



Flickertale

Volume 95 · Issue 4 · May 23, 2024

**Today's Skills for
Tomorrow's Services**
Free Virtual Conference
June 27 & 28 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)



ND Battle of the Books 2024-2025

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Let's get ready to battle!! I could not have asked for a better turnout for our very first year of coordinating a statewide competition. We had 17 schools participate and had some awesome feedback to be able to help improve the program for next school year! Originally, we were going to add on another age group, but we decided we needed one more year to get the kinks out and to try and coordinate some regional competitions.

What is Battle of the Books?

Battle of the Books is a competition in which teams of students read a set list of books and then compete against other teams answering questions about each book. Types of questions include comprehension and identifying the title and author of a book. As a participating school, you will receive a set of practice questions and a set of competition questions. School competitions are held at the local level with the winning team(s) advancing to a regional competition. You can make the program as elaborate or as simple as you want. Some schools do a big event; others just have the competition in their library. Some schools have team t-shirts; others don't. Either way, know that there are schools who have done it in the past that are willing to help and answer questions along the way.

We will be having an informational virtual meeting in September and a possible breakout session at NDLA in October. The book list for the 2024-2025 school year will be coming out soon!

The 2024-2025 ND Battle of the Books will be open to schools and will be for grades 6th - 8th. Registration will open in August.

[Battle of the Books Website](#)

Let the Quilting Adventures Begin!

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Summer reading is right around the corner! And this year is all about Adventures. Whether its Adventures in Space or Adventures in Nature, libraries have it all.

Last year, I put out a call for libraries to participate in an "All Together Now" quilt. Nine libraries, including the ND State Library, created square quilt blocks to represent their library and mailed them in. These individual blocks came together in a beautiful quilt.



Once again, we will be collaborating across the state in an "Adventure Begins at Your Library" quilt. Any library wishing to participate should send a 9x9 quilt block to:

**ND State Library
C/O Lexi Whitehorn
605 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505**

Submissions should be received by **August 31st**. If things go correctly, we'll have the Adventure quilt available for show at NDLA in October.

Library Tidbits

Beulah Public Library now has a seed library.

[Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library saw a large increase in the number of items borrowed during 2023.](#)

Bowman Regional Public Library hosted artist Ezra Dickinson to talk about A Life of Art.

Carrington City Library received a \$2000 Dollar General Summer Reading Grant.

[Kari Danielson, librarian at Edison Elementary School in Minot, was featured in Good Day Dakota's Someone You Should Know segment](#)

Lake Region Public Library received cookies from the local Girl Scouts troop.

Mott Public Library received a \$1500 grant from the North Dakota Community Foundation to replace art-related supplies and furniture

Washburn Public Library received a \$500 sponsorship from Washburn Life for their Summer Reading Program.

Send your library's highlights to BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov for inclusion on this list.

Great Reads from Great Places 2024

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

The ND Center for the Book at the ND State Library is proud to announce North Dakota's 2024 selections for the Great Reads from Great Places program hosted at the National Book Festival.

Founded in 2001 by Laura Bush and then-Librarian of Congress James Billington, the National Book Festival is an annual literary event meant to share the Library of Congress's commitment to reading and literacy. Considered to be one of the most prominent literary events in the nation, it is an honor to have two fantastic reads representing North Dakota.



In the youth category, *Spiral* by Lindsey Undlin is the second book in the Priders Series and follows the ongoing high school struggles of Cali Horn. As if high school wasn't stressful enough, Cali now faces another threat: her basketball team members are being murdered. Tensions are high as Cali is picked for the All-Star team. Will she stay safe enough to play? Who else will be murdered? As a teen herself, Undlin knows the struggles of high school. Already an accomplished writer, this is Undlin's second book in the Priders Series. Her first book, *Stolen*, was published when she was just 14 years old. The series tells the stories and struggles of All-Stars, underdogs, and athletes who go unseen. Priders will be a four-book series.

In the adult category, Jill Kandel's *The Clean Daughter: A Cross-Continental Memoir* recounts Kandel's life as she navigates the joys and tribulations of familial relationships. "Any marriage is complicated, but one where two people grew up speaking different languages and abiding by different cultural codes presents unique challenges. Insert a demanding Dutch father-in-law who grew up in Nazi-Occupied Holland – a healthy man who inexplicably decides to end his life by means of legalized euthanasia – and all the divergent, customs, laws, and rules seem insurmountable." Kandel is also the author of *So Many Africas: Six Years in a Zambian Village*.



Undlin and Kandel's books will be featured in the **Great Reads from Great Places** booklist along with the selections from other states and US territories. The National Book Festival will be held in Washington, DC, on August 24, 2024.

National Book Festival



Technology and Values

Welcome to the last *Tammy's Teaching Tidbit* of the 2023-2024 school year! This week's topic is technology and values.

Everyone possesses personal values. (Some examples entail kindness, honesty, creativity, achievement, and family.) While values begin forming during the adolescence years, they will change throughout people's lifetimes. Values come from numerous sources, including family and friends, cultural expectations, both negative and positive experiences, and images of what it means to live a meaningful and good life (Allenby, 2015).

The activities people partake in can support or hinder their personal values. Especially in first world countries, technology and media consumption can influence personal values both negatively and positively!

[Continue Reading](#)



ND School for the Deaf Collection: By the Numbers

The [North Dakota School for the Deaf](#) digital collection has reached a milestone: over 500 items have been added and are available online. Hip hip hooray! In honor of this milestone, the [Digital Initiatives Department](#) decided to do a breakdown of the collection. Here's a look at the numbers.

The collection is a partnership between the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) and the North Dakota School for the Deaf (NDSD). The collection contains newsletters, biennial reports, photographs, videos, objects, and documents relating to the school since its inception in the 1890s to the present.



When the collection was first launched back in 2017, it only consisted of the school's newsletter: *The Banner*. *The Banner* was first published in 1891. Its purpose was to keep parents informed on what happened at the school, publish pupils' schoolwork, and to provide publishing experience to students. The publication frequency has changed over the years, but *The Banner* continues to be published to this day.

[Continue Reading](#)



STATE AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

By Al Peterson

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Permits and Gift Cards

The ND Parks and Recreation website is loaded with information on our state parks system. You can look up which parks offer hiking opportunities, historic sites, water access for aquatic recreation, and primitive camping for your patrons who enjoy "roughing it." On their website, you will find camping sites, cabin rentals, and even yurt rentals!

If you have patrons with family members who are outdoor enthusiasts, check out their website for opportunities to purchase a gift card. Parks and Recreation gift cards can be used for camp sites, yurt rentals, equipment rentals, gift shop purchases, or can be used towards a day or annual pass. Gift cards can be purchased for amounts ranging from \$5 - \$500 and never expire. Purchases can be made online through the reservation system or by calling 800-807-4723. You can also stop into any state park office or the central office in Bismarck and purchase a gift card as well. North Dakota Parks and Recreation gift cards make the perfect gift for holidays, graduations, birthdays, or any special event!

[For More Information](#)

Upcoming NDSL Webinars

[NDSL ILL Services Are For Everyone](#)

Tuesday, May 28 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

One of the universal truths in any library is you can't have everything. The simple fact is every library has a limited amount of shelf space. Interlibrary loan fills that gap. Join NDSL Patron Services Director Steve Hammel in a discussion about updates and changes to ILL services provided by the State Library.

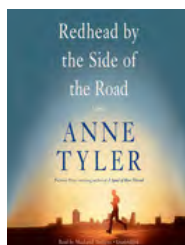
[How to Request Kits Through the PAC](#)

Thursday, May 30 (2:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

The North Dakota State Library has added the Book Club and STEM kits to their catalog and have changed their circulation policy to allow most of the kits to circulate to anyone with a State Library card. But do you know how to reserve kits? To find out, sign up for this quick webinar on how to reserve kits in the PAC. We'll review some basic PAC functions and go over how to check out kits, the circulation policies, and talk about some ideas on how to use the kits in your library.

Kit of the Week

"Redhead by the Side of the Road" by Anne Tyler



"Micah Mortimer is a creature of habit. A self-employed tech expert, superintendent of his Baltimore apartment building, cautious to a fault behind the steering wheel, he seems content leading a steady, circumscribed life. But one day his routines are blown apart when his woman friend (he refuses to call anyone in her late thirties a "girlfriend") tells him she's facing eviction, and a teenager shows up at Micah's door claiming to be his son. These surprises, and the ways they throw Micah's meticulously organized life off-kilter, risk changing him forever. An intimate look into the heart and mind of a man who finds those around him just out of reach, and a funny, joyful, deeply compassionate story about seeing the world through new eyes, *Redhead by the Side of the Road* is a triumph, filled with Anne Tyler's signature wit and gimlet-eyed observation."

This kit includes 10 copies of the book, a discussion guide, and a sign-in sheet.

[Reserve This Kit](#)

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.

Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis.

The North Dakota State Library provides no guarantee as to the security, reliability, or accuracy of information provided herein.

www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.
Times referenced are Central Time.

Some of these resources and programs are funded under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



Stay Connected with North Dakota State Library:



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)