

Book Challenge Webinars

The North Dakota State Library will hold two webinars on book challenges this month:

Basics of a Book Challenge

January 24, 2023 (2:00 PM – 2:30 PM)

Across the United States, including North Dakota, libraries and schools are increasingly becoming the focus of book challenges by community members. Sometimes these challenges can lead to very public and heated discussions within our communities. As librarians, it is time to prepare for similar local challenges. This webinar will examine the basics of a book challenge, what steps are needed to take when facing a challenge, and how the North Dakota Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Committee and the North Dakota State Library can assist with the challenge process.

Book Challenges: Dealing with an Angry Patron, Harassment, and Threats

January 25, 2023 (10:00 AM -11:00 AM)

Across the country, libraries and schools are facing materials challenges. While these challenges can be lively and spirited, a few people have taken a book challenge out of hand and crossed a line into harassment and threats. The safety of library workers and patrons must be a priority. This webinar will explore what harassment is, how to recognize harassment, and what steps you can take to protect your staff and yourself.

Preparing for Challenges: How to be Ready Before You Get One Webinar Submitted by Tammy Kruger

On January 18th, ALA's Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table sponsored a webinar about tackling material challenges. This informational session entailed a panel of four librarians, with two from public libraries and two from schools.

Two main apprehensions were addressed.

[Read More](#)

North Dakota School Librarian Academy

A new Niche Academy has been created specifically for School Librarians. The [North Dakota School Librarian Academy](#) is a place where tutorials will be uploaded that address the training needs and interests of school librarians.

The links to the North Dakota State Library Academy and the North Dakota School Librarian Academy can be found on the Training for Libraries and Education webpage at <http://library.nd.gov/traininglibraries.html>.

Libraries in the News

[Anita Tulp Named VCBC Library Director \(News Dakota\)](#)

The Valley City Barnes County Public Library is happy to announce the hiring of new Library Director Anita Tulp, who started her duties on Jan 3, 2023.

Anita is a long-time resident of Valley City and Barnes County and a long-term supporter of the VCBC Public Library. Please welcome Anita to the team. Anita had the following to say about her hiring and start of this new chapter.

[Librarians, Booksellers In Minot Share Concerns Over Proposed Book Bans \(KFYR TV\)](#)


Some legislation introduced at this year's session has created concern for those who work in libraries and bookstores....

[Libraries Have A Place For Everyone \(Williston Herald\)](#)

Across the state of North Dakota, a few organizations are attempting to advance the idea that the voices of the marginalized have no place of library shelves...

[Official Says It Costs More To Provide Joint Library Services Than Separate \(Jamestown Sun\)](#)

It is cheaper for the city of Jamestown and Stutsman County to operate separate libraries versus the two entities providing joint library services, according to Stutsman County Commissioner Joan Morris, an appointed member of the James River Valley Library System Board of Directors...



Are you willing
to take a chance?



Mystery Date With a Book

Kit of the Week

NASA@ My Library Kit: Expedition: Earth

“Expedition: Earth” is a NASA@ My Library kit that studies Earth Science and focuses on activities and experiences that teach patrons and library staff about the weather and magnification.

Activities:

- **A Matter of Perspective:** Children observe images from very close up and from far away to establish what they can learn from different perspectives and how different perspectives change the way we look at things.
- **A Wonderful Weather Story:** Practice the parts of speech as participants write a silly story about the weather.
- **Around the School:** Participants collect specimens from around the library/school to examine under a microscope.
- **Clouds Above:** Children observe clouds and discover that there are different kinds of clouds at the upper, middle, and lower levels of our atmosphere.
- **Estimating Cloud Cover:** Participants use their estimation and math skills to simulate a clear, isolated, scattered, broken, or overcast sky using blue construction paper and torn white paper shapes. Participants try to accurately guess the percentage of cloud cover for each other’s simulations.
- **Tech on the Go: Magnification:** Use a camera phone and a magnifying lens to compare and document observations of the natural world and notice how technology can change perception. Participants will practice communicating ideas and will build motivation to learn more about something of their choosing.
- **Wind Streamer:** Create a wind streamer and use it to determine the wind’s direction.

Each kit includes two My First Lab duo-scope microscopes, one My First Lab PS72 prepared slide kit, two sets of microscope accessories, 15 magnifying glasses, six books, and the components for 15 participants/groups to complete each of the activities.

Reserve it today at <https://polaris.odinlibrary.org>.

Grant Opportunities

[Collection Development Grant \(NDSL\)](#)

Deadline: January 31

The purpose of this grant is to support collection development for libraries. Libraries are encouraged to use grant funds to develop a new collection for their library or to expand their North Dakota collection. The maximum grant request is \$2,000.

[Laptop and Tablet Grant \(NDSL\)](#)

Deadline: January 31

Libraries and patrons often need electronic devices to access information resources and e-reading materials. Electronic devices have limited lifespans and funding for upgrades and replacements are not always available in a timely manner for libraries. This grant provides libraries funding to purchase laptop computers or tablets for patron use, whether for use in-house or for external circulation. The maximum grant request is \$3,000.



International Day of Education

Education is a human right, public good, and public responsibility.

-- United Nations General Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Pinna, n.d.)

Education is often referred to as a great equalizer. It helps combat poverty, attempts to break gender and racial inequalities, and engages critical thinking skills (Pinna, n.d.). Unfortunately, regardless of its benefits, formal education is not always highly prioritized. This is especially a problem in underdeveloped countries, with girls often receiving less schooling than boys; however, even developed countries, including the United States, see children struggling to receive the education needed to become responsible and productive citizens.

With few exceptions, see North Dakota Century Code for further information, North Dakota children legally must take part in formal education from the ages of 7 to 16. This instruction may be through public, private, charter, or home schooling.

[Read More](#)

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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.