



# Flickertale

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## Framing the Future for Small and Rural Libraries

Six states in the west collaborated to submit a grant to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. They received a Laura Bush-Community Catalyst grant that runs from July 1, 2020, through August 31, 2022. The six states are Arizona, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

The primary purpose of the grant is to help small and rural libraries in the six-state region develop community-based strategic plans that address the needs of their community. The hope is the strategic plans will also include at least one goal identifying ways to improve services to an underserved portion of the community.

There are four phases to this grant, which include training about equity, diversity, and inclusion; training about the importance of strategic planning that focuses on reducing the barriers to planning; two intensive institutes designed to train facilitators in how to facilitate a community-based plan; and finally the actual facilitation and development of community-based strategic plans.

Up to now, a centralized team has been working with consultants to coordinate training. Training begins in January, and registration for the classes in Phase One must be completed by Friday, January 8, 2021.

Are you interested in registering? Not ready to commit to a strategic planning process? These courses are open to everyone. If you are interested in learning more about creating welcoming library services and being a window to the world, you are welcome to register.

Please register by completing the [Framing the Future Course Registration form](#).

Remember, registration closes Friday, January 8, 2021, for Phase One of this project.

## THE READING NOOK

### Best Books of 2020

I must give a caveat here that this list can't include all the great books that came out in 2020. But I've included some high-profile stunners as well as some smaller titles that stood out.



I completely missed Nancy Bilyeau's *Dreamland* back in January, and that's almost a crime because this book

### Free Webinars

#### [Yoga as an Act of Self-Care for Librarians](#)

NNLM

Thursday, January 7  
1:00PM - 2:00PM CST

#### [Proactive Advocacy and Communication for Library Trustees and Staff](#)

WebJunction

Wednesday, January 13  
2:00PM - 3:00PM CST

sounds amazing. Peggy Batternberg is not your typical heiress. Instead of hobnobbing with her wealthy peers, she would rather work at a local bookstore. However, an invitation to a posh hotel near Coney Island in the summer of 1911 leads her to find love with a poor artist and throws her into a dark world of dark family secrets and murder.

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell is another book that flew under my radar this year, and I'm furious about it because it combines some of my favorite things—historical fiction and literary criticism—together in one big pot. Hamnet focuses on a woman named Agnes in 16th century England, strong-willed and determined to keep her family together when her only son dies. Her son's name? Hamnet. How does her husband cope with their child's death? Oh, by writing the play Hamlet because her husband is William Shakespeare, yes, that William Shakespeare.

[Read More](#)

#### [Getting Started with Libby](#)

OverDrive

Thursday, January 21  
10:00AM - 11:00AM CST

#### [Resources for Wellbeing: Toolkit Tour for Rural & Small Libraries](#)

WebJunction

Tuesday, February 5  
1:00PM - 2:00PM CST

#### [Envisioning Future Library Experiences: Service Design Techniques for Responsive Libraries](#)

WebJunction

Monday, February 18  
2:00PM - 3:00PM CST

## Call for Applications for Community History Web Archiving Program

The [Internet Archive](#), with generous support from [The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#), invites public libraries in the United States and cultural heritage organizations in U.S. territories to apply to join its [Community History Web Archiving program](#).

**Apply by January 31st, 2021** to join a diverse network of 150+ public libraries and librarians who are

- *Documenting local history by saving web-published sites, stories, and community engagement on the web.*
- *Growing their professional skills and increasing institutional technical capacity by engaging in a supportive network of peer organizations pursuing this work.*
- *Building a public understanding of web archiving as a practice and its importance to preserving 21st-century community history and underrepresented voices.*

Please feel free to contact [commwebsinfo@archive.org](mailto:commwebsinfo@archive.org) with any questions you might have as you are considering participating in the program.

## 2021 Book Lottery



2021 is almost here, and one of the North Dakota State Library's resolutions is to slim down by offering our weeded materials in a special book lottery. Starting in January and going until March, librarians can receive grab bags of materials from our weeded large print, juvenile nonfiction, oversized, and reference collections.

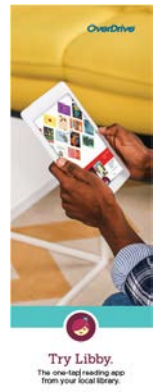
This will be a blind lottery, so there won't be a massive list of titles available to browse. Fill out [this survey](#), and we'll try to get you materials that fit your needs. Please note that books donated by the State Library cannot be sold.

## OverDrive Update

As you may have read last week, the State Library has joined the [North Dakota Digital Consortium on OverDrive](#)! We are excited to announce that the titles from our RBdigital collection have been transferred to OverDrive.

If your library is not already part of the consortium, your patrons will need a State Library card to access the titles. If you have any questions or would like information on how your library can join the consortium, please contact the State Library.

If you would like to receive bookmarks to promote OverDrive at your library, please fill out the [order form](#), and we will send them to you as soon as possible.



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