



WE ARE HIRING

Information Services Assistant
Closing Date: January 20, 2025



CSLP Summer Reading Trainings

Who's ready to Color Our World? 2025 Summer Reading Trainings are scheduled at the following libraries in the month of February:

Grand Forks Public Library
(February 10 at 9:00 AM)

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library
(February 14 at 1:00 PM)

Minot Public Library
(February 20 at 9:30 AM)

Williston Community Library
(February 24 at 10:00 AM)

Valley City Barnes County Public Library
(February 28 at 1:00 PM)



Each training will last between 2.5 and 3 hours depending upon the discussions. Learn from the trainers and from one another in these fun and educational sessions! Reserve your spot before January 23 at 5:00 PM.

[Reserve Your Spot](#)

Talking Book Volunteers

Submitted by Steve Hammel

Did you miss your calling as a thespian?

Do people regularly say you have a nice speaking voice?

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer but aren't a "people person"?

Would you like someplace really quiet to hang out for an hour or two every week?

Are you missing something in your life but don't know what?

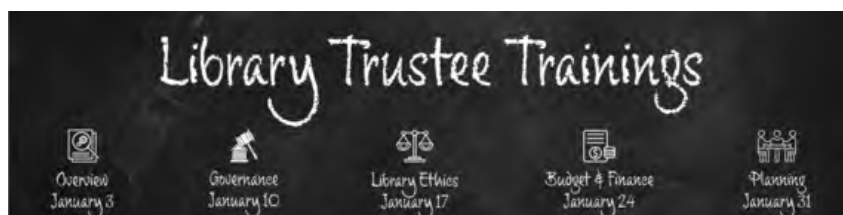


If you answered yes to any of the above questions, consider becoming a volunteer reader for the North Dakota State Library Talking Books program. The program provides audio books and magazines to North Dakota citizens who are unable to read printed materials due to a visual, physical, or reading impairment. We like the term print disabled.






Anyone can become a volunteer reader for Talking Books, even if you do not work or live in the Bismarck/Mandan area. All you need is a quiet space, a computer with audio recording software, and a good-quality microphone. If you do live near the capitol complex and are looking for the quiet space mentioned above, you are welcome to come use the recording booth here at the State Library.

If you are interested in volunteering or would just like more information about the Talking Books program, maybe for a friend or family member, please contact NDSL Patron Services Division Director Steve Hammel at shammel@nd.gov or 701-328-4021. He will be happy to tell you all about the program and all the other services at the State Library.

[Learn More About the Talking Book Program](#)



Library Trustee Trainings

 Overview January 3	 Governance January 10	 Library Ethics January 17	 Budget & Finance January 24	 Planning January 31
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Public Libraries Survey Changes – New Questions – E-materials

Submitted by Monica Struck

The final area where you will see changes in the Public Libraries Survey (PLS) is New Questions, and there are a lot of them this year. We will first look at the new questions about electronic resources. Instead of collecting numbers of items, the PLS will track who is purchasing the resources.

For e-books, e-serials, e-audio, e-video, research OLRs, and online learning platforms, you will be asked the following yes/no questions:

- Did the administrative entity (library) provide access to ____ purchased solely by the administrative entity?
- Did the administrative entity provide access to ____ purchased via a consortium, cooperative, or other similar group at the local, regional, or state level?
- Did the administrative entity provide access to ____ provided by the State Library or another entity at no or minimal cost to the administrative entity?

The plus side: we no longer have to worry about what titles to include in the collection count. The downside: we have a whole new can of worms to decipher.

After some discussion with my counterparts around the country, this is the best guidance we have for answering these questions. For questions regarding e-books, e-serials, e-audio, and e-video:

For the question, "Did the administrative entity (library) provide access to ____ purchased solely by the administrative entity?":

- If you purchase or subscribe to any of the above-mentioned electronic content using OverDrive Advantage Accounts or from other vendors, mark yes.
- If you participate in the Library2Go consortium but do not purchase any materials, mark no.
- If you do not participate in Library2Go or purchase e-materials from other vendors, mark no.

For the question, "Did the administrative entity provide access to ____ purchased via a consortium, cooperative, or other similar group at the local, regional, or state level?":

- If you participate in the Library2Go consortium, mark yes.
- If you make these types of materials available through other groups, mark yes.
- If you participate in no consortia for the purchase of e-materials, mark no.

For the question, "Did the administrative entity provide access to ____ provided by the State Library or another entity at no or minimal cost to the administrative entity?" – Note: this answer will vary depending on the resource.

- For e-books and e-audiobooks
 - If you participate in the Library2Go consortium, mark yes.
 - If you do not participate in the consortium, mark no.
- For e-serials
 - If you participate in the Library2Go consortium, mark yes.
 - If you do not participate in the Library2Go consortium, mark no.
- For e-video, mark yes.

For the sake of your eyes and brains, we will break here and continue with the rest of the e-resource questions next week. If you have any questions, you can reach out to me or save them up for later.



Holocaust

January 27th marks the liberation of Auschwitz. Keeping that historic event in mind, January's *Top Picks* is about the Holocaust. If you have a request for *Tammy's Top Picks*, email me at tlkruger@nd.gov.

The Book of Lost Names by Kristin Harmel

Publish Date: 2020

Publisher: Gallery Books

Summary: Eva Traube Abrams, Floridan librarian, did not always live a peaceful life. Born a French Jew in the 1920's, Eva experienced unimaginable terrors and even ended up joining the Resistance as a document forger! Her dangerous, but lifesaving, job helped hundreds of Jewish citizens cross into Switzerland for safety. This book, while fictional, is based upon the real-life experiences of forgers, as well as the importance of hanging onto faith and hope.

Best For: Adults



[Continue Reading](#)

Digital Delight

Large snow pile on a street in Coteau, ND, early 1900s

People gather around a large pile of snow in a street in Coteau, North Dakota. Two women with skis stand on top of the snow pile. On the left, a group of men stand at the base of the pile, next to a building. The sign of a restaurant is visible in the background.



Courtesy of Digital Horizons (Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection, ND State Library)

[View the Collection](#)



Passive Versus Engaging Learning and School Libraries

In her article, "Closing the Digital Use Divide with Active and Engaging Learning," Laura Ascione explains that passive use of technology usually aids adult goals, while engaging use develops students' future-ready skills. Students have identified active learning technologies they would like more opportunities to use. Can school libraries meet their requests? I believe the answer is yes!

Ms. Ascione's article reflects the results of the 2023-2024 Speak Up Research conducted by Project Tomorrow. The report titled, *From Engagement to Learning: Closing the Gap Between Student Aspirations and Classroom Practices* details the research findings.

[Continue Reading](#)

Upcoming WebJunction Webinars

WebJunction provides free webinars that allow you to meet and learn from library leaders. Anyone can attend and participate in these webinars.

[Don't Manage Change—Embrace It](#)

Thursday, January 16 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Trying to make changes at your library can feel overwhelming. Where do you start? How do you get people on board? What do you do when you encounter resistance? Change management plans can help, but too often they frame the change as a problem to manage rather than an opportunity to reach for a shared vision. In this webinar, you'll learn strategies for effective, positive change-making and examine how shifting your mindset to center growth and strengths can help you positively reframe change. You'll also explore approaches to leadership, collaboration, and power-sharing that meaningfully engage impacted groups and plan for and address change anxiety and resistance.

[Building Community Connections by Hiring for Cultural Knowledge](#)

Thursday, January 30 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Staffing demographics rarely match those of the communities they serve. Learn how valuing specific knowledge, skills, and abilities during the hiring process can develop a staff ready to serve a diverse community. Hear from Cultural Liaison Library Assistant staff representing Hispanic and Tribal communities, including the results of their efforts to build connections with and share stories of these communities. Attendees will be challenged to reconsider some common hiring practices and how to make them more inclusive. Hear a success story from a library that identified cultural knowledge gaps and worked with community stakeholders during the job posting and selection process.

[Empowering Teens: Enhancing Information Literacy Through Games and Interactive Programming](#)

Thursday, February 6 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

You can help your teen patrons to become better navigators of the information that they find online. Come learn about how you can offer fun and engaging experiences that bring teens to the library and build their information literacy skills. Researchers at the University of Washington's Center for an Informed Public will walk you through programs developed with public libraries, including an escape room game and youth video program. You'll also discover activities adapted from school libraries that help teens reflect on their interaction with social media and give them the tools to verify questionable posts.

[WebJunction Webinars](#)

Library Tidbits

[Andrea Placher](#), Director of the Williston Community Library, is the new North Dakota Library Association President.


[Fargo Public Library](#) will be hosting an informational event to teach children in grades K-12 about the National Junior Duck Stamp Contest.

James River Valley Library System held a Holiday Open House on Friday, December 13, 2024. It was a festive evening filled with activities for all ages. Activities included pictures with Santa, musical performances, games, holiday-themed storytime, letters to Santa, and more. It was a fun and relaxing way to celebrate the holiday season with our patrons.



[Williston Community Library](#) has a Valentines for Seniors Creation Station for children to craft handmade cards and for teens and adults to assemble their own card kits or sign messages in pre-made cards. These cards will be delivered to assisted living and nursing homes in the Williston area.


The Art of Setting Goals



Self-Paced, Online Class

[+ Join this Course](#)

North Dakota State Library

15 Lessons	17 Exams & Assignments	5 Hours average time	0.5 CEUs	 Video Audit Available
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The Art of Setting Goals

Making New Years resolutions are a tradition for many. Whether it's to get into better physical shape, work on self-care, or develop a new habit or hobby. But how do you develop this resolution into a long-term achievement? You need to set goals.

The Art of Setting Goals, found in Universal Class, is a 15-lesson course that takes you through the goal setting process, whether the goals are for personal or professional development. Goals are not mere checkpoints on life's journey. They're signposts that lend meaning, direction, and purpose to our endeavors. In an era where change is constant and uncertainties abound, having clear, well-defined goals can be the anchor that keeps us grounded. These fifteen steps take you from getting started with the fundamentals of goal setting to figuring out how to make the goals sustain momentum and keep you focused.

Whether you want to set a goal as simple as finishing a morning routine or as intricate as planning a decade-long career trajectory, this course will guide you through the goal setting process.

[Start Learning](#)

New Podcast Episode

Episode 11 of the Pathways Through the Prairie podcast features Randi Monley, Children's Librarian at the Minot Public Library. Learn about her pathway to the library, the remodel of the children's area, and the programs the library offers to people in the community. 30 minutes



The Pathways Through the Prairie podcast features North Dakota librarians and library staff, state government leaders and employees, and interesting North Dakotans to gain insights into their work and roles in their communities.

Episodes are released every two weeks on the State Library's YouTube channel.

[Listen to the Podcast](#)

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a
Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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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.

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To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale,
please contact BreAnne at ndslpa@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.



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