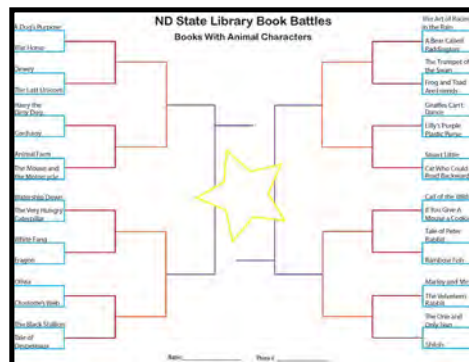


Book Battles Begin March 28

The North Dakota State Library's Book Battles are back for 2023! This year's theme is books that have animal characters! The titles encompass a lot of kids books, but also some young adult and adult selections, including "A Dog's Purpose," "Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse," "Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World," "If You Give A Mouse a Cookie," "Eragon," and many more! Revisit old favorites or learn about new ones while picking winners of each battle to decide which is your ultimate champion.



The rules are simple:

Only North Dakota residents are eligible to fill out a bracket and win a prize. However, anyone from anywhere can vote once per battle. Voting will take place online - links will be sent out on Facebook and available on the State Library's website at www.library.nd.gov/programs.html. Whichever titles get the most votes win their battles and move on to the next round.

The book bracket can be found at www.library.nd.gov/programs.html. Once you've filled it out completely (remember the star in the middle for your championship pick), please submit it to the State Library at ndsipa@nd.gov or to 604 E Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505.

State Library staff will have a booth up at the State Capitol on Tuesday, March 21, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We will be handing out brackets, accepting brackets, and providing information about some of the many services and resources provided.

Voting will begin on March 28, so please have your brackets in by March 27.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.



Libraries in the News

[Free Spring Seed Library Launches In Fargo \(Valley News Live\)](#)

“If your green thumb is getting spring fever, you can get things started by stopping by the Fargo Public Library. The spring seed library launches Monday, March 6....”

[Mad Hatter Tea Party at West Fargo Public Library – March 3 \(Valley News Live\)](#)

“With this weather, we might be going mad. I know I am. But we can celebrate with a Mad Hatter Tea Party at the West Fargo Public Library. We have Lauren and Kirsten here with us from the library to tell us all about it...”

[Nelson Continues Support For Minot Public Library Even After Retirement \(KFYR TV\)](#)

When some people retire, they don't take another step in their workplace again. Other times, they return regularly. Your News Leader spotlights a retired children's librarian who keeps giving back.

Paulette Nelson had worked at Minot Public Library for 41 years before retiring three years ago. But her retired life hasn't stopped her from coming back to volunteer at the library garage.

[Regional Libraries to Host Red River Valley Kids Read Project in March \(Fargo Underground\)](#)

“This year's Red River Valley Kids Read regional reading program for kids features the book “Summer Ruins” by South Dakota author Deb Watley. A partnership between the public libraries in Fargo, Moorhead, West Fargo, Grand Forks and Wahpeton, this reading project runs from March 1 – 31 at all partner libraries...”

[With Remodel Underway, Grand Forks Public Library Staff Looking Forward To Finished Space \(Grand Forks Herald\)](#)

“As the remodel on the children's department at the Grand Forks Public Library continues, Children's Department Director Aaron Stefanich is excited to see how the public will like the completed space...”

Digital Delight

Drilling for oil in northwest North Dakota, 1950s

View of an unidentified oil well and rig in northwest North Dakota in the 1950s. Many vehicles are parked near the oil rig, presumably for a grand opening event.

<https://bit.ly/3mw2wly>

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection, ND State Library)





Salem Witch Trials

Self-Paced, Online Class

+ Join this Course

North Dakota State Library

10 Lessons

16 Exams & Assignments

4 Hours average time

0.4 CEUs

Video Audit Available

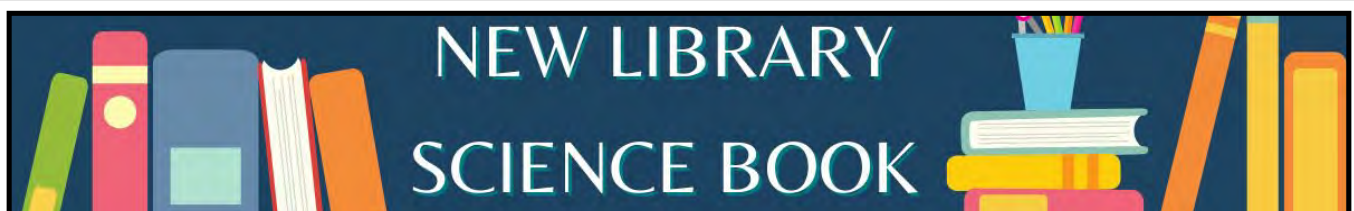
Salem Witch Trials

Submitted by Al Peterson

March is widely known for March Madness. We think of basketball and brackets when we hear the term March Madness. However, in our country's history, another madness swept through the town of Salem in the colony of Massachusetts. Starting on March 1, 1692, the Salem Witch Trials began with the interrogation of three women accused of practicing witchcraft and engaging in Devil worship.

If you want to learn more about the Salem Witch Trials, Universal Class offers a course titled Salem Witch Trials that explores this dark period in our nation's history. This ten lesson-course begins with a historical overview of the environment in Salem in 1692, an examination of the way life was like in Colonial Salem, and provides a backdrop to the tensions and circumstances that led to so much unrest by taking a look at the specific series of events that led to the accusations of witchcraft and the beginning of the trials. Careful attention will be paid to the legal proceedings used in the trials, how they were influenced by prominent members of society, and the roles played by the ministers and judges. In this course, you will also learn about those who accused others of witchcraft and those who were accused.

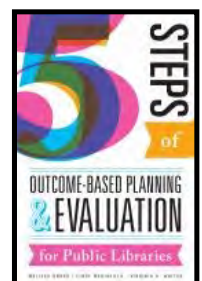
Check out this and other history courses available in Universal Class at <https://www.universalclass.com/northdakotastatend>.



“Five Steps Of Outcome-Based Planning And Evaluation For Public Libraries” by Melissa Gross, Cindy Mediavilla, and Virginia A. Walter

“Many libraries, like other organizations, engage in strategic planning in order to understand their community's information needs and to be aware of strengths, opportunities, weaknesses, and threats that can influence success. Evaluation is the process of understanding the extent to which specific goals are reached and provides information that is useful in demonstrating the library's worth. This book aims to make the process transparent and easy to follow.”

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





History of School Libraries

This week, I participated in a three-day seminar on future-ready schools; look for my takeaways from that in a future Flickertale. With all that brain power being employed, I am going to take this week off from discussing interdisciplinary instruction. Instead, let's take a little trip into the past and talk about the history of school libraries!

While international school libraries (typically tied to a religious organization) had existed for centuries, the first United States school libraries were technically classroom libraries. This was the case because they often existed as small groupings of books offered in one-room schoolhouses (First, n.d.). In 1740, Ben Franklin stressed the importance of school libraries, and in 1774, the Penn Charter School in Philadelphia established a room with the sole purpose of being a school library (Roush, 2021).

[Read More](#)

Upcoming North Dakota State Library Webinars

Find Your Niche... Academy
Tuesday, March 21 (2:00 PM – 2:30 PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3miOzYe>

This webinar will introduce participants to Niche Academy, examine how it is organized, explore what tutorials are included, look at some of the North Dakota-focused content, and discover how it can help with librarian professional development and library worker training.

Reader Advisory Tips And Tricks
Featuring NoveList
Thursday, March 23 (2:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3mb8MyS>

Ever have a patron ask you for a “good book” to read? Or, do you have a patron who is really caught up in a series and wants the “next three books in the series?” Do questions like these make you want to freeze up? Then this webinar is for you. We will explore the topic of Reader’s Advisory and examine the Online Library Resource NoveList.

Other great webinar opportunities can be found on our website at
<http://library.nd.gov/traininglibraries.html>.

Upcoming Niche Academy Webinars

Helping Consumers Navigate Sky-High Insurance Wednesday, March 15 (1:00PM - 2:00PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3YqO9we>

Insurance is the last form of protection against financial catastrophe. But until now, consumers had no way of knowing if the company they were buying from was good about delivering on their promise to pay claims. Join Dan Karr as he shares how big data and technology have combined to make understanding insurance reliable, accurate and easy. You'll learn how to find out how good any insurance company is for protecting and serving policyholders, and how to share that information with patrons!

Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning Foster Inclusion, Equity, Diversity, and Accessibility Solutions (IDEAS) in Libraries Wednesday, March 22 (1:00PM - 2:00PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3Znic9b>

Through principles of Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning, libraries can impact all aspects of learning and engagement with our communities. Libraries can also be empowered with the knowledge of how principles of Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning create and enhance access and accessibility for all patrons, including the 1 in 4 Americans who are labeled as having disabilities. In this webinar, Clayton Copeland provides a framework to equip libraries and librarians to make libraries accessible and welcoming for everyone. Participants will learn about the foundations of accessibility and universal design principles in communication, programming, services, and marketing.

Going Beyond Captions: Creating Accessible Instructional Videos Wednesday, March 29 (1:00PM - 2:00PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3mw5HtC>

Many libraries offer instructional videos for use on their websites. Unfortunately, research shows that oftentimes these videos are inaccessible to patrons with disabilities. For example, Clossen and Proce (2017) found that only 52% of the videos they examined were properly captioned, and many had additional accessibility problems. In this webinar, Melissa Wong will help participants learn to create fully accessible instructional videos. The webinar will begin with a brief overview of disability that puts accessibility practices into context, then introduce design practices that support accessibility, including planning, narration, typography, and graphic design. Finally, the workshop will introduce standards and practices for captions, transcripts, and descriptive audio.

Leading the Way for Information Literacy: Planning, Promotion, and Policy Wednesday, April 12 (1:00PM - 2:00 PM)

Register at <https://bit.ly/3F014y5>

Changes in higher education, including increased attention to information literacy - in part due to the impact of mis- and disinformation, and the move to online learning during the pandemic - have opened up opportunities for academic librarians, but also raised questions. How can academic librarians take advantage of these opportunities and expand the role of information literacy programs on campus? Join Laura Saunders for this webinar to discuss strategies for promoting information literacy programs and advocating for the role of these programs in the wider curriculum. Laura will also share advice for developing related policies.

Grant Opportunities

Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture (AILA/APALA)

Deadline: March 15

Talk Story grant funding supports library and community organization opportunities to highlight Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) and American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) stories through programs, services, and collection materials, so that children and their families can connect to rich cultural activities through Talk Story in their homes, libraries, and communities while challenging mainstream Anglocentric literacy practices. Libraries and community organizations may customize grant projects to meet their service area's family literacy needs.

AARP Community Challenge Grants (AARP)

Deadline: March 15

The AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund quick-action projects to help communities become more livable for people of all ages. In 2023, the AARP Community Challenge is accepting applications across three different grant opportunities, two of which are new this year. Organizations are eligible to apply for more than one grant opportunity and may submit multiple applications. AARP will evaluate each project based on its consistency with the AARP mission to serve the needs of people 50-plus.

John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award (EBSCO and ALA)

Deadline: March 17

The John Cotton Dana Award, provided in conjunction with the H.W. Wilson Foundation, Core a division of the American Library Association and EBSCO, honors outstanding library public relations, whether a summer reading program, a year-long centennial celebration, fundraising for a new college library, an awareness campaign or an innovative partnership in the community.

In recognition of their achievement, John Cotton Dana award winners receive a cash award from the H.W. Wilson Foundation. The John Cotton Dana Awards are presented at an elegant reception hosted by EBSCO held during the American Library Association annual conference.

Cultural and Community Resilience (NEH)

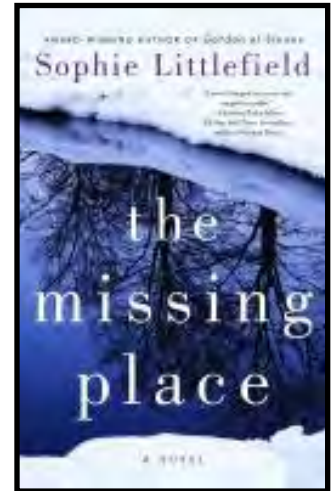
Deadline: May 16

This new grant program supports community-based efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic by safeguarding cultural resources and fostering cultural resilience through the identification, documentation, and/or collection of cultural heritage and community experience. National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) will award successful applicants up to \$150,000, with no required additional funding from other sources. NEH anticipates awarding approximately \$1,500,000 among an estimated ten to fifteen recipients per deadline.

Kit of the Week

Book Club Kit: “The Missing Place” by Sophie Littlefield

The booming North Dakota oil business is spawning “man camps,” shantytowns full of men hired to work on the rigs, in towns without enough housing to accommodate them. In such twilight spaces, it’s easy for a person to vanish. And when two young men in their first year on the job disappear without a trace, only their mothers believe there’s hope of finding them. Despite reassurances that the police are on the case, the two women think the oil company is covering up the disappearances -- and maybe something more. Colleen, used to her decorous life in a wealthy Massachusetts suburb, is determined to find her son. And hard-bitten Shay, from the wrong side of the California tracks, is the only person in town even willing to deal with her -- because she’s on the same mission. Overtaxed by worry, exhaustion, and fear, these two unlikely partners question each other’s methods and motivations, but must work together against the town of strangers if they want any chance of finding their lost boys. But what they uncover could destroy them both.



This book club kit includes 10 books, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

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

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

Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent

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.