North Dakota State Library

Flickertale

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Important Public Library Announcement

The North Dakota State Library recently sought updated guidance from our Assistant Attorney General regarding a common question from public libraries.

In the event of a vacant board seat during a board term, a new trustee needs to be appointed by the governing body. This partial term is not considered their first term, and the new board member is eligible to serve two consecutive 3-year terms after the partial term is complete.

If you have received previous guidance regarding this matter, please update your records as this information is in line with a new interpretation of term limits that has resulted from a shift in law in the past few years.

If you have questions about library boards and term limits, please reach out to Abby Ebach at aebach@nd.gov or 701-328-4680.

Importance of Strategic Planning

By State Librarian Mary Soucie

The world shifted sideways in 2020 and although, in many ways, things have returned to “normal”, what is now considered normal has changed as well. North Dakota libraries worked hard to continue to provide service to their local communities as they have always done. The expectations of our patrons have changed, and certain elements seem to be here to stay, such as virtual programming. Finding ways to connect with our patrons outside our four walls remains more vital than ever as does demonstrating the value that a library adds to the community it serves. It is also vital that the library is engaging the community to assess community needs and wants, and to ensure the library’s ability to serve the community in the best way possible.

Strategic planning is a good tool to utilize to engage the community. There are many different strategic planning models, and it is important that the library chooses one that will work with their local community, or whatever community it is that they serve. The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is partnering with three other state libraries on a grant funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to help libraries create and implement strategic plans. We will be working with six public libraries as part of that grant funding. The model that we will be using was developed by Library Strategies in Minnesota and is designed to get the plan done in a thorough but quick manner. It includes community engagement in every step of the process from crafting the plan to implementation. Once we complete the initial round of plans, we will be open to working with other libraries to develop a new plan for their library.

We strongly encourage all library types to develop a strategic plan for their library. For libraries that are part of a larger institution, we encourage you to make sure that the library is involved in the development of the plan for the agency and is specifically mentioned. If the State Library can provide assistance, please reach out to us.

American Rescue Plan Update

By State Librarian Mary Soucie

The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) received $2.1M in American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars. While we have not determined how to utilize the full amount of funding, we are pleased to announce that we will be using ARP dollars to pay for the Minitex Online Library Resources. These are the resources that libraries are billed for through the Online Dakota Information Network (ODIN). NDSL will be providing the funding for the libraries portion as well as the ODIN portion which will allow ODIN to explore providing an additional resource.

We will also be using funds to automate libraries that are currently not automated. ARP dollars will be used to hire a vendor to create the catalog records and for the libraries to join ODIN. Libraries will be provided with cataloging training by the ODIN staff.

We had explored implementing an ILL Bridge, which would have connected the different systems and standalones throughout the state, but there was not enough interest expressed for us to move forward with that process.

Elevator Speeches

School librarians wear many hats, with advocacy being wide-brimmed ones! Teacher-librarians campaign for the library program, students, and teachers. Advocacy can be an overwhelming job, but there are ways to help make it feel more manageable. One such way entails elevator speeches.

“Elevator speech (n.): a brief talk or pitch intended to sell or win approval for something, such as a product or business proposal” (dictionary.com, n.d.).

Who’s the Typical Audience for School Librarian Elevator Speeches?

Your audience for elevator speeches should be those in places of extended power to approve change, especially when you are attempting financial, staffing, or scheduling modifications. Administrators, such as principals and superintendents, are typically the main audience. However, members of the school board, parent organizations, community members, and even elected officials can prove fantastic allies in generating change!

You can also communicate elevator speeches to teachers and students. The speeches for these audiences most likely encourage the use of library resources (including yourself), and/or promote new programs offered at the library. Think of them as selling yourself and your services to your most relevant patrons!

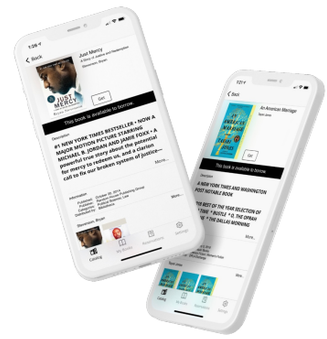
Read More

The Palace Project

Submitted by Shari Mosser

Are you a small and rural library that wishes you could offer your patrons a collection of over 10,000 open access eBooks and $25,000 worth of licensed eBook and audiobook titles? LYRASIS is engaged in a two-year project, generously funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS), to

develop and pilot a hosted, ready-to-operate eBook and audiobook service for state and public libraries based on The Palace Project.



The pilot will include five public libraries. LYRASIS is particularly looking for libraries serving underserved communities, including tribal libraries. [A Virtual Library Card service will be established for each pilot library, along with the huge collection of titles from The Palace Marketplace. Patrons will be able to sign up for a free virtual library card and access all these titles through the Palace app on iOS and Android.] The service will include analytics, technical support, staff training, and patron outreach.

We are inviting expressions of interest from public libraries that would like to participate as pilot partners. Please complete **this online form** to express your interest. The project team will review all submissions and contact potential partners to determine which libraries will be the best fit for this project.

The project will be run as a stand-alone service with no integration with existing eBook or Integrated Library Systems, so libraries without an existing eBook service are preferred. The pilot will kick off in May of 2022 and run for approximately 12 months, after which pilot partners will have the option to continue the service for a nominal fee if interested.

If you have questions, please feel free to email **support@thepalaceproject.org**.

Virtual Town Hall Event For ND Libraries
March 29, 2022, at 2:00 PM Central Time

The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is hosting a live virtual town hall on Tuesday, March 29, at 2:00 PM Central Time to discuss the services that NDSL provides to libraries of all types. This hour-long discussion will include time for questions and comments.

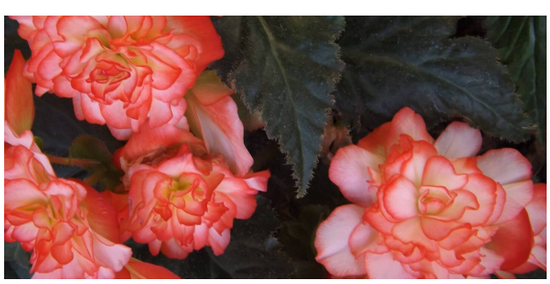
Topics include, but are not limited to:

- STEAM/STEM Kits
- Talking Books
- Online Library Resources
- Interlibrary Loan
- Librarian for the Day
- Digital Horizons
- Professional Development Opportunities

If you would prefer to ask your questions or comment anonymously, you can fill out the form at **https://forms.office.com/g/bNa656w3H2**.

Register to attend at **http://bit.ly/NDSLTownHall3**.

North Dakota Library Tidbits



Fargo Public Library offers free seeds for flowers,...

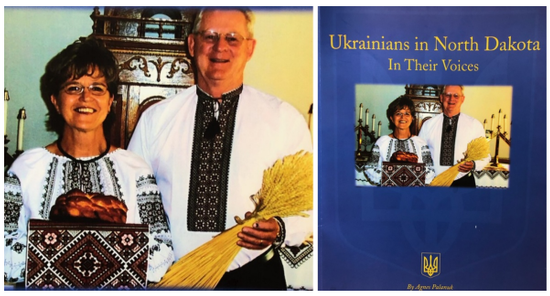
FARGO - The Fargo Public Library will launch its spring seed library on Monday, March 7. The seed library is a collection of flower, vegetable and herb seeds for residents to plant and grow at home.

Read more
www.inforum.com

Over 200 Items Collected in Food for Fines Program

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (NewsDakota.com) - The James River Valley Library System (JRVLS) is thanking the community's support in their Food for Fines drive. Library Director Joe Rector says the Food for Fines was designed to have patrons pay off...

Read more
www.newsdakota.com



Ukrainians in North Dakota Book ~ News Debrief ~ Matt...

Friday, March 4, 2022 - Ukrainians in North Dakota: In Their Voices explores what it means to be both Ukrainian and American. We visit with Bill Palanuk of the Ukrainian Cultural Institute and State Librarian Mary Soucie. ~~~ News Director Dave...

Read more
news.prairiepublic.org

Extension allows board time to plan for library's future

The one-year extension to the memorandum of agreement between Stutsman County and the city of Jamestown for joint library services will allow each entity more time to fine tune some of the language of the agreement and gives the James River...

Read more
www.jamestownsun.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).

Conflict in Ukraine LibGuide

The North Dakota State Library (NDSL) has published a new resource on LibGuides: **Conflict in Ukraine**. The purpose of the guide is to provide access to reliable information and increase understanding of the conflict.

The guide is largely a compilation of links to books, databases, articles, etc., from reliable sources that provide more in-depth context and information on the conflict. Resources available from NDSL are also shared. Additionally, the guide provides links to organizations that are asking for assistance in helping the people of Ukraine, as well as information about North Dakota's ties to the country.

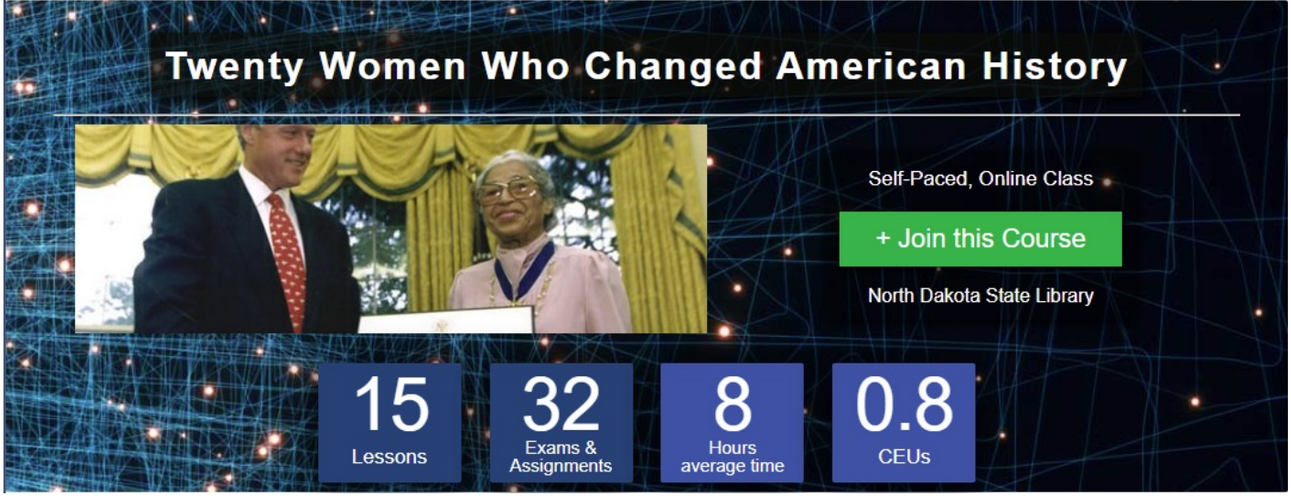
Digital Delight

Corta Heirs, Hettinger County, N.D., school teacher, standing by a horse, 1908

Hettinger County school teacher, Corta Heirs, is standing next to a horse wearing a hat and long skirt.

https://bit.ly/3MwzeMh

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



March is Women's History Month, and Universal Class offers a course examining the lives of twenty influential women who helped shape the history of the United States.

From the American Revolution to modern times, this course examines women who played a role in not only fighting for the rights of women, but also championing the causes of the blind, mentally ill, worker's rights, civil rights, Native American rights, and economic justice. This course takes a look at such luminaries as Abigail Adams, Susan B. Anthony, Helen Keller, Sojourner Truth, Fannie Lou Hamer, Sandra Day O'Connor, and many more.

Each of the 15 lessons contains supporting articles as well as the main article, along with additional articles and exams.

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

Book Brackets

Book titles go head-to-head to battle it out for the coveted "Best Book Turned Into a TV Series" title.

To participate, fill out the **bracket** and send it to **ndslpa@nd.gov** or mail a copy to the State Library at 604 E Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505 before Monday, March 14.

The voting will begin on Tuesday, March 15. A link to the battles will be posted each morning on the State Library's **Twitter** and **Facebook** pages. Although the brackets can only be filled out by North Dakota residents, voting is open to everyone.

Free Upcoming Webinars

North Dakota State Library Webinar: Find Your Niche… Academy

This webinar will introduce participants to Niche Academy, exam how it is organized, explore what tutorials are included, look at some of the North Dakota focused content, and examine how it can help with librarian professional development and...

Broadband Improvements: Free Planning Tools for Libraries

Access to the internet through broadband connections has become a critical service in libraries, allowing staff and patrons to learn, connect and grow. But libraries with limited support for information technology (IT) may be challenged with how...

Read more
us02web.zoom.us

Read more
www.webjunction.org

Digital Collections at Your Library: Community, Culture, ...

Digital collections at your library can preserve local histories and artifacts at risk of being lost. They offer an opportunity to represent the diversity of stories and voices in your community likely missing from your physical collection. But...

Read more
www.webjunction.org

Taking Care of Self, Staff, and Community | WebJunction

We're all aware that self-care is important. We recognize the value of eating healthy, getting plenty of sleep, exercising regularly. However, practicing self-care as a solo activity misses a critical aspect of our well-being: that we are social...

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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