

**Today's Skills for  
Tomorrow's Services**  
*Free Virtual Conference*  
April 18 & 19 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)



## Featured Speaker: Jorden Laducer-Dix

At this year's conferences, we are featuring Jorden Laducer-Dix as our keynote speaker. Jorden Laducer-Dix serves as the Community Engagement Special Populations Coordinator at the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services through the Community Engagement Unit. His role focuses on leading outreach to underserved special population communities to better understand needs, facilitate information sharing, and improve health outcomes while working with local health units and community organizations to address health inequities in North Dakota.



Jorden is a Minnesota State University Moorhead graduate and is certified in Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Workforce through Cornell University. Jorden is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

Jorden serves as the department co-chair of the BeYOU Health Advisory Board through the Community Engagement Unit, the North Dakota Hepatitis C Advisory Council through the Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Diseases Unit, is a voting board member of the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors, and was recently the first North Dakotan and first Indigenous person to be accepted into the 2023-2024 Minority Leadership Program through the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors. Jorden has worked within the public health sector for 13 years and serves as a liaison between the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and Special Populations to promote access to health services across North Dakota.

Jorden will be speaking on Understanding Bias. In this presentation, topics being covered include Community Engagement Unit, What is Health Equity and Why Does it Matter? and Social Determinants of Health. Also being explored is Cultural Competency, What is Bias and Why Does it Matter?, Key Principles of Implicit Bias, Microaggressions and Stereotypes, and Strategies to deal with Implicit Bias.



## ND State Library Seeks Feedback

The ND State Library wants to hear from you! Survey responses will be collected through April 30. Be aware that each survey is different, so please fill out the one that best describes you/your role.

[ND Library Staff](#)

[ND Residents](#)

[ND State Employees](#)



## State Aid to Public Libraries

Thursday, March 28 (11:00 AM)

[Click Here to Register](#)

### Parliamentary Procedures for Libraries

Submitted by **Al Peterson**

Does your library board seem like they are feeling their way through proper meeting procedure? Do some board members feel lost in the meeting, unsure how to make a motion or how bring up a discussion? Our partners at Minitex, along with the Minnesota Library Association, presented a series of webinars on Parliamentary Procedures for libraries and made them available on YouTube. This four-part series is conducted by Professional Registered Parliamentarian Pat Reymann.

- [Parliamentary Procedure for Libraries 1: What Happens at Meetings? \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [Parliamentary Procedure for Libraries 2: Handling Motions \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [Parliamentary Procedure for Libraries 3: Special Motions \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [Parliamentary Procedure for Libraries 4: Voting Plus \(youtube.com\)](#)

Additional training for library board members can be found in Niche Academy in the category of *Library 101- Library Boards and Friends Groups*.

[Niche Academy](#)

### Applied Digital Skills

Submitted by **Lexi Whitehorn**

Nerd alert! Have you ever happened to discover something by accident and then completely immersed yourself into that thing until you lose track of time? (No? Just me?) That's exactly what happened when I stumbled upon Google's Applied Digital Skills. With over 200 lessons, covering topics from understanding your digital footprint to building a resume and more, there's got to be a lesson waiting for you. What's more is not only are there lessons for your students, but there are lessons for adults as well! Public libraries can utilize this to provide adult learner services.

[Continue Reading](#)



### Prairie Memories: The Vietnam War Years

"Prairie Memories: The Vietnam War Years" is an initiative aimed at inspiring North Dakotans and Minnesotans to remember and share stories, recognize bravery, honor those lost, express reasons for dissent, and foster understanding of the lasting impact of war. The collection consists of scanned memorabilia and embedded YouTube videos of interviews conducted for the project. The collection is a partnership between Prairie Public and the State Historical Society of North Dakota.



[Access the Collection](#)

# Libraries in the News

## [Get Growing with the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library \(Studio 701\)](#)

March is National Nutrition Month and Bismarck community services are coming together to help educate both adults and children on nutrition in a fun way. Jennie Archer, the Youth Services Program Coordinator at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, and Katie Johnke, RDN, LRD, CLC a Nutrition Services Coordinator at Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health sat down with us to speak on some of the events coming up.

## [Morton Mandan Public Library hosts board game night \(KX News\)](#)

The Morton Mandan Public Library (MMPL) will be hosting its monthly “[All A-Board](#)” board game night Tuesday, March 26th. The featured game for March is [Catan](#), though the library urges those interested to bring any other game they would like to play or try another from the MMPL collection.

## [One Library, Two Buildings Meeting March 19 in Jamestown \(News Dakota\)](#)

James River Valley Library System will be hosting a community meeting, “One Library, Two Buildings” with Librarian Joe Rector on Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30 pm. Meeting location will be at the Masonic Building, 104 3rd St. SE, Jamestown. Attendees will have an opportunity to view the Masonic Building, which is being considered by the library board as a possible location for expansion, to operate along with Alfred Dickey Library. They will also be able to review library services and space needs. JRVLS welcomes our community to share opinions and ask questions. Refreshments will be provided.

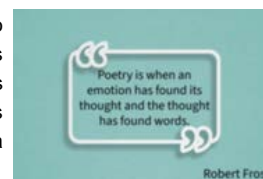
## [VCBC Public Library Looking for Donors to Restore the Roof \(News Dakota\)](#)

A fundraising event to restore the roof of the Valley City Barnes County Public Library was held Saturday, March 16th. Library Board President Hilde van Gijssel said the goal is to raise \$381,000 to repair the roof and restore the rotunda dome back to it's original state. She said the 120 year old library is not only a city gem but one of state historic value.



## National Poetry Month

While April celebrates various happenings pertaining to literacy, which will be further addressed in next week's *Teaching Tidbit*, today's focus involves poetry. April is National Poetry Month! It's a time to highlight poetry's importance in history, emotional expression, and as a way to shed light onto happenings in our world.



### A Little History

The Academy of American Poets established National Poetry Month in 1996. Its focus is to celebrate and bring awareness to emotions, humor, and human experiences found in poetry (National, 2023).

For several centuries, poetry was the primary way to teach history and legends. These poems were typically told orally instead of written down. It was also common for the poetry to be put to music. [Epic of Gilgamesh](#), written around 2100 B.C., is the first documented poem (National, n.d.)

[Continue Reading](#)

# Kit of the Week

## Build a Bridge

"Build a Bridge" is a NASA@ My Library kit that studies engineering. In these design challenges, participants will use what they know and can investigate about gravity, motion, and forces to design and build a shock-absorbing system that will protect two "astronauts" when they land and a one-foot-long bridge.



### Build a Straw Bridge

Participants are challenged to design and build a bridge that can span a gap of about 1 foot and support as many "crystals" as possible.

### Touchdown

Participants are challenged to design and build a shock-absorbing system that will protect two "astronauts" when they land.

There are enough components for up to 15 individuals or groups. Use what you need and return any extras. Tape, scissors, and marshmallows are not included.

This kit also includes the books "How Tall" by Mark Weakland and "Margaret and the Moon" by Dean Robbins.

[Reserve This Kit](#)

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

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Times referenced are Central Time.

Some of these resources and programs are funded under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



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