

Happy Halloween!



StoryWalk® Week

Submitted by Monica Struck

During the week of November 10-16, Let's Move in Libraries and the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services will be celebrating their fourth [annual StoryWalk® Week](#). This week is set aside to applaud the work of libraries who provide StoryWalk® services. They promote this valuable work by highlighting existing StoryWalks® on social media (*StoryWalk® 2024*).

What is a StoryWalk® and why does it come with the fancy Registered Service Mark sign? A StoryWalk® is an outdoor reading experience. Individual pages of a book are placed in holders (either temporary or permanent) along a path. Readers follow the path and read the story as they go. A StoryWalk® promotes early literacy, physical activity, and family time together in nature. The first StoryWalk® was created in 2007 by Anne Ferguson in Montpelier, Vermont, and it is a registered service mark of Kellogg-Hubbard Library (*StoryWalk: Kellogg-Hubbard Library 2024*). If you plan to use the name StoryWalk®, be sure to break out the fancy circled R and credit Anne Ferguson.

[Continue Reading](#)

School Librarian Credit Renewal Options Is It Time?

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Do you need to renew your school librarian credential? Donna James from Valley City State University is offering several online course opportunities from November 4th through December 15th. Go to [VCSU Extended Learning](#) to register.

LMIS 2000 **AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Schools and Libraries**, 2 Credits
11/4 to 11/24 [online] Course #37061

EDUC 2000 **AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Schools and Libraries**, 2 Credits
11/4 to 11/24 [online] Course #37061

LMIS 2000 **Podcasts for Library Leaders I**, 1 Credit
11/18 to 12/1 [online] Course #37057

LMIS 2000 **Book Challenges and Bans**, 1 Credit
12/2 to 12/15 [online]. Course #37055

To view other courses offered by Donna James, select Course Availability and Registration. Then in the search box enter **james** and select **Fall 2024**.

[Register](#)



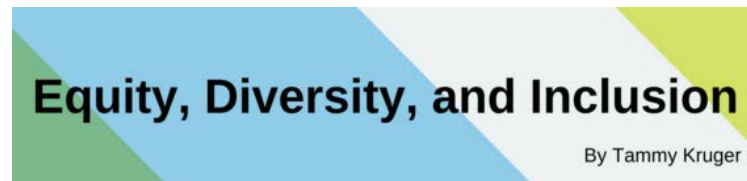
Native Ways of Knowing: Traci Sorell

Over the next several months, I will share information and resources from the Native Ways of Knowing virtual book club and webinar series hosted by the California Indian Education for All and the San Diego County Office of Education. I hope you find the content interesting and integrate the information in your libraries throughout the year. This article focuses on Native American author [Traci Sorell](#).

Inspiration to become an author who writes historically and culturally accurate books representing her people resulted when Traci couldn't find such materials while growing up. Traci was astonished at how much Native American history she learned in college and beyond and wondered why the history hadn't been part of the curriculum while attending K-12 school. Why did she have to wait until she was in higher education to learn accurate information about Native Americans? A 2019 author visit seems to suggest today's young peoples' knowledge about Native Americans continues to remain inadequate. When visiting a third-grade classroom, a student asked Traci if Native Americans drive vehicles. Traci felt tempted to ask who was teaching him; she kindly explained that she had driven her truck to the airport and flown on a plane to get to his city.

As an author, Traci writes fiction and nonfiction books in various genres, including short stories, board books, poetry, essays, graphic fiction/nonfiction, chapter books, and more. Traci writes for a diverse audience of individuals aged eighteen and younger. Her motto is to create stories that "Do NO harm!" She explains that since young people spend a lot of time on screens, books must be shorter and more visually attractive to acquire reader interest and maintain attention. Traci's books, some of which are available in Spanish, supplement the K-12 curriculum throughout the country.

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Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos)

What is Dia de los Muertos?

Día de los Muertos, also called Día de Muertos or Day of the Dead, is a time in (primarily) Mexican and Mexican American communities to honor loved ones who have passed. (Other areas of Latin America also celebrate this event.) This jumboree approaches death as another step in the cycle of life, instead of as an ending.

Day of the Dead occurs November 1st and 2nd. The first day is referred to as Día de Inocentes ("Day of the Innocents") or Día de Angelitos ("Day of the Little Angels"); this honors children and babies lost too soon. (Sandoval & Kuhn, 2023, and Avendano, K., & Gonzalez, I, 2024, and Day, n.d.).

As early as 1500 B.C., evidence of rituals honoring departed souls have yielded from Mexico. The goddess Mictecacihuatl presided over death and the underworld; she was honored during these festivities. In the early 1500s A.D., Spain invaded the Aztecs in Mexico. With the Spaniards came a push of Catholic celebrations, including All Saint's Day and All Soul's Day. Día de Muertos was born from this mix of cultures (El Día, n.d.).

[Continue Reading](#)



2024 Governor's Photo Contest

Governor Doug Burgum and the North Dakota Tourism Division, in partnership with AAA of North Dakota and the North Dakota Council on the Arts, invite citizens of North Dakota to enter the North Dakota Governor's Photo Contest for Travel and Tourism. The contest celebrates the talents of North Dakotans and showcases our state as a year-round destination. This year's competition highlights the unique characteristics of the four seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Two new submission methods are also available this year including Instagram and a direct upload option. Winners will be chosen in each category, with a grand prize winner receiving an additional cash prize and a free AAA membership. Winning photos will also be displayed in the State Capitol and used in promotional materials. Photo Contest entries are due by January 31, 2025.

If you have patrons or staff with an eye for photography, be sure to mention this contest to them. More information can be found including submission rules, instructions, and more options for submitting your photos at [Governor's Photo Contest Entry](#) | [Official North Dakota Travel & Tourism Guide](#).

[Learn More and Submit](#)



Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities

Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities will offer more than \$7 million in grants to small and rural libraries to increase the accessibility of facilities, services, and programs to better serve people with disabilities.

To be eligible, a library must have a legal area population of 25,000 or less and be located at least five miles from an urbanized area, in keeping with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) definitions of small and rural libraries.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

WordPress Websites Q&A Session

If you have questions, concerns, or want to discuss your library's WordPress website, there will be a Teams call on Monday, December 16.

Feel free to pop in anytime between 9:00 AM and 11:00 by going to <https://bit.ly/WordPressCall>.

If that day and time doesn't work for you or if you have something come up in the meantime, book a time to discuss your WordPress website at the link below.

[Book A Time](#)

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please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.
Times referenced are Central Time.

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