



Flickertale

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Book Lottery

Submitted by Stacey Goldade

We have weeded our large print collection and have nonfiction and fiction books (nearly 800 titles!) up for grabs. These are NOT children's books, but rather include authors like Robin Cook, Dean Koontz, Nora Roberts, Sandra Brown, Danielle Steel, John Sandford, etc. Any public, tribal, academic or special library in the state is eligible to receive some of these books. You can request a certain number of boxes, with each box holding about 15 books. You can indicate which genres you prefer, but the actual books you receive will be a surprise! Click on the survey link below and fill it out by March 7.

[Fill Out the Form](#)

National Park Service Semiquincentennial Grant

Submitted by Monica Struck

The Semiquincentennial Grant program was created by Congress in 2020 to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States. The purpose of this grant is to restore and preserve sites on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) that commemorate the founding of the nation. For the purposes of the program, the founding of the nation is defined as the period ending in 1815 (defeat of the British at the Battle of New Orleans and the signing of the Treaty of Ghent). Sadly, none of our libraries are that old, but we do have sites in North Dakota that could qualify. Please share this information with your communities.

[More Information](#)



Strand Studio Photograph Collection

The "Strand Studio Photograph Collection" consists of photographs taken by Curtis and Maxine Strand, who had their studio in their Rugby, North Dakota, home. The images in this collection consist of individual portraits, graduations, weddings, and other events in and around Rugby. There are also photographs from Rugby school activities, aials, and other events. The photographs range in date from 1948 to 1988. This digital collection is provided by NDSU Archives, and it is available for browsing and searching on [Digital Horizons](#).



[View the Collection](#)

Public Libraries Survey

February 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025

[Click here for more information](#)

Legislative Update

Submitted by Dani Kappel

Here are the updates as of February 19, 2025.

HB 1013: There have been three hearings regarding this bill. It has not hit the House Chamber floor yet. This bill appropriates funds for the 2025-2027 biennium for the State Library and its sister agencies, including the Department of Public Instruction, the School for the Deaf, North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind, and the Center for Distance Education.

HB 1142: PASSED HOUSE- Introduced to the Senate and assigned to the Judiciary Committee. This bill has passed on the House floor with 86 yeas and 1 nay after leaving the Political Subdivisions committee with a 13-0-0 Do Pass as originally written. The bill proposes amendments to the North Dakota Century Code to increase the statutory liability caps for political subdivisions and the state.

HB 1220: PASSED HOUSE- Introduced to the Senate and assigned to the Workforce Development Committee. The bill has passed the House floor with 73 yeas and 15 nays after leaving the Education committee with a 9-5-0 Do Pass. The bill establishes a North Dakota accelerated degree program aimed at preparing students for high-demand occupations. State higher education institutions can offer these programs as alternatives to traditional degrees.

HB 1254: PASSED HOUSE- Introduced to the Senate and assigned to the State and Local Government Committee. The bill has passed the House floor with 90 yeas and 0 nays after leaving the Political Subdivisions committee with a 11-1-1 Do Pass. This aligns Century Code with current NDSL practices by allowing all North Dakotans to have an NDSL library card.

HB 1353: DEFEATED- This bill was defeated on the House floor with 25 yeas and 63 nays. The bill introduces limitations on property tax levies and a cap on increases by taxing districts without voter approval, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024. Cities and counties cannot override these restrictions through home rule authority.

HB 1420: PASSED HOUSE- Introduced to the Senate and assigned to the Education Committee. The bill left the House Finance and Taxation committee with a 12-0-2 Do Pass. It passed on the House chamber floor with 92 yeas and 2 nays. The bill amends §54-24.4-05 of the North Dakota Century Code to clarify that the Library Coordinating Council only approves state funded grants except for State Aid for Public Libraries. It aligns Century Code with current practices.

HB 1561: PASSED HOUSE- Introduced to the Senate and assigned to the Industry and Business Committee. This bill passed the House floor with 91 yeas and 0 nays. It seeks to add a new section to Chapter §51-07 of the North Dakota Century Code to establish liability for commercial entities that publish or distribute sexual material harmful to minors online without implementing reasonable age verification methods.

SB 2180: This bill was hog-housed and now creates a new section of Century Code §44-04. It requires opportunity for public comment at a meeting of a public entity and includes stipulations for those comments. It has not been voted on yet.

SB 2219: PASSED SENATE- Introduced to the House and assigned to the Political Subdivisions Committee. This bill has passed on the Senate floor with 46 yeas and 0 nays after leaving the State and Local Government committee hearing with a 6-0-0 Do Pass. This bill clarifies that libraries must complete the annual Public Library Survey to be eligible to receive State Aid for Public Libraries.

SB 2278: PASSED SENATE- Introduced to the House and assigned to the Education Committee. This bill has passed on the Senate floor with 44 yeas and 1 nay after leaving the Education committee hearing with a 4-0-2 Do Pass after receiving an amendment to include the fiscal and collection management impact on libraries within this study. The proposed bill mandates a legislative study during the 2025-26 interim to evaluate the feasibility and desirability of requiring state agency libraries, including the state library and those at state-controlled higher education institutions, to retain copies of original versions of written materials. The study will also assess the impact of artificial intelligence on library material retention, updates, and alterations.

SB 2307: The bill has left the Judiciary Committee with a Do Pass recommendation after a few amendments have been added. The amendments have not been posted online yet. The bill had a committee hearing on Feb. 10th where several individuals gave testimony. NDSL is trying to keep up with committee work regarding this bill. The bill proposes updates to North Dakota obscenity laws, focusing on public libraries, school districts, and state agencies to protect minors from explicit sexual material. The bill mandates digital or online resources offered to K-12 students to incorporate safety policies and technology protections.

TODAY'S SKILLS FOR TOMORROW'S LIBRARIES CONFERENCE



ND STATE CAPITOL

JULY 28-30

Democracy in Dialogue Virtual Exchange Program

Submitted by Monica Struck

The Smithsonian is looking for libraries interested in joining the third cohort of the Democracy in Dialogue Virtual Exchange Program. What is Democracy in Dialogue you ask? It is a program established to celebrate 250 years of our nation. It connects teens in one part of the country with teens in another with the intent of exploring community connections to democracy. There have been two cohorts (Cohort 1 – July to December 2024 and Cohort 2 – January to May 2025) with the third starting in May and running through August. The application for joining the cohort closes on April 11.

With Cohort 3, the Smithsonian is trying a more condensed summer session. The intent for this session is to put texts and community in conversation. Participants will be matched with another organization from a different area. The matched participants will work together to decide how they want the program to look. There will be 3-5 planned activities during the length of the program with 2-4 synchronous exchange meetings. The exchange will culminate in a final project. Final projects will be a snapshot story of an object from your collection or community that reflects on American democracy. These projects will be celebrated locally by the community and nationally by the Smithsonian.

Participants are asked to choose one person to lead this project. This person will receive a toolkit and a two-day training on how to facilitate the program. This person will also coordinate with the lead of the program at their match site to organize synchronous meetings. Each site will need to recruit at least ten teens (ages 13-18) to complete the activities and make plans for celebrating the final projects.

Does this have you excited to participate? The [application](#) period is open now! Are you interested, but the summer timing doesn't work well for you? Consider joining Cohort 4 (September-December 2025). Would you like more information? Attend the next [informational webinar](#) on February 25 at 3:00 PM.

[Learn More](#)



[Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library](#) is hosting informational and interactive classes to support literacy.

[Lake Region Public Library](#) received a \$7,400 grant from Devils Lake Cars to upgrade the Children's Area in the library.

[Ward County Public Library](#) is replacing shelving at both the Minot and Kenmare locations thanks to a \$131,491 grant from the Glenn Perkins Foundation

[Williston Community Library](#) received funds from their Foundation to purchase a new courtesy charging station for patrons. They also got an [entryway remodel](#) thanks to the City of Williston Public Works and Creation Carpets.

Niche Academy Highlight

by Al Peterson

What's New in Niche?

A couple of new tutorials have been added, and some more reorganizing has taken place in Niche Academy: North Dakota Library Academy.

In the *Library Directors* category, a new section on Hiring Staff has been added with other tutorials on this topic.

Category: [Library Directors](#)

- New Section: [Hiring Staff](#)
 - New Tutorial: *Balancing Internal and External Hiring*
 - New Tutorial: *Creating a Hiring Policy and Procedures*
 - New Tutorial: *Interviewing Skills for Managers*
 - New Tutorial: *Planning and Preparing for an Interview*
 - New Tutorial: *Writing Effective Job Postings*
- Section: [Leadership](#)
 - New Tutorial: *Finding your Purpose as a Leader*
 - New Tutorial: *Library Leadership Your Way*

Niche Academy



Empathy for Kids

Empathy: The ability to understand and feel the emotions of others. The skill of empathy is incredibly important in building strong, healthy relationships and communities! Being able to “put ourselves in others’ shoes” helps us understand both them and us better. Books can be excellent sources for helping to build empathy. Below are ten titles for elementary students. If you have a topic for *Tammy's Top Picks*, e-mail me at tlkruger@nd.gov.

The Rabbit Listened by Cori Doerrfeld

Publish Date: 2018

Publisher: Dial Books for Young Readers

Summary: One day, Taylor decides to build a special tower out of blocks. Then, a flock of birds crash into it! Various animals come and tell Taylor how he should be feeling. However, the rabbit just listens. This easy read shows kids how just being there and listening can make a world of difference for friends and other loved ones!

Best For: Pre-K through 2nd grade

THE RABBIT LISTENED



Continue Reading



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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.

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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