North Dakota State Library

Flickertale

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My oldest niece called me today and said, “I’m going to make your heart happy.” She was right. She did make my heart happy when she said, “We got a library card.” I have been encouraging my niece, who is a new mom, to get her library card and to take her daughter to storytime or lapsit programs at the library as it’s a great opportunity to meet other parents with children in a similar age group. Several of the parents that attended storytime at the library I was first a director at are still friends, and their “kiddos” are now graduating high school, or already in college.

It is not a secret to anyone that knows me that I love libraries. I believe that libraries can meet the needs of all kinds of people from every walk of life and at every stage of life. It makes me happy that my niece has her first library card in many, many years, and her first card as an adult. Although she won’t check books out for her daughter until she is past the “books make a tasty snack” stage, I hope this will begin a lifelong love of libraries for my great-niece and her mom.

Libraries today are about so much more than just books. Books and audio-visual materials, in all formats, will always be a staple of what libraries offer in my opinion, but they are so much more than just book warehouses. It is important that we let everyone we communicate with know this. I have been encouraging, some may say pushing, my son, my nieces, and nephews the importance of using libraries for their whole lives. Some of them have had to be encouraged more than others, and some didn’t have to be encouraged when they were younger, but they do need to be encouraged now.

It is more important than ever that librarians, library staff, board members, provosts, principals, and other members of your institutions’ administration and Friends and Foundation members understand the value that your library provides and shares that value far and wide.

We touch patrons' lives in so many ways and on so many levels with the services and resources that we provide. We need to be loud and proud of our libraries and the difference that we make for those that we serve. Shout it from the rooftops, whisper it in the wind, post it on social media. Take every opportunity you have and share your elevator speech. Help someone make your heart happy by ensuring they know all the reasons there are to get a library card.

Interlibrary Loan Updates

We have had a staffing change in our Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Department. Krista Kurtz has moved to a different agency; we thank Krista for her many years of service and wish her well in her next chapter.

Please send all ILL requests to the ILL department e-mail at **ndslill@nd.gov**. To reach a staff member if you have questions, please call our Information Desk at (701)328-4622. The librarian working the desk will either provide assistance or will record your information and share it with the staff who are currently assisting in ILL.

Upcoming State Library Webinars

Happy New Year! Do you have any goals this year? Maybe more professional development or learning something new? This month, two new webinars presented by the North Dakota State Library may help you reach those goals.

Find Your Niche… Academy on January 19, 2022, from 2:00 - 3:00 PM CST.
This webinar will introduce participants to Niche Academy, examine how it is organized, explore the available tutorials, look at some of the North Dakota-focused content, and examine how it can help with librarian professional development and library worker training.
Register: **https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_17b4b9UCQrKKwyp3U0ZoZw**

Please join us as we explore these two resources, and let’s keep on lifelong learning and developing our skills in 2022!

Folk and Fairy Tale STEAM Kits

Hello! Hopefully, you are back into the swing of things after winter break.

Let's talk about hands-on learning opportunities! North Dakota State Library offers a variety of teaching tools. This week, I want to focus on the Fairy and Folk Tales STEAM Kits.

Just a little general information about the kits. All kits have an 8-week checkout period. Three kits can be checked out at a time for one school. A school may request more than three kits at a time; however, they will not receive kits beyond the three until the State Library has received their other checked-out kits back. One member of staff, the library media specialist, should be checking kits out from NDSL. The State Library pays for the kits to be sent out to schools; schools pay for the kits to be returned.

The Fairy and Folk Tales STEAM Kits each contain a book, a Teacher's Card, a Story Card, Student Task Cards, and manipulates for the students to conduct a STEAM challenge. Some of these kits come with puppets, some come with emotion mirrors, and some come with story wands. Fairy and Folk Tales STEAM Kits are intended to be used with primary students--grades second and third independently, kindergarten and first with adult assistance.

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January is National Braille Literacy Month

Submitted by James Murphy

World Braille Day is celebrated on the anniversary of Louis Braille's birthday (January 4). Louis Braille lost his vision as a result of an accident as a young child but still managed to invent his system of writing by the age of fifteen. By age twenty, he published his first book on using Braille for writing text and musical notation. Although his system was met with resistance from sighted educators at first, it was preferred by blind students over other systems for its usability and compactness, allowing each letter to be read with only one finger.

The North Dakota State Library offers access to Braille for qualifying individuals in a few different ways. Ebraille is available for download through the NLS BARD app for iOS or Android. The application connects to an external refreshable Braille device, which is the Braille equivalent of an e-book reader. Right now, a commercial refreshable Braille device is required, but the State Library will eventually provide these devices for extended loan sometime in the future.

The State Library can also provide traditional printed Braille books through the U.S. Postal Service through a partnership with the Utah State Library. Braille musical materials can be downloaded through the BARD app, but additional musical reference services and Braille scores are available through a partnership with the NLS music services at the Library of Congress.

For more information or to sign up for these services, please contact us at **tbooks@nd.gov** or 1-800-843-9948. The required application can be found on our website at **http://www.library.nd.gov/publications/tbapp.pdf**.

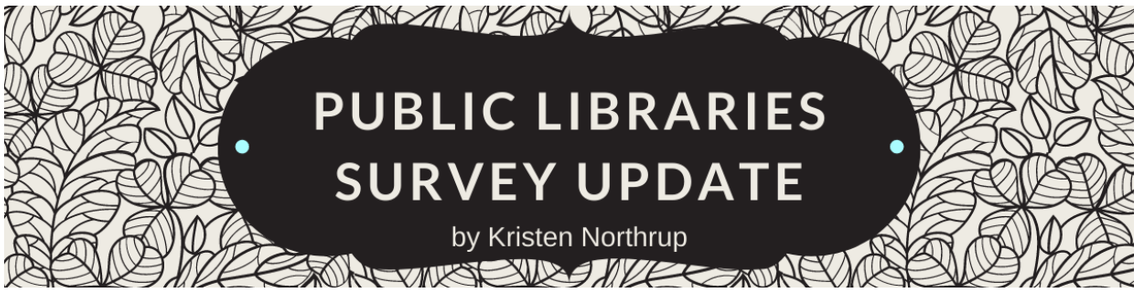
Deadline Approaching for 2022 Public Library Grant for Science Kits

The deadline, January 17, 2022, for submission of your SKPL Science Kit application is fast approaching. Visit the SKPL website at **https://r4.ieee.org/skpl/** for the application form, submission details, and a map of Region 4. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) - *Region 4's Science Kits for Public Libraries (SKPL)* Grant program is offering up to $2,000 in funding to public libraries to establish a circulating science kits collection. Libraries must be located within Region 4 which includes all of Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and northerly portions of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

Those libraries which have previously applied for the grant but did not receive funding are invited to submit again.

Region 4, Science Kits for Public Libraries (SKPL) organization is a volunteer-based organization affiliated with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). SKPL believes all children – regardless of race, gender, financial condition, or home environment – should have access to high-quality, hands-on STEM learning experiences. By making catalyst grants available to public libraries, we empower them to start their own science kit collections that are free and accessible to the public.



Public Libraries Survey 2021 - Edit Checks

The Public Libraries Survey (PLS) has built-in error checking. These flags are set by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the survey cannot be submitted until they are all addressed. Generally, you resolve an edit check by entering an explanation in the notes box. An alternative is that the original response is actually incorrect, such as a typo, and then replacing that number will resolve the issue.

Most edit checks are generated when this year's answer is significantly different than last year's. That can be a sign of data being entered into the incorrect box or a mistyped number. The second most common reason for an edit check is math errors – when a field is supposed to represent a sum of two other fields but does not, for example. We try to avoid as many of these errors as possible by building in auto-calculated fields and will be adding more of those for 2021.

337 edit checks were generated on 2020's PLS, and only 42 of those (12%) were COVID-related. Most were calculation errors that can hopefully be resolved proactively for 2021.

Once the State Library submits the PLS results to IMLS, their staff does review all of the edit checks and requests further detail on any vague notes, so please make your notes more specific than 'This is correct' when possible. We are required to follow up on those.

Staffing questions are one of the most common edit checks that are not in error. When the library has no paid staff or when salaries are paid by a central office, the edit check because staff expenditures equals zero is unavoidable, and I'm afraid you'll just need to make that note each year. However, we do also see frequent cases where either the number of paid staff is zero, but there is a dollar amount given for salaries or vice versa, so please keep an eye on reconciling those areas.

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North Dakota Library Tidbits

Annual book talk series returns to Bismarck State...

The Bismarck State College Library's annual book talk series returned for its first discussion of the new year. Every year the library organizes a book club for anyone in the community who wants to join. The year, the club's discussion focuses on ...

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www.kxnet.com

Kindness Knights at Minot Public Library takes off Saturday

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Grand Forks Library to Host Herald Columnist Jessie...

GRAND FORKS - Jessie Veeder, writer, musician and columnist for the Herald of Watford City, North Dakota, will present a reading, signing and making children's book workshop starting at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 15 at the library Grand Forks...

Read more
almooon.com

JRVLS Hosting Food For Fines Program

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (NewsDakota.com) - The James River Valley Library System (JRVLS) will be hosting a "Food for Fines" food and toiletry drive January 11th through February 11th. JRVLS Director Joe Rector says the program is very simple and is a way ...

Read more
www.newsdakota.com

Has your library made the news? Is something happening in your library that we should know about? Send an e-mail to ndslpa@nd.gov with a link (if applicable).

Digital Delight

Model T stuck in the snow, Emmons County, N.D., early 1900s

A man wearing a coat, hat, gloves, and boots is shoveling snow from around a 1910 Model T Ford that is stuck in deep snow. This photo was taken in the early 1900s in Emmons County.

https://bit.ly/3nnYR6T

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

NASA@ My Library Kit
Fun With Coding

The “Fun with Coding” NASA@ My Library Kit uses robots, games, and activities to teach participants how to code in a fun way.

Whether the participants are beginners or experienced with coding, the Artie 3000 is a creative way to learn how to code. Artie 3000 has a built-in WiFi server, so all you need is a tablet or other device to control it. Participants design the code, and Artie 3000 draws the lines to create simple or advanced pictures.

Edison Robots V2 is a simple-to-use robot perfect for kids. There are two Edisons, one EdCreate, 2 IR Remotes, and a USB with software, resources, and lesson plans. With the EdCreate, participants can complete five EdBuild projects – EdTank, EdDigger, EdRoboClaw, EdCrane, and the EdPrinter.

This kit also includes the materials needed to create binary bracelets, play a conditional card game, and a robot retriever game. There are also three code games for ages 8+ that are screen-free and designed to build the mental skills needed to fully grasp the concept of coding.

The chenille sticks and pony beads in this kit are not expected to be returned. However, please only use the kit components you need and return the rest for use by other libraries.

NASA@ My Library is a project of The National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute, in partnership with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, American Library Association Public Programs Office, the Pacific Science Center, Cornerstones of Science, and Education Development Center.

Reserve this kit today by going to Kitkeeper at **http://www.eventkeeper.com/kitkeeper/index.cfm?curOrg=nodak**.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, depression affects an estimated one in fifteen adults in a given year, and one in six people will experience depression at some time in their life. Some people suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, which relates to the changing of the seasons and is common during the long, cold winter months. Universal Class offers a course to help someone with Depression.

Managing Depression is an engaging course that offers an abundance of ideas for taking personal control over the nasty symptoms of depression. Focusing on self-help for mild to moderate depression, this online class identifies the various symptoms of depression and takes a meaningful and sincere approach, primarily to alternative and self-help therapies.

While not excluding or replacing traditional and more conventional therapies, such as counseling and medical support, this course encourages students to take steps to empower themselves to feel better and reviews holistic approaches toward the mind and body. Taking responsibility for as much of the healing process as possible is the first step toward more confidence and self-esteem, even if it simply means making an appointment with a doctor. This class provides an uplifting, upbeat, and realistic approach to depression, which is intended to energize and encourage learners to face their problems head-on.

Check out this course and others at Universal Class at **https://northdakotastatend.universalclass.com/**.

Other News, Grants, and Webinars

The Mindful Librarian

FEBRUARY 2, 20224:00-5:00 PMThe relationships we build with our students and staff provide a foundation for all we do. We work to create safe spaces in which our entire school community can not only access our print and digital resources but ...

Read more
all4ed.org

Prairie Public PBS Kids Writers Contest

Children in Prairie Public's broadcast area from kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to submit their stories.

Read more
www.prairiepublic.org

Small Scale ESL Programs for Your Library

Getting started with an English as a Second Language (ESL) program at your library does not have to be an intimidating commitment. You may offer conversation group sessions with minimal investment of time and resources. Not only do these classes...

Read more
www.nicheacademy.com

Top 5 Articles on Tech Tools for Engagement

Compiled and annotated by Alyssa Russo, Ruth Monnier, and Michael Saar, members of the DOLS Research and Publications Committee. December 2021. Among the various challenges of remote instruction, cultivating engagement in the learning process is...

Read more
acrl.ala.org

WebJunction

"Let's Talk Race" Toolkits

Talking openly about race with kids can dramatically improve their racial literacy-but adults often don't know where to start! Staff from the Salt Lake City Public Library (SLCPL) will share how they built picture book-based kits to give...

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www.webjunction.org

WebJunction

Growing Digital Equity Through Community Partnerships

As digital access becomes increasingly essential for participating in community life, libraries can play an important role in the digital equity and inclusion ecosystem. Hear about a variety of innovative services and partnerships that King...

Read more
www.webjunction.org

Do you have thoughts, concerns, or questions about the Flickertale?
Please let us know by filling out this form - all responses are anonymous.

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