Volume 5, Issue 1 | January 2022

Connections

North Dakota State Library

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Your monthly news & updates

Blind Date With A Book Program

The Blind Date With A Book program will be starting soon! If you would like to participate, fill out **this form**, and we will get the item to you when the program begins. Or, you can visit the booth at the State Capitol (across from the Capitol Cafe) to check out an unknown title on February 2 between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

The program will run from February 1 - March 15, 2022. The books are covered with only the first sentence on the front, so nobody will know what is being checked out. The only information provided is the format (large print, regular print, or audiobook) and if it's nonfiction or fiction.

If you get a dud or a title you've already read, we are happy to provide a new one to you right away!

To be eligible for a prize, send back the "rate the date" card found in the book by March 15, 2022.

If you have any questions, contact the State Library at**ndslpa@nd.gov** or 701-328-4622.

Computers Are No Longer Available at the State Library

The State Library is no longer providing computers for public use. Patrons are still welcome to come to the library to use the WiFi, access our collections, check out materials, and access our reference services. Additionally, people may print materials from a USB (items must be formatted as a PDF). The cost for printing is $0.10/page for black and white and $0.50/page for color copies. Faxing services cost $0.25/page.

Are you looking to start a new yearlong reading challenge?Explore new horizons this year with our 2022 Reading Challenge! Step into uncharted territory, journey to distant lands, and adventure away! Log your reading throughout the year to earn new badges.

Patrons will be able to earn the completion badge after 10,000 minutes. Check out all of the available reading challenges at **https://librarynd.beanstack.org**.

If you have any questions, please contact the State Library at**statelib@nd.gov** or 701-328-4622.

We all have the best intentions when it comes to returning our items to the Library on time, but life often gets in the way. If you need more time, fear not. Requesting a renewal on your items is the best way to get that extra time with your item.

You can request a renewal by signing into our catalog or contacting the State Library. So, what are you waiting for? Start searching for your next favorite read at **www.library.nd.gov**.

If you have any Interlibrary Loan (ILL) requests or questions, please contact the State Library at **ndslill@nd.gov** or 701-328-4622.

January is National Braille Literacy Month

Submitted by James Murphy

World Braille Day is celebrated on the anniversary of Louis Braille's birthday (January 4). Louis Braille lost his vision as a result of an accident as a young child but still managed to invent his system of writing by the age of fifteen. By age twenty, he published his first book on using Braille for writing text and musical notation. Although his system was met with resistance from sighted educators at first, it was preferred by blind students over other systems for its usability and compactness, allowing each letter to be read with only one finger.

The North Dakota State Library offers access to Braille for qualifying individuals in a few different ways. Ebraille is available for download through the NLS BARD app for iOS or Android. The application connects to an external refreshable Braille device, which is the Braille equivalent of an e-book reader. Right now, a commercial refreshable Braille device is required, but the State Library will eventually provide these devices for extended loan sometime in the future.

The State Library can also provide traditional printed Braille books through the U.S. Postal Service through a partnership with the Utah State Library. Braille musical materials can be downloaded through the BARD app, but additional musical reference services and Braille scores are available through a partnership with the NLS music services at the Library of Congress.

For more information or to sign up for these services, please contact us at tbooks@nd.gov or 1-800-843-9948. The required application can be found on our website at http://www.library.nd.gov/publications/tbapp.pdf.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, depression affects an estimated one in fifteen adults in a given year, and one in six people will experience depression at some time in their life. Some people suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, which relates to the changing of the seasons and is common during the long, cold winter months. Universal Class offers a course to help someone with Depression.

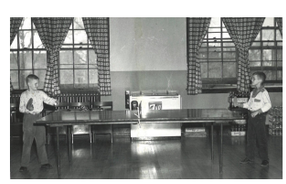
Managing Depression is an engaging course that offers an abundance of ideas for taking personal control over the nasty symptoms of depression. Focusing on self-help for mild to moderate depression, this online class identifies the various symptoms of depression and takes a meaningful and sincere approach, primarily to alternative and self-help therapies.

While not excluding or replacing traditional and more conventional therapies, such as counseling and medical support, this course encourages students to take steps to empower themselves to feel better and reviews holistic approaches toward the mind and body. Taking responsibility for as much of the healing process as possible is the first step toward more confidence and self-esteem, even if it simply means making an appointment with a doctor. This class provides an uplifting, upbeat, and realistic approach to depression, which is intended to energize and encourage learners to face their problems head-on.

Check out this course and others at Universal Class at https://northdakotastatend.universalclass.com/.

New Items Added to Digital Horizons

The December 2021 report of the new items added to the digital collections of the North Dakota State Library is now available online on the Digital Initiatives page. A highlight of the items includes:



- Portrait of an unidentified couple, Fargo, N.D., 1890s
- Portrait of Dr. E. P. Quain, circa 1913
- Portrait of Ole Larsen, Wahpeton, N.D., circa 1893-1903
- Portrait of Selma (Nygaard) Foley, Wahpeton, N.D., circa 1892-1902
- Remembrance card for Anna Hall, Sargent County, N.D., 1898
- James Holte and Dennis Frelich playing ping-pong, N.D. School for the Deaf, circa 1956
- N.D. School for the Deaf basketball team, 1915
- Santa visits the ND School for the Deaf in Devils Lake, circa 1950s
- Guardians by Land, by Air, 2009 (video)

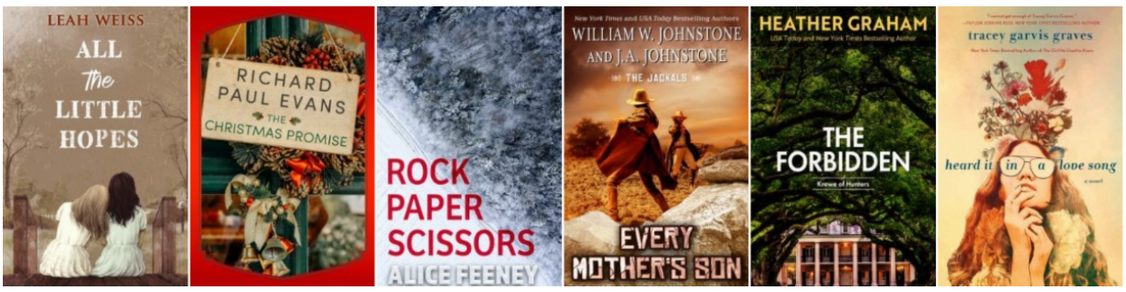
- Medora: Roughrider Country, 1972 (video)

Find thousands of images, documents, videos, and oral histories depicting life on the Northern Plains from the late 1800s to today at http://digitalhorizonsonline.org/.

New Items Available at the North Dakota State Library

New Streaming Videos

New Fiction Books



New Nonfiction Books

New Fiction E-Books

New Nonfiction E-Books

New Fiction E-Audiobooks

New Nonfiction E-Audiobooks

Online Library Resource
NoveList

NoveList connects readers to their next book by making recommendations for what they should read next.

One of the most popular elements is read-alikes, which suggests titles, authors, and series that are "just like" other titles. There are also book discussion guides, curricular connections, and other book-oriented articles, which are perfect for book groups and teachers.

Visit **http://www.library.nd.gov/onlineresources.html** to find NoveList and other online library resources available to cardholders. If you don't have a library card from the State Library, fill out the online application found at **http://www.library.nd.gov/librarycard.html**.

For more information about NoveList or the other online library resources available, contact the ND State Library at **statelib@nd.gov** or 701-328-4622.

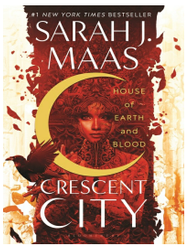
Universal Class
Most Popular Courses of 2021

Universal Class has over 500 online courses available to library cardholders. Here are the top ten courses that North Dakota residents have completed.

1. Excel 2019
2. Accounting and Bookkeeping 101 for Everyone
3. Homeopathy 101
4. Memory Improvement
5. Mastering Conversation Skills
6. How to Draw 101
7. QuickBooks 101
8. Aromatherapy 101
9. Creative Writing for Beginners
10. Writing Basics 101: Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, Writing Structures

For more information about Universal Class, please contact the State Library at **statelib@nd.gov** or 701-328-4622 / 1-800-472-2104. Join a course today by going to **https://northdakotastatend.universalclass.com/**.

Book Review
"House of Earth and Blood" by Sarah Maas
Reviewed by Krista Kurtz



In the first installment of her series “Crescent City,” Sarah Maas has hit it out of the park! “House of Earth and Blood” combines a world full of humans with angels, fae, werewolves, mermaids, vampires, and any other supernatural creatures you could think of, including cute little message-carrying otters. The story begins when Bryce Quinlan, a half-fae, loses her best friend Danika, a werewolf, and Danika’s entire werewolf pack, in a murder that can only be described as gruesome. Two years later, she is forced to team up with Hunt Athalar, the notorious (dark and handsome) fallen angel, to avenge her best friend’s murder. As they follow the clues, Bryce and Hunt will not only find out how far they are willing to go to learn the truth, they will also discover what has haunted every corner of the dark city for the last two years, and they will “Light it up.” in more ways than one.

"House of Earth and Blood" is available on the **Libby app** and in the North Dakota State Library's **collection**.

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Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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