

Connections



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Your monthly news & updates

2021 Reading Challenge

The North Dakota State Library is hosting its first yearlong reading challenge via its [Beanstack reading platform](#). This reading challenge will end on December 31, 2021, and will be a fun way to keep track of the books you read this year while also making you eligible for a prize throughout the year.



This challenge is open to everyone in the state, no matter the age. Any books read are eligible to be counted, no matter how many pages or the difficulty.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 701-328-4622 or statelib@nd.gov.

Blind Date With a Book

Blind Date With a Book began on February 1. This year, we'll be doing it a little differently.

If you would like to participate in this fun event, send an e-mail to ndsipa@nd.gov stating:

- Fiction or nonfiction
- Large print or regular print
- How you would like to receive the book (mail, interdepartmental mail, or curbside pickup).

Once you have completed the book, please fill out the "Rate Your Date" card and return it to the library before March 1 to be eligible for a prize.



Top Ten Courses Available on Universal Class

1. Excel 2019
2. Word 2019
3. Accounting and Bookkeeping 101 for Everyone
4. Babysitting 101
5. Writing Basics 101: Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, Writing Structures
6. Personal Finance 101: How to Manage Your Money
7. Typing and Keyboarding 101
8. How to Draw 101
9. GED Test Preparation
10. Behavior Management 101

Are you interested in learning a new skill or hobby? Sign up for [Universal Class](#) today with your library card from your local public library or the State Library.

The State Library is on Goodreads!



The North Dakota State Library is on Goodreads! Join the [North Dakota State Library's Goodreads Group](#) to discuss books and check out the new book and special-interest bookshelves. In the future, we are hoping to host virtual book club discussions in this group.

New Items Available at the North Dakota State Library

New Nonfiction Books



New Fiction Books



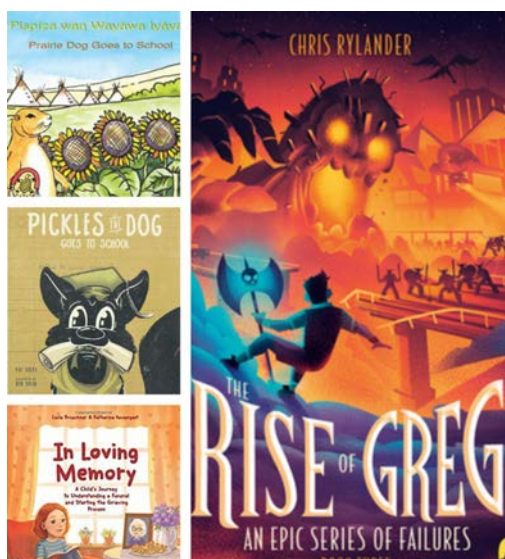
New E-Books



New E-Audiobooks



New North Dakota Books



Digital Magazines Are Coming

Starting on February 16, the digital magazines from RBDigital will be available on the [Libby app](#) through [OverDrive](#).

Over 3,000 titles, including *National Geographic*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Vanity Fair*, will be available with unlimited simultaneous use (no waitlists or holds). At the end of the checkout period, the magazines will be automatically returned, but you can check them out again right away.

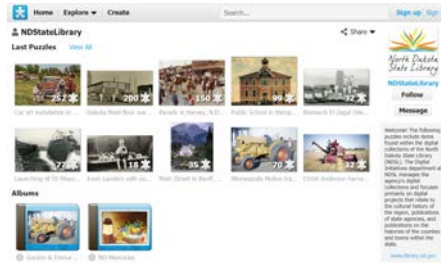
Users will need to have an active library card and a PIN - if you are using a State Library card, your PIN is your last name, all lowercase.

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ND State Library Virtual Jigsaw Puzzles

[Jigsaw Planet](#) is a website that allows contributors to upload and create jigsaw puzzles from their images.

Digital Initiatives has added a number of images from the digital collections of the ND State Library to its Jigsaw Planet account. These virtual puzzles can be played by anyone from anywhere. It is completely free, and no account is needed.



By using the website's "Play As" feature, users can select their own desired number of pieces for each puzzle. Take a brain break and try one of the puzzles!

Book Review

"The Mercy of Thin Air" by Ronlyn Domingue Reviewed by Krista Kurtz

Meet Razi, the young, bold, forward-thinking young woman, who also happens to be the narrator of this entrancing story. She also just happens to be dead. As the chapters unfold, so do details of the life she led on Earth and the lives of the people she has come to follow in the present. Details of her tragic death some 75 years before and the mysterious disappearance of her true love, Andrew, come into play, as the reader also learns of the love story of Amy and Scott. Will Amy and Scott's help give Razi the closure she needs to move on? Find out in this beautifully written love story that will leave you reading into the wee hours of the morning.



"The Mercy of Thin Air" is available in [regular print](#) at the State Library.

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