



## UniversalClass is Back!

- Are you looking to take the next step in your career?
- Would you like to explore a new hobby?
- Are you helping kids with school and need some materials?

With more than 600 courses, there is something for every learner in UniversalClass! You can now sign up for a free account with your State Library card or a card from your local public library.

Access courses in:

- Computer training
- Crafts and hobbies
- Finance
- Health and fitness
- Music
- Pet care
- Writing
- and so much more!



Courses are self-guided, but you'll get feedback from a real human instructor who grades every assignment. Most courses are accredited and provide continuing education units, which are widely recognized by employers and educators.

[Start Learning Today](#)

## Celebrating Global Diversity

Submitted by Kathy Cline

October brings cooler temperatures, beautifully colored leaves, and maybe even some snow, and it also brings an opportunity to recognize and celebrate global diversity in society. A diverse society nurtures growth by individuals sharing thoughts, values, and practices. Take time this month to explore, recognize, and learn from the diversity in your school, workplace, church, community, etc. Access resources acknowledging and celebrating global diversity by visiting the [State Library's Global Diversity Awareness Month LibGuide](#).



[Global Diversity Awareness Month LibGuide](#)

## Beanstack Reading Challenge

Hallow-Read 2024 (October 1 – October 31, 2024)

Spooky season is upon us! Halloween is a holiday full of merrymaking, magic, and mischief. Get ready to monster mash, have ghoulish fun, or curl up with a chilling book. Log your reading and earn eerie badges all month long.



[Beanstack](#)



## New Podcast Episodes

Two new episodes of the State Library's Pathways Through the Prairie podcast are out now.

In episode 4, ND State Librarian Mary Soucie sits down with Kerri Boetcher, Director of the Ward County Public Library, to discuss her pathway to the library and their brand-new bookmobile, coming this fall. 30 minutes.

In episode 5, Mary sits down with Joe Rector, Director of the James River Valley Library System, to discuss his pathway to the library and how the library supports the community, including future program ideas. 28 minutes.

Episodes are released every two weeks on the State Library's YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/NDSLPodcast>.

[Listen Today](#)

## Children of Incarcerated Individuals and Books

Submitted by Kathy Cline

In February 2023, Casey Family Programs reported that according to the U.S. Department of Justice, approximately 1.8 million individuals were incarcerated in state, federal, or local facilities in 2020. These incarcerations included parents or guardians of an estimated 4.9 million children. What impact do such incarcerations have on children? Can books play a role in helping children cope with and understand feelings and events surrounding the imprisonment of a parent or guardian? The following titles are examples of books that might make a difference for children who have or have had an incarcerated parent or guardian. Neither NDSL nor I endorse or promote content in this article.

Published in 2017, *Far Apart, Close in Heart: Being a Family When a Loved One Is Incarcerated* by Becky Birtha is a picture book for ages 4-8. Kirkus Reviews describes the book as "A racially and ethnically diverse sampling of children who exemplify the grief and discomfort that come with losing a parent to incarceration" and "...this book is a necessary one" (2017).



[Continue Reading](#)

## New Items At The ND State Library

### Fiction Books



## Fiction E-Books



## Nonfiction E-Books



## Fiction E-Audiobooks



## Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



## Book Vending Machines

The North Dakota State Library has ten book vending machines located in Amidon, Bismarck, Bowbells, Carson, Center, Fort Ransom, Fort Yates, Hillsboro, McClusky, and Towner.

With an assortment of popular fiction and nonfiction books for adults, teens, and children, there is something for everyone.

All you need is a library card from the North Dakota State Library. Fill out the application at <https://www.library.nd.gov/librarycard>.



[Learn More](#)

### UniversalClass Course: Astronomy 101

October 12 is International Astronomy Day. Discover the wonders of the universe with UniversalClass's Astronomy 101 course.

This comprehensive course is "designed to elevate your understanding of the universe. Within these lessons, you'll journey through the celestial wonders of our night sky, discover the marvels within our solar system, traverse the expanse of our galaxy, and reach into the incredible vastness that lies beyond."

"If you've ever looked up at the night sky with curiosity, longing to know more about the twinkling stars and distant galaxies, this course is your gateway to understanding. Dive into the depths of space and time and unravel the universe's profound mysteries. The cosmos awaits your exploration!"

This course includes nine lessons, six exams and assignments, and takes an average of seven hours to complete.

[Start Learning Today](#)

## Climate Literacy Kits

### Climate Literacy Kits

We are thrilled to announce the new program in a box kits! These kits have everything you need to do a full program about climate change. Broken down by age category, these kits have detailed lesson plans, resources, and activities to do 6 lessons.

#### Categories:

- [Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Teens](#)
- [Exploring Our Changing Climate: Grades 3-5](#)
- [Exploring Our Climate: Grades K-2](#)
- [Sustainable Living, the Past, Present, and Our Future: Adults](#)

These kits can be reserved by going to <https://polaris.odinlibrary.org> or by contacting us at 701-328-4622 | 800-472-2104 or [statelib@nd.gov](mailto:statelib@nd.gov).

[Reserve Today](#)

## Make Your Plan to Vote

The November 5 General Election is getting close, and the ND Secretary of State encourages you to make your plan to vote – It's as easy as 1-2-3!



### 1. Make sure you have valid identification

- You must provide a North Dakota driver's license, North Dakota non-driver ID card, Tribal ID or letter, or long-term care certificate to vote in North Dakota elections.
- If you've recently moved or have outdated information on your ND driver's license or ND non-driver ID card, make sure you update it before you vote.
- You can update your address with NDDOT using their [online system](#), by calling 701-328-4353, or by [making an appointment](#) to visit a ND driver's license site.
- If you update your ID through the NDDOT online system, you won't receive a new license or card, but your voter record will be updated to reflect the correct address.

### 2. Choose how to cast your ballot

- You have three options for voting: 1. Absentee, 2. In person on election day, 3. In person early voting (if offered by your county).
- If you plan to vote absentee, [submit an application for a ballot](#) as soon as possible to your county auditor. If you submitted an absentee ballot application for the June Primary Election, you could choose which elections you wanted to receive an absentee ballot for this calendar year. If you indicated that you want to receive a ballot for the November General Election, one will be sent to you. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by November 4 or dropped off to your county auditor by 5:00 p.m. on November 4.
- If you plan to vote in person on election day or during early voting, you can find your polling location information based on your address at [vote.nd.gov](#).

### 3. View a sample ballot to prepare

- You can view a sample ballot based on your address at [vote.nd.gov](#) to see the races and measures you will be voting on and make notes, which can be brought with you to the polling location.
- If you want to learn more about the statewide measures appearing on the ballot, you can find information on the [Measures on Ballot](#) page on the ND Secretary of State website.

To stay informed about election information, check out the ND Secretary of State on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), and [YouTube](#). Election officials and the North Dakota Secretary of State are your trusted sources for election information. If you have questions visit [vote.nd.gov](#), email [soselect@nd.gov](mailto:soselect@nd.gov), or call 701-328-4146.

ND Secretary of State

## New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

### [North Dakota Atlases and Plat Books](#)

- Atlas of Adams County, North Dakota [1971]
- Atlas of Golden Valley County, North Dakota [1976]
- Atlas of Morton County, North Dakota [1971]
- Atlas of Stark County, North Dakota [1977]
- Standard Atlas of Towner County, North Dakota [1928]



### [North Dakota Histories](#)

- 50th Anniversary, Turtle Lake, North Dakota, 1905-1955
- Ashley Diamond Jubilee, 1888-1963
- Gackle Diamond Jubilee, 1904-1979
- Steele Centennial: 100 Years of Progress
- Zeeland 1902-1977



### [North Dakota School for the Deaf](#)

- The Banner, 2022-2023

## Political Prairie Fire

- A Hard Nut to Crack [political cartoon, 1921]
- Bank Wreckers Continue Their Assaults on Industrial Program [newspaper article, 1921]
- Fly Time in North Dakota [political cartoon, 1919]
- Hastings Extradited [newspaper article, 1922]
- Hastings set free in jury in bank case [newspaper article, 1924]
- Heaton gets 30 days in jail; \$100, in fine [newspaper article, 1921]
  
- League financier is again in custody on embezzlement charge [newspaper article, 1922]
- Portrait of Judge George M. McKenna, circa 1942
- Portrait of Judge William J. Kneeshaw, circa 1942
- Portrait of Myron W. Thatcher, circa 1925-1931
- Portrait of the Porter Kimball family, circa 1899-1903
- Present Credit System [political cartoon, 1921]
- Scandinavian American Bank advertisement, Fargo, N.D., 1919



### Digital Horizons

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[www.library.nd.gov](http://www.library.nd.gov)

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