



Flickertale

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Trustee Training Webinars

Public Library Specialist Monica Struck will be presenting updated Trustee Training webinars. These webinars will be held every Friday at 12:15 PM from January 3 through February 21. Each presentation will last about 45 minutes and will provide time for questions. They will be recorded and available for viewing after the live session.

The first webinar will provide a broad overview of the duties of the board, so be sure to share this information with your board members.

[Register for the January 3 Training](#)



New Podcast Episodes

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

Episode 9, which premiered on Wednesday, November 27, features Mandie Medalen, Director of the Heart of America Public Library in Rugby. 28 minutes.

Episode 10, which premiered on Wednesday, December 11, features Maddie Cummings, Director of the Lake Region Public Library in Devils Lake. 33 minutes

The next episode will be released on January 8, 2025, after a break for the holidays. Get caught up on past episodes at the link below.

[Listen to the Podcast](#)

Battle of the Books Check In

Thursday, December 19 (11:00 AM - 11:30 AM)

As we get ready to begin our Battle of the Books competitions, this webinar will provide an opportunity for collaboration amongst the competing teams. We will split off into two groups (Big School / Little School) to give you a chance to talk with like-sized schools and discuss how you will be running your program. We will also save some time for Q & A.

Not registered for this year but interested in seeing how other schools do their programming? Join us!

[Register](#)

New Promotional Materials Available

Submitted by BreAnne Meier

The Homework Help Postcards have been updated!

These postcards include 3-4 online library resources that are helpful for each subject or grade level along with space to add your library's remote barcode number and password so students and teachers can access the resources at home.



Updated and New Subject Areas:

- Business Class
- English/Speech Class
- Grades K-3
- Grades 4-5
- Grades 6-8
- Health
- History/Government
- Science Class
- Teacher Resources



Request these postcards at no cost to you by filling out the form below or by sending an e-mail to BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

[Request Promotional Materials](#)

Digital Delight

Christmas Dinner Booklet, U.S. Naval Construction Training Center, V.A., 1943



A booklet for the 1943 Christmas celebration at the United States Naval Construction Training Center, Camp Peary, Virginia. The booklet includes a greeting from the commanding officer, a menu, and a list of officers.

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota Memories Collection, ND State Library)

[Digital Horizons](#)

WordPress Website Q&A Session

Submitted by BreAnne Meier

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to discuss your library's WordPress website, the State Library will be hosting quarterly Teams calls from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

This quarter's call will take place on Monday, December 23. Feel free to pop in anytime between 9:00 and 11:00 by going to <https://bit.ly/WordPressCall>.

If that day or time doesn't work for you, use the link below to book a time slot or contact me at ndsipa@nd.gov or 701-328-4656.

[Book A Time](#)

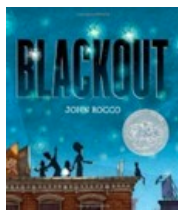
Books That Encourage Digital Citizenship

Submitted by Kathy Cline

A 2023 Scholastic News Room article states that there has been a significant increase in children using screens while reading frequency decreases. Less youth label themselves as "frequent" readers and read less as they age. While this information is familiar to most, using books to teach online best practices might be less familiar.

A May 2024 Common Sense Education article lists 11 books focusing on digital life topics. The list includes fiction and nonfiction titles for each grade level so that conversations can occur with even the youngest student. A Common Sense Media account may be needed to access the lessons in the book information.

Kindergarten and up



Blackout by John Rocco (2011)

Characters in this book turn to games and their community for entertainment when the power goes out in their city.

Lesson: [Pause for People](#)

[Continue Reading](#)



Serial Killers

'Tis the season to slay (sleigh)! (I might have planned this *Top Picks* topic for December specifically to be able to use that pun.)

Serial killers, and murderers in general, fascinate various members of the public. The media has taken hold of such interest and produced books, movies, and podcasts about those who kill other people. These titles are intended for an adult audience.

If you have a topic for a *Tammy's Top Picks*, email me at tkruger@nd.gov.

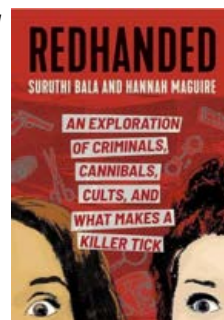
A little note: Some of these individuals are not technically serial killers. To qualify as a serial killer, one must murder at least three people over an extended time, with cooling off periods in-between the killings. However, some of these cases I found interesting enough to include anyway!

1. *Redhanded: An Exploration of Criminals, Cannibals, Cults, and What Makes a Killer Tick* by Suruthi Bala and Hannah Maguire

Publish Date: 2021

Publisher: Running Press

Summary: Join the hosts of *Redhanded* the podcast—Suruthi Bala and Hannah Maguire—as they explain the science behind why people kill. Topics include biological factors, childhood abuse and neglect, motivations for killing, how insanity ties into killing sprees, incels, cult connections, couples as killers, minorities as victims, and why people are obsessed with serial killers!



Bala and Maguire infuse a great deal of wit into their writing, and back their stances with multiple examples throughout history and from around the world. Additionally, there are various sidebars to better explain vocabulary.

[Continue Reading](#)

Public Libraries Survey Acronym Dictionary

Submitted by **Monica Struck**

One thing is for sure, library land loves a good acronym, and the Public Libraries Survey and the systems surrounding it are full of them. It can be easy to throw the acronyms around, but do we really know what they mean? Read on for a quick reference for Public Libraries Survey related acronyms.

- AE = Administrative Entity = The library filling out the survey.
- AIR = American Institute of Research = The organization that IMLS contracts with to conduct the Public Libraries Survey.
- CO = Counting Opinions = The platform that the North Dakota State Library uses to distribute the PLS.
- IMLS = Institute of Museum and Library Services = The federal agency that provides grants to libraries and museums, policy development, and research.
- LSWG = Library Statistics Working Group = The group consisting of State Library Chiefs, State Data Coordinators, researchers, AIR staff, and IMLS representatives that helps determine changes to the Public Libraries Survey.
- PLS = Public Libraries Survey = The annual survey conducted to gather public library data for IMLS.
- SDC = State Data Coordinator = State Library employee who administers the Public Libraries Survey and submits the data to IMLS
- SLC = State Library Chief = State Librarian

I hope that this helps you navigate the seas of Library Alphabet Soup! Now let's start taking a closer look at the PLS changes. There will be articles regarding deletions, changes, and additions every week leading up to February 1.

Resources to Create Artificial Intelligence Guidelines

Submitted by **Kathy Cline**

As schools approach the halfway mark of the academic year, artificial intelligence likely continues to be a topic of discussion. According to a recent article, AI use in schools varies in states and districts nationwide. Some districts allow teachers to use artificial intelligence, but not the students. Others don't allow AI programs on any school devices. This writing provides links to the North Dakota AI Guidance Framework and offers examples from other states.



The following resources can guide schools and districts as stakeholders to create AI policies and educators implement AI tools in education.

Topics in the [North Dakota K-12 AI Guidance Framework](#) include general and teacher resources, AI use by grade level, implementation roadmap, and others.

The [North Carolina Department of Public Instruction AI Guidebook](#) is a sixty-three-page in-depth document providing an implementation roadmap, guidance on evaluating AI education tools, AI literacy recommendations by grade span, and much more.

The [Colorado Roadmap for AI in K-12 Education](#) is less thorough than the North Carolina guidebook but still offers various resources and guidance on how AI can reshape teaching and learning. The guide lists ways AI can support students and teachers and where the tools fall short.

As of December 4, 2024, 20 state departments of education have AI guidance available for K-12 public schools. Visit [AI guidance issued by state departments of education](#) to browse more AI guidance resources.

Source:

Ascione, L., & Laura. (2024, October 31). A look at AI use in schools across the country. eSchool News. <https://shorturl.at/1Zj2D>

Grant Opportunities

[Jan Stauber-Sherlock Holmes Literacy Grant](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

Award: Up to \$1,000

The mission of the Jan Stauber Grants is to provide needed financial assistance to persons and organizations developing literacy programs and other educational experiences that will introduce young people to Sherlock Holmes.

[Innovative Reading Grant \(Capstone and AASL\)](#)

Deadline: February 1, 2025

Award: \$2,500

The AASL Innovative Reading Grant supports the planning and implementation of a unique and innovative program for K-9th learners which motivates and encourages reading, especially with struggling readers. Applicants must be personal members of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

[Roald Dahl's Miss Honey Social Justice Award \(Penguin Young Readers and AASL\)](#)

Deadline: February 1, 2025

Award: \$2,000 to the librarian, up to \$1,000 travel and housing reimbursement to attend the AASL Awards Ceremony, and a \$5,000 book donation by Penguin Random House

Roald Dahl's Miss Honey Social Justice Award recognizes and encourages collaboration and partnerships between school librarians and teachers in teaching social justice through joint planning of a program, unit or event. Applicants must be personal members of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and be a school librarian who has worked with a teacher to execute a project, event, or program to further social justice using resources of the school library.

[Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant \(American Library Association\)](#)

Deadline: February 3, 2025

Award: \$2,000

The Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant is an annual grant to recognize, promote, and support innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries. Community engagement is the process of working collaboratively with community members – be they library patrons, residents, faculty, students, or local organizations – to address issues for the betterment of the community. For the 2024-2025 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications for a community engagement project that focuses on building neighborhood connections.

[Peggy Barber Tribute Grant \(American Library Association\)](#)

Deadline: February 3, 2025

Award: \$2,500

The Peggy Barber Tribute Grant is an annual grant of the American Library Association (ALA) that recognizes, promotes, and supports meaningful programs in libraries that have limited and/or no access to budgetary support for programming. For the 2024–2025 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications to support programming related to combatting isolation for older adults.

[Stephen T. Riedner Grant for Life Enhancing Library Programs for People Living with Dementia](#)

Deadline: February 21, 2025

Award: \$2,500

The Stephen T. Riedner Grant for Life Enhancing Library Programs for People Living with Dementia presents a citation and a grant of \$2,500 each to two libraries to support the creation of new services and/or new programming to directly serve those living with dementia. Applications that describe only existing services or programming are not eligible for this grant. The founder wishes to encourage institutional commitment to serving this population.

Science Kits for Public Libraries

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Region 4's Science Kits for Public Libraries Grant program is offering up to \$2,000 in funding to public libraries to establish a circulating science kits collection.

This grant provides funding to establish a circulating science kit collection. Libraries are expected to sustain the circulating science kits for a number of years using library budgeted funding, fundraising, or other means.

Applications are accepted until Thursday, January 3, at 11:59 PM.

[Apply Today](#)

Upcoming Free Webinars

[Sacred Librarianship, Indigenous Knowledge for Sustainable Practice \(ALA\)](#)

December 20 (3:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Join Indigenous librarians and experts to learn about the ways our knowledges, languages and memories are being held, used or misused in libraries. The three speakers offer insights from working in and with Indigenous Knowledge contexts as well as colonial libraries and archives.

[Telehealth 101: What Libraries Need to Know \(Network of the National Library of Medicine\)](#)

January 6 - 31

Libraries in locations across the United States are beginning to offer their patrons access to telehealth services as a strategy for addressing inequities in digital access to healthcare. This class introduces telehealth, why it's important, and how it enables people to have greater access to quality healthcare. Explore how different libraries provided patrons in their communities with access to telehealth services. This class will address privacy and ethical concerns, and review the technology and infrastructure needed to launch a successful telehealth program in your library. The class will consist of three one-hour modules.

[Accessibility and Public Libraries Under Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act: What Trustees Need to Know \(United for Libraries\)](#)

January 11 (10:00 AM - 11:30 AM)

Current laws and societal shifts have increased visibility and knowledge about disabilities, and as communities evolve and populations shift, public libraries will have to adapt their services and facilities in order to continue to provide quality service to their communities - and comply with state and federal laws.

This webinar will provide an introduction to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and a general overview of the legal expectations for public libraries to provide access and services to people with a wide range of disabilities, as well as information on other emerging accessibility trends such as language accessibility and religious accommodation.

The presentation is focused on the responsibilities of Trustees in ensuring that their libraries are truly welcoming to all of their communities - now and into the future.

[Color Our World with Citizen Science: From Space to Sea \(Star Net\)](#)

February 4 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Join SciStarter, STAR Net, and the Collaborative Summer Reading Program for an engaging webinar that explores how libraries can bring the 2024 Summer Reading Theme, Color Our World, to life through citizen science. Discover hands-on STEM activities for all ages, from exploring the wonders of space to uncovering the mysteries of the deep sea. Learn how these activities align with the theme and provide opportunities for library users to contribute to real-world scientific research. Gain valuable resources and ideas to integrate citizen science into your library's programming, inspiring curiosity and creativity in your community!

Library Tidbits

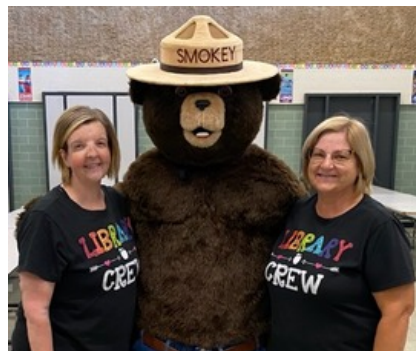
[Fargo Public Library](#) hosted award-winning children's author Christina Soontornvat, engineer and STEM educator.

[Melissa Lloyd](#) from the Valley City Barnes County Public Library was selected to receive a bonus from bestselling author James Patterson.

[Valley City Barnes County Public Library](#) received a \$10,000 donation from the George and Audrey Gaukler Family Foundation to support the restoration of the rotunda and dome on the historic 1903 Carnegie Library building.

[Valley City Barnes County Public Library](#) held a Libraries are Sweet and Books are My Jam Market Day event, which included a silent auction of jams, jellies, sweet treats, and crafts. The money will be used to help fund the roof restoration project.

Wishek Public Library and the Wishek Fire Department collaborated to celebrate Smokey Bear's 80th birthday and to educate students in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and First Grade on Fire Safety.



Jessica Welk and Beverly Vilhauer, Librarians at Wishek Public Library, with Smokey Bear



David Just, Wishek Fire Chief, with Smokey Bear

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](#)

- Kulm, N. Dak.: 1892 to 1957
- Steele Diamond Jubilee, 1881-1956

[Political Prairie Fire](#)

- Gov. George F. Shafer, circa 1929-1931
- Hastings' Arrest Starts Sweeping Investigations of Leaguers' Operations [newspaper article, 1922]
- Lots of noise but little cash resulted from Townley's shakedown session held in Fargo Tuesday; no democracy wanted [newspaper article, 1919]
- Remarkable Generosity of Bank of N.D. to Scandinavian American of Fargo Clue to Present Insolvency [newspaper article, 1921]
- Scandinavian American forced to suspend after conference with Lemke [newspaper article, 1921]





Tea Party Mastery: From Brew to Ambience

Self-Paced, Online Class

[+ Join this Course](#)

North Dakota State Library

12 Lessons

14 Exams & Assignments

2 Hours average time

0.2 CEUs

Video Audit Available

Tea Party Mastery: From Brew to Ambience

As winter has once again entered our lives and we spend more time indoors and are feeling isolated, we have a choice: one, remain isolated looking out at the wintery landscape, wishing for warmer weather, or two, invite some friends over to socialize and fight off the tediousness of winter together. While there are always game nights, potlucks and other social activities to get together, have you ever considered a tea party? Tea has always been more than a beverage. It is a bridge between people, a symbol of hospitality, and a ritual that has brought warmth and togetherness to countless moments throughout history. Imagine a warm afternoon sunlight streaming through the windows, soft laughter filling the air, and the delicate aroma of freshly brewed tea swirling around you. A table adorned with elegant china, artfully prepared treats, and the unmistakable sense of connection and joy. This isn't just a scene from a storybook-this is the magic of a perfectly crafted tea party, and it's an experience that can be yours to create.

This course, found in Universal Class, is not just about tea-it's about creating unforgettable experiences. Whether you're hosting an intimate gathering of close friends or a grand celebration, it will guide you step by step through the art of crafting a tea party that is as unique and personal as you are. Together, we'll explore the history and significance of tea, uncovering the fascinating stories that make every cup a journey through time and culture. In this course, you'll learn to curate the perfect tea menu, master the delicate art of pairing teas with delectable treats, and set the stage with ambiance and decor that capture the essence of elegance and warmth. Let's steep ourselves in tradition, creativity, and the timeless charm of tea. Enroll yourself in *Tea Party Mastery: From Brew to Ambience* and let the magic of tea parties chase away those winter blahs.

[Start Learning Today!](#)

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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.

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