

STAR And Wheelie Awards

Submitted by **Monica Struck**

Every year, the State Library presents the STAR Library and Wheelie awards to North Dakota libraries in recognition of the administrators and staff that provide exceptional service with the financial resources at their disposal. This honor is bestowed on those performing the best across a range of per-capita measures within a peer-group of libraries with similar operating expenditures.

The metrics that are considered for the STAR awards are total circulation per capita, central branch service hours per week, program attendance per capita, and combined computer and WiFi use per capita.

The metrics considered for the Wheelie award are total circulation per capita, bookmobile stops, and mileage.

This year, we would like to congratulate the following libraries:

<p>Star: Total Operating Expenditures <\$10,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max Community Library • Stanton Public Library • Turtle Lake Public Library 	<p>Star: Total Operating Expenditures \$50,001–\$150,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide County Public Library • Griggs County Public Library • Tioga Community Library
<p>Star: Total Operating Expenditures \$10,001–\$25,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebron Public Library • Iris Swedlund School & Public Library • Maddock Community Library 	<p>Star: Total Operating Expenditures \$150,001+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library • Grand Forks Public Library • Hazen Public Library
<p>Star: Total Operating Expenditures \$25,001–\$50,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garrison Public Library • Mohall Public Library • Washburn Public Library 	<p>Wheelie Bookmobile Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ward County Public Library Bookmobile

Celebrating the United States Flag

Submitted by **Kathy Cline**

Every year, June 14th is recognized as Flag Day in the United States. While the date is not a federal holiday, it is a time to celebrate the adoption of the first American flag. In a few weeks, on July 4, the country will celebrate its Independence. There will be picnics, parties, parades, and fireworks, and the United States flag will be included in many of those celebrations. Now is a good time to think about the flag's history, proper flag etiquette, and how to retire a flag when one becomes unserviceable.



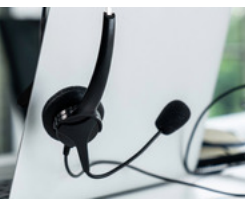
Did Betsy Ross really make America's first flag? The answer to this question raises some controversy. It has been stated that George Washington and a secret committee asked Betsy Ross to design and create our nation's first flag in June of 1776. While Betsy was agreeable to creating the flag, she didn't like the proposed six-pointed star (Galloway, 2006). Betsy thought the six-pointed star would take too long to cut, so changed it to a five-pointed star (Who, 2015).

[Continue Reading](#)

Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services

Free Virtual Conference

June 27 & 28 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)



Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services

Thursday, June 27, 2024 – Friday, June 28, 2024

The world is changing before our very eyes. Artificial intelligence, a reevaluation of traditional services we offer in our libraries and changing demographics in our communities are just a few examples of the changes taking place. To meet these changes, librarians must develop the knowledge and skills today to meet those changes we face tomorrow. Please join us for this virtual conference where we will learn today's skills for tomorrow's services. New presentations are included in this virtual conference.

Our Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services conference will feature speakers from outside of State Library staff:

We're bringing back Jordan Laducer Dix, Community Engagement Special Populations Coordinator from the Department of Health and Human Services, and Kyle Patterson, Education Outreach Coordinator from the Bank of North Dakota, for our June conference.

"Understanding and Addressing Anxiety and Trauma: Strategies for Library Staff" by Beatriz De La Espriella, a licensed clinical social worker and mental health expert in anxiety, stress, and trauma.

"Open Educational Resources, A Brief Overview" by Jackson Harper, OER Librarian at the University of North Dakota.

"Trusted Information About North Dakota Elections" by Michael Howe, Secretary of State of North Dakota.

"Introduction to Citation Management Tools" by Victor Dominguez Baeza, Associate Professor and the Scholarly Communication Librarian for Colorado State University Pueblo.

"How to Find and Use Open Educational Resources" by Amy Chen, Program Director for Open Education at the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC).

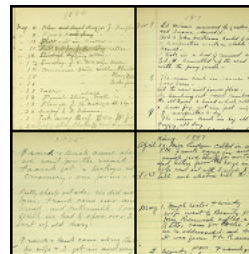
We look forward to seeing you at our conference next week.

[Registration, Agenda, and Descriptions](#)



T. E. McMillan Diaries

"T. E. McMillan Diaries" is a collection of diaries written from 1888 to 1947 about the life of a North Dakota homesteader and farmer. T. E. (Thomas E.) McMillan, who was born in 1867, immigrated to Barnes County, North Dakota, from Canada in the 1890s. In 1888, at the age of 21, McMillan began keeping a journal. He wrote on the day-to-day activities of his life and other topics, including the weather, farming, world events, happenings of his family, and the community. He was a



man of few words, but his journal entries provide a perspective on what it was like living during a formative time. McMillan wrote 19 volumes of journals over his lifetime. He kept writing up until his death in 1947. The collection is a project of the North Dakota State Library and is available on [Digital Horizons](#).

[Explore The Collection](#)

AI & Educators

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Last week I shared about AI and children. This week I want to share another AI resource: Microsoft's AI for Educators course.

This free learning path explores the potential of artificial intelligence in education. It covers a brief history of AI, large language models, generative AI, prompt engineering, responsible use of AI, and uses in a class setting. Dive into the art of prompting to equip learners to get the best results from Microsoft Copilot and Image Creator from Designer. Explore the many ways to enhance teaching and learning with AI-powered tools in Microsoft Edge browser, Word, PowerPoint, Minecraft, and more.

[Continue Reading](#)



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.



We once again will be collaborating across the state in an "Adventure Begins at Your Library" quilt. There are no restrictions to the quilt besides the size. Any library wishing to participate should send a 9x9 quilt block to: Lexi Whitehorn, NDSL 604 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.





Getting Ready for a Virtual Interview

Many times, the media won't be able to get to your library to do an in-person interview and may ask that you join via phone, video conferencing, etc., to conduct the interview. The recommendation from the last article on location and attire when getting ready for an in-person interview are also true for virtual interviews that take place via video conferences (Zoom, Teams, etc.). Thanks to a training I recently attended called "Technically Speaking: Tips for Your Media Encounter" presented by Clint Fleckenstein, here are a few things to think about when you are doing a virtual interview.



[Continue Reading](#)

Adventure Begins At Your Library!

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled Library of Congress

Get ready for our second NLS Summer Reading Program, which is just around the corner! Dive into a world of captivating books and exciting activities that offer something for everyone:

Scheduled Events

Sign up using the links below or email us at nlspes@loc.gov so we can help you register.

Kickoff event (all ages)

Monday, June 24, 4:00 p.m. eastern time

[Sign up now](#)

Story time and music by Turtle Dance Music (K-3rd grade)

Thursday, July 18, 4:00 p.m. eastern time

[Sign up now](#)

Author Talk: Angeline Boulley with Andrea L. Rogers (YA and Adult)

Thursday, July 25, 7:00 p.m. eastern time

Submit your questions for Angeline Boulley to nlspes@loc.gov before Friday, July 19. Boulley is the author of *Firekeeper's Daughter* (BR24040, DB102762) and *Warrior Girl Unearthed* (BR25116 in process, DB114761).

[Sign up now](#)

Online Activities

Test your smarts with the [Whispering Library Escape Room](#) (for families or all-ages groups)

Let us help you find your next book with Choose Your Reading Adventure.

[School-age children and young adults version](#)

[Adult version](#)

Can't visit Washington, D.C., in person? Take the audio described tour of the Thomas Jefferson Building at the Library of Congress (YA and Adult): DB121189, or listen to it on the [Summer Reading Program webpage](#).

Need a summer reading list based on this year's summer reading theme? Contact your network library or write to us at nlspes@loc.gov.

[Find Out More](#)



From the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation and *Library Journal*

The Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize, developed in partnership between the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation and *Library Journal*, was created in 2019 to recognize the public library as a vital community asset. When libraries, civic entities, organizations, and the people they serve become close partners, their communities thrive.

Prize: One winning library will receive \$250,000 in unfettered grant monies from the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation. The winning library will also be profiled in the February issue of *Library Journal* and online. Honorable mentions may also be named.

The winning library will be identified based on the degree of its impact on the community in the following key areas:

- Engagement with local government to support the service area's defined goals
- Engagement with the community to develop library services
- Community recognition
- Inclusion to meet the needs of underserved populations as well as promoting social cohesion and connection across differences
- Leadership development to perpetuate the library's organizational strength and dynamism
- Environmental sustainability and leadership in sustainable thinking
- Inventiveness as exemplified by one of the library's services which is particularly original, both strategically and tactically
- Any controversies that have arisen within the library, and how the library has handled them going forward

Applications due: July 31, 2024

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Our Town Grant

National Endowment for the Arts

Our Town is the National Endowment for the Arts' creative placemaking grants program. Through project-based funding, we support projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities over the long term.

Successful Our Town projects demonstrate a specific role for arts, culture, and design as part of strategies for strengthening local communities, ultimately centering equity and laying the groundwork for long-term systems change tailored to community needs and opportunities.

All applications are submitted by one organization and require one partner organization. The applicant/partner pair must include 1) a nonprofit organization and 2) a local government or quasi-government entity. Applicants may request an amount between \$25,000-\$150,000, with a required minimum nonfederal cost share/match equal to the grant amount.

The Arts Endowment's support of a project may start on July 1, 2025, or any time thereafter. A grant period of up to two years is allowed.

Current Closing Date for Applications: August 1, 2024

[Find Out More](#)

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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 are Central Time.

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