

## Join Libby Experts for a Virtual Training Session!

Access 1,000s of free ebooks, e-audiobooks, and magazines using Libby! OverDrive's Getting Started with Libby virtual sessions will take place on 3/24 to help all users learn more about this easy and convenient way to discover and borrow titles anytime from anywhere.

### Session 1 – Getting Started with Libby

March 24 – Three times to choose from!

9:00-9:30 AM  
9:30-10:00 AM  
10:00-10:30 AM

[Sign Up Here!](#)

This virtual session will get you up to speed on everything you need to know to get started with Libby – the one-tap reading app, including:

- Finding your library and signing in
- Navigating the app
- Browsing and searching for titles
- Borrowing titles and placing holds
- Managing holds and notifications
- And much more

### Session 2 – Libby Deep Dive Session

Already familiar with Libby but still have a few questions? Want to learn what new features have been added to the app? Join the OverDrive experts for this virtual Q&A session to get even more out of our library's digital collection.

March 24 -

10:30-11:00 AM  
[Sign up here!](#)

## Digital Initiatives Survey

Libraries, the Digital Initiatives Department needs your help! Please take a few minutes to fill out this brief and anonymous [survey](#) about your library's digitization efforts and plans. Your responses will help Digital Initiatives plan and implement appropriate services.

Library of all types (academic, public, school, special, etc.) are encouraged to provide feedback. Your responses are greatly appreciated.

## Black History Month LibGuide

February is Black History Month. The North Dakota State Library has created a [LibGuide](#) on the topic of Black History, which includes a timeline, a list of websites and organizations, a list of museums, and recommended readings with links to the catalog.

Black history is American history, but Black History Month provides the necessary opportunity to dig deeper.

## Britannica Databases



Are you looking for reliable instant information for children, teens, and adults? The Britannica databases are a great place to start!

**Britannica Public Library** delivers two sites in one, with separate home pages and resources for adults and children that allow libraries to tailor the site to patrons' needs. This database includes thousands of magazine and journal articles, more than 24,000 primary sources, and 90,000 images, videos, and audio clips.



**Britannica School** gives teachers and students instant access to four complete encyclopedias that ensure consistency with classroom topics and age-appropriate language. This unique database also offers high-quality online learning materials that are developed by teachers and curriculum experts.

If you would like bookmarks to promote Britannica Library or Britannica School to your patrons, please fill out [this form](#) or contact BreAnne at [ndsipa@nd.gov](mailto:ndsipa@nd.gov).

## WebJunction Archive

Did you know you have access to a vast archive of online trainings and recorded webinars through WebJunction? WebJunction strives to make professional learning practical and, more importantly, flexible.

One way you can adapt your own professional development to meet your needs is by taking a look at [WebJunction's recorded webinars](#). Many of these webinars are ones that the North Dakota State Library has promoted through our website and e-mail messages.

While you are on the WebJunction website, check out the [Course Content](#). These resources are free for library workers, volunteers, friends groups, and board members. WebJunction provides busy library staff with opportunities to develop skills and growth in a practical, flexible environment. Sign up today and get started!

## Free Webinars

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

WebJunction  
February 18 (2:00-3:30 CST)

### [Find Publications & Set Alerts within Gale OneFile: News](#)

Gale Cengage  
February 18 (3:00-3:15 CST)

### [Drive-In Storytime](#)

Colorado State Library  
February 24 (1:00-2:00 CST)

### [Create a Gale Scavenger Hunt](#)

Gale Cengage  
February 25 (1:00-2:00 CST)

## Connect With Your Community

The [Rural Libraries and Social Wellbeing Toolkit](#) is a wonderful resource that compiles 3 years of research in rural communities of less than 2,500 people. Through their research, the team interviewed librarians and community members with the goal of creating guides to help communities embrace their libraries as a cooperative resource. They believe that the library is a pathway to social connection and assists in the overall wellbeing of the community members. The entire project consists of full interviews, statistical data, conceptual deep dives into 8 case-study libraries, and the newly available toolkits.

The toolkits developed are short, simple walkthroughs to guide the library through the process of turning information and data into action and identifying areas to focus on in the future. "Rural libraries are doing incredible work, turning social connection into belonging, mutual support, and social wellbeing improvements."

The toolkits focus on belonging, capacity, discovery, self-determination, and wellness. If you believe that your library can grow in any of these areas, consider exploring the Rural Libraries and Social Wellbeing Toolkits in either PDF or online versions to discover program examples, community dialogue questions, and more.

## Other News



### Rural Library Network - Partners for Education

The Rural Library Network is a cradle to career initiative that provides participants the opportunity to grow knowledge via online webinars and training in core principles of place-based work. It also offers a forum to grow relationships and...

[Read more](#)  
[www.bera.edu](http://www.bera.edu)



### These are the books to read right now.

We are pleased to announce the finalists in all nine categories for the 2021 Minnesota Book Awards, presented by Education Minnesota. Chosen Saturday, by 27 judges from around the state - writers, teachers, librarians, booksellers, and others...

[Read more](#)  
[mailchi.mp](http://mailchi.mp)





## Ally Carter Virtual Event

What: Watermark Books & Café invites you to attend a virtual event with New York Times bestselling author Ally Carter! Ally will be joining us for a virtual discussion of her newest novel Winterborne Home for Mayhem and Mystery -The second...

[Read more](#)

[www.watermarkbooks.com](http://www.watermarkbooks.com)



## Easy Origami Valentines

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we're walking you through two sweet origami projects that anyone can make-even if you've never tried your hand at origami before! Make your gift a little more special with these fun paper surprises from Origami Love...

[Read more](#)

[www.tuttlepublishing.com](http://www.tuttlepublishing.com)

## Innovative Lessons from Our Small and Rural Public Libraries

Twenty years ago, I began my first job as a public library director in the small town of Westford, Vermont (population: 2,086). The 1,800-square-foot library building, Westford's first town hall, still had its original beadboard walls and tall...

[Read more](#)

[www.tandfonline.com](http://www.tandfonline.com)



## Read Native 2021 - American Indian Library Association

American Indian Library Association invites you to participate in the inaugural reading challenge. With this challenge we support and recognize our Indigenous authors, scientists, legislators, storytellers, and creators throughout the year, not...

[Read more](#)

[ailanet.org](http://ailanet.org)



## PebbleGo - January 2021 Updates

We are thrilled to announce the introduction of a couple of significant quality-of-life improvements to PebbleGo and PebbleGo Next. These updates are sure to make you and your students' experience that much more delightful whether you're teaching ...

[Read more](#)

[pebblego.com](http://pebblego.com)



## Black History Month Resources Roundup

For Black History Month, we've rounded up some of our favorite resources for readers and educators alike. Though this month is dedicated to uplifting Black history, culture, movements, and gamechangers, we must remember that Black history IS...

[Read more](#)

[blog.leeandlow.com](http://blog.leeandlow.com)



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