

Pathways Through the Prairie Podcast



Episode 12: Misti Frink, Learning Design and Innovation Coordinator for Bismarck Public Schools

This episode features Misti Frink, Learning Design and Innovation Coordinator for Bismarck Public Schools. Learn about her pathway and the importance of school libraries. 31 minutes.



Episode 13: Julie Herbel, Director of the New Town City Library

Learn more about her pathway to the library and the unique items the New Town City Library checks out to the community. 37 minutes.

If you are interested in being interviewed by Mary, contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov to be added to the schedule

[Listen to the Podcast](#)



State Document Showcase

By Aaron Severson

History and More History!

Two state documents to focus on this month. I've been interested in history since I was a kid. A couple of months ago I stumbled upon a YouTube video about the 1957 Fargo tornado, something I had never heard of and knew nothing about. It's a stunning and unfortunately very sad story. I did a search at the State Library for any documents on the event and discovered a beautiful book of poetry commemorating the story and the loss – *Fargo 1957: an elegy*. It is not light reading, but it is important.



[Check It Out](#)

Next, less weighty but equally interesting for fans of regional history, I recommend the periodical *North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains*, published by the State Historical Society. This is honestly (for me, at least) fascinating reading. It's academic, yet accessible for the general reader. It's not available online, but the State Library keeps it in our state documents collection!

[Check Them Out](#)

Free Webinar: Transitioning Graphic Novels Readers to Chapter Books

Join Kathy Cline for this webinar where we will explore the vital role graphic novels play in enhancing reading skills and fostering a love for literature. If you've ever encountered the misconception that graphic novels are less valuable than traditional texts, this session is for you! Discover how these engaging stories can serve as a steppingstone for young readers, helping them build confidence and fluency as they transition to chapter books. I will share effective strategies for guiding readers through this process, ensuring they not only embrace new challenges but also enjoy the journey of reading. Don't miss this opportunity to empower the next generation of readers.



[Register](#)

Girls Who Code Summer Opportunity

Submitted by Mary Soucie

Girls Who Code Summer Programs are back! 9th-12th grade female students are invited to apply. Participants can choose the adventure that fits their vibe:

- Join the ultimate summer squad in the Summer Immersion Program (SIP)! Over two weeks, participants design and build their own computer games, make new friends, and connect with mentors. Plus, get insider college and career tips from industry pros—all in live virtual classrooms!
- Participants learn at their own pace with Pathways! They will explore cutting-edge tech like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and data science through step-by-step video tutorials and real-world projects. Connect with industry pros and join an exclusive Discord community along the way!

Apply by February 26 for priority consideration or by April 11 for the final deadline.

[Apply Today](#)

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 Histories

- 75th Anniversary, Norman Lutheran Church, Tioga, North Dakota: 1908-1983



North Dakota Memories

- Baptist Church, Stanley, N.D.
- Enander family horse-drawn school bus, 1946
- Hotel in Warwick, N.D., circa 1910-1929
- Pages from Milton Enander's diary, 1953
- Richardson-King family on steps of a house, June 1914
- Wedding portrait of Ruben and Hilma Enander, 1921

Political Prairie Fire

- Thomas H. Foley and Carl R. Kositzky examine the Red Flame
- Townley's beehive [political cartoon, 1920]



[Digital Horizons](#)

Pie Baking 101

Self-Paced, Online Class

[+ Join this Course](#)

North Dakota State Library

13 Lessons

12 Exams & Assignments

6 Hours average time

0.6 CEUs

Video Audit Available

Pie Baking 101

With February being Great American Pies Month, this may be the perfect time to perfect your pie baking skills.

In 13 lessons that will take around six hours to complete, Universal Class's Pie Baking 101 online course will lead you on a culinary journey through the art and science of piemaking, starting from the very basics. Get acquainted with the history of pies, delve into the techniques of crafting the perfect pie crust, be introduced to an array of mouth-watering pie recipes, including main dish pies, sweet pies, fruit pies, holiday pies, nut pies, ice cream pies, and custard pies.

With visuals, expert tips, and additional resources, by the end of this course, you will be equipped to tackle any pie challenge.

[Take This Course](#)

New Items At The ND State Library

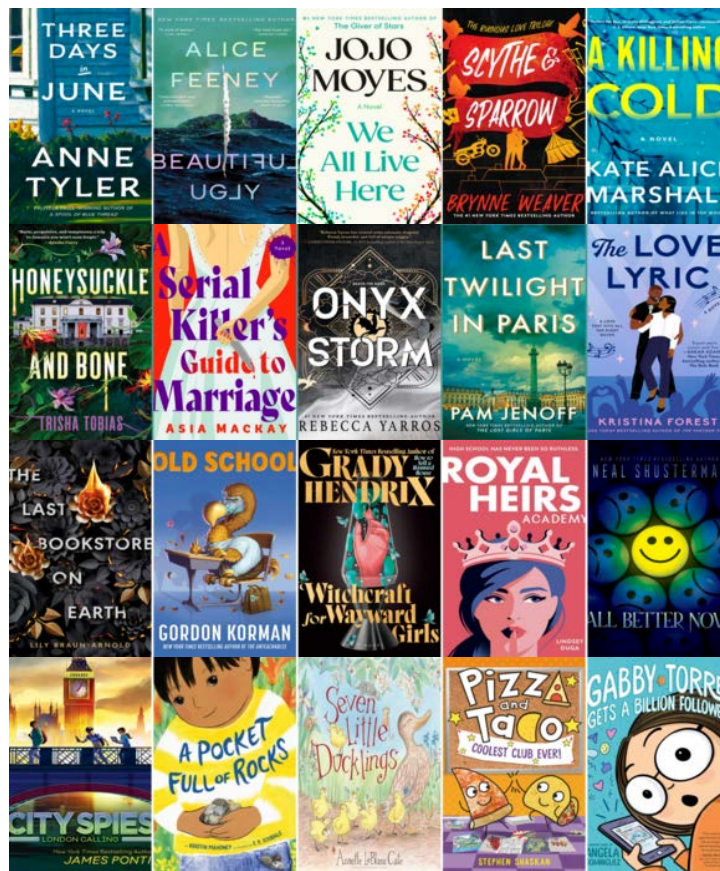
Fiction Books



Nonfiction Books



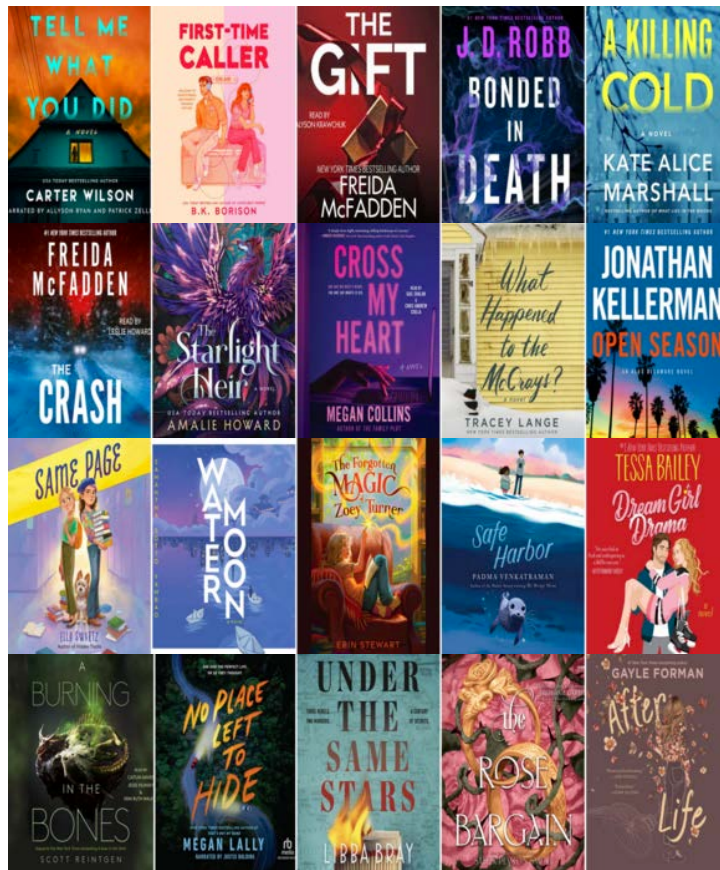
Fiction E-Books



Nonfiction E-Books



Fiction E-Audiobooks



Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



Popular E-Magazines



Public Domain Day 2025

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

Public Domain Day 2025 has come and gone. What is Public Domain Day? It's better known as New Year's Day, but it is a celebration of when copyrights expire on certain works from the past (books, movies, music, etc.) and they enter into the public domain.

What is the public domain? According to the United States Copyright Office, a "work of authorship is in the 'public domain' if it is no longer under copyright protection or if it failed to meet the requirements for copyright protection. Works in the public domain may be used freely without the permission of the former copyright owner."

This year, certain works from 1929 that were copyrighted in the United States and sound recordings from 1924 enter the public domain, which means they can be freely shared, reused, copied, edited, etc.

[Continue Reading](#)



Portuguese (Brazilian)

With Brazilian Carnival beginning on February 28, now might be a great time to brush up on your Portuguese (Brazilian)!

With five main units and three specialty units, you will learn to communicate with confidence. While learning language basics, from common phrases all the way to more advanced concepts, culture notes provide a backdrop to the learning material and lets the Brazilian Portuguese culture come alive, setting you up to forge deeper connections with the Portuguese language.



[Learn A New Language](#)

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www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas or articles for a future issue of Connections, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

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