickinson Public Library Board meeting on Tuesday evening to debate the merits of the library director's previous decision to offer a controversial teen sex guide comic.

Book Club Kit: "Soulmates" by Jessica Grose

They were soulmates since college, but it's been two years since the divorce. Dana has moved on at the law firm, she's never looked better, and she hardly thinks about her ex-husband. But when Ethan and his yoga-strumpet are found dead in a New Mexico cave, Dana discovers she hasn't fully let go of Ethan or the past. Was it a murder-suicide? How could the man she once loved so deeply be a killer? Sifting through the clues of his life, Dana discovers that their relationship wasn't what it appeared to be.



This kit comes with 10 books, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet and can be checked out for eight weeks.

Reserve it today through the State Library's [online library catalog](#).

SCHOOL AND LIBRARY GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[IF/THEN® Gender Equity Grants](#)

Deadline: October 28

With support from Lyda Hill Philanthropies and the IF/THEN® Initiative, ASTC is awarding Gender Equity Engagement Grants to museums, public libraries, science centers, zoos, aquariums, public gardens, and other cultural institutions in the United States to support projects that address gender equity in museum content, including efforts to increase visual representation through the use of photos and videos featuring women and gender minorities. Grantees will select a project from the IF/THEN® Project Library to replicate at their own institution.

[Engineers Week Outreach Grant](#)

Deadline: November 4

Are you launching a new engineering outreach program or have exciting ideas to improve an existing program or event? Fund your project with a DiscoverE Engineers Week Outreach Grant!

The goals of this grant program are to engage youth (particularly underserved K-12 students) with hands-on learning experiences and events that inspire an interest and understanding of engineering and take place in or around Engineers Week.

[Community Innovation Grants](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The Community Innovation grant program is a flexible program that invests in great ideas and the people who power them across our region.

[ND Arts in Afterschool](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The ND Afterschool Network, in collaboration with ND Council on the Arts, is pleased to offer funding to afterschool and other out-of-school time programs ranging from \$500 - 2,000 to increase opportunities for students in grades K-12 to engage in arts programming during the 2022-2023 school year.

ND State Library Training Webinar

ND State Library Services Review

Register: <https://bit.ly/3V090po>

Wednesday, October 26 (3:00 PM - 3:45 PM)

Are you a new school librarian or need a refresher on State Library Services? This webinar is designed to provide an overview of the services and resources the North Dakota State Library offers to school librarians. Our role is to support you as you help your students.

Upcoming Webinars

Grantseeking for Libraries: Strategies and Tips

Thursday, October 27 (2:00 PM)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3SbFsmk>

Grant funding provides libraries with the opportunity to offer programs and services to the community which may not fit into the library's regular budget. If the process of evaluating opportunities and applying for a grant feels overwhelming, join us for this webinar to discuss strategies for success that can benefit libraries of all sizes. We'll look at aspects of grant development including mission alignment, how to build organizational support, and submitting a strong application. Funders are often interested in a diverse set of applicants and communities to distribute their funding to, and this session will help you feel more confident and empowered to pursue these opportunities for your library.

Encouraging Engagement In Online Instruction

Wednesday, November 2 (1:00 PM)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3ETM1Hf>

Many libraries, both public and academic, have initiated or increased online instructional offerings in the past few years. In addition to allowing us to maintain safety protocols during the pandemic, online instruction allows us to reach a wider audience, even removing barriers for some patrons who might otherwise not have participated. At the same time, many of us find it challenging to engage our learners during online instruction, especially with large groups or with patrons who are not as technically savvy.

Through demonstration and hands-on participation, Melissa Wong and Laura Saunders will introduce participants to free, low-barrier strategies and tools to incorporate active participation into any online instruction. Participants will leave with a set of tools and specific ideas to lead engaging, interactive sessions.

Suicide Prevention for Veterans, Service Members, Families and Communities

Tuesday, November 15 (1:00 PM)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3CLw3MF>

Suicide is a national public health issue that impacts people from all walks of life, regardless of whether or not they have served in the military. However, the suicide rate among Veterans was 52% higher than non-Veteran adults in the U.S. in 2019, and Veteran suicides represent approximately 22% of all suicide deaths in the U.S. (2021 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report).

Libraries are well positioned to provide information and referral services to connect Veterans and members of military communities with Veterans Health Administration programs and initiatives that address risks and protective factors for suicidal behaviors.

Social Work Approaches to Library Services

Tuesday, November 29 (2:00 PM)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3TBifLh>

Join this webinar to explore the concept of "Whole Person Librarianship" and to learn how a range of social work approaches can be applied to improve library services. We'll invite you to look at all aspects of your library through a social service lens, including policies, spaces, community partnerships, and programming. Additionally, we will discuss the amazing benefits and possibilities that exist when libraries collaborate with social workers who can bring expertise and capacity to the community through the library.

Niche Academy Highlight

by Al Peterson

Niche Academy Lunch and Learn Leadership Series

Niche Academy, in partnership with Award-Winning Social Innovator Ian Hill and Leadership Coach Farrell Buller, has been offering monthly Lunch and Learn seminars on leadership training. These free, informative, monthly trainings are sixty minutes long. Ian Hill has an infectious smile and upbeat spirit that will leave you motivated as well as informed. If you are interested in signing up for these free sessions, register at <https://www.nicheacademy.com/lunch-learn-registration>.



Niche Academy have made the recordings of these seminars available that have been compiled into a pathway within the category [Library 101- Library Staff Training and Development](#). The pathway Niche Academy Lunch and Learn Leadership Series currently has the first four recordings from this leadership series. New ones will be added as they become available.

Check out these tutorials and other great resources at [Niche Academy](#).



5 Ways to Increase Nonfiction Circulation and Create Passionate Nonfiction Readers

On October 13th, School Library Journal sponsored a webinar called “5 Ways to Increase Nonfiction Circulation and Create Passionate Nonfiction Readers.” This learning opportunity consisted of facts about nonfiction reading for students, as well as five (school librarian) panelists’ experiences with encouraging students’ embracing nonfictional texts. The five panelists were Laura Wylie de Fiallos (a K-12 international school librarian in Honduras), Kerry O’Malley Cerra (an author of middle-grade books, and a high school librarian in Florida), Sharon Amolo (an elementary librarian in Georgia), Meredith Inkeles (an elementary librarian in New York state), and Paula Januzzi-Godfrey (an elementary librarian and tech coordinator in North Carolina).

[Read More](#)

A New Chapter for Morton Mandan Public Library

Submitted by Michaela Schaff

Community Engagement Assistant at Morton Mandan Public Library

When Morton County Library and Mandan Public Library officially merged in 2007, the Morton Mandan Public Library (MMPL) was born. In the fifteen years since then, we have striven to develop a true community, provide services that improve the daily lives of our patrons, and create a compassionate, dedicated staff culture. This effort, as with most things these days, was mainly attempted through communication with our patrons via face-to-face conversations, social media output, and printed communications. However, we frequently ran into difficulties of consistency because one thing that we have never had across those fifteen years, with the exception of a simple mission statement and logo, is a complete brand kit and marketing strategy for promoting the library's offerings.

While MMPL was closed for our renovation, our staff decided to tackle this project at last. Because we were essentially starting from scratch, MMPL made use of the Library Vision Grant funds to hire a local branding agency, The Good Kids Brand Studio, to help us create a comprehensive branding identity. This process proved to be an incredible boon to our entire staff. It not only provided physical deliverables, such as a retouched logo and a book of brand guidelines specific to our library, it also prompted a critical, collaborative discussion as a staff as to what sort of library we wanted to be. The Good Kids worked with us to define what makes us unique as a public library and how to take the patron and staff culture we have cultivated and make it into a visible, marketable identity.

This has proven invaluable because if there's one thing every library worker knows, it's that the public perception of a public library is wildly varied and often wildly wrong. By incorporating our library's existing personality into an actionable marketing strategy, we have been able to begin the process of redefining "The Library" in the minds of our community members in a consistent manner across staff.

The main thing we asked The Good Kids to help us with was to communicate that public libraries are no longer just a storehouse for books, filled with stodgy, shushing librarians, and suffocating silence. At the same time, however, we wanted to effectively communicate that we haven't actually changed our mission, vision, and values as an institution, even though we may look visually different than we did a decade ago. By adapting our services to the current needs of our communities and adopting new technologies as they become available, the library continues in its original mission as a fortress for creativity, exploration, free speech, and, most importantly, for providing equal access to information to all who seek it.

If your library has not had the opportunity to undergo a branding process like this, or if your current brand is due for a refresh, we highly encourage you to look into it. Both the physical, practical products and the intangible team building that can be produced are well worth the time and funds it requires. And the next time you visit Morton Mandan Public Library, we hope that you can clearly see that we are working to "build an inclusive community of lifelong learners" in our patrons' "home away from home."

Celebrate 30 years of “Goosebumps” and “Magic Tree House” with authors R.L. Stine and Mary Pope Osborne

Visit loc.gov/events for ticketing information.

Halloween FAMILY DAY OCT. 22

10 am - 2 pm
Family-friendly Halloween activities

2 pm
Featured author program

3:30 pm
Book signing and meet and greet with the authors

LIBRARY
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Get in the Halloween spirit with beloved authors R.L. Stine (author of the “Goosebumps” series) and Mary Pope Osborne (author of the “Magic Tree House” series) at the Library of Congress.

The event will be livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/libraryofcongress> and available for viewing afterwards in the Library of Congress’s [Event Videos](#) collection.

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

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To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov. Times referenced in the Flickertale are Central Time.