



Flickertale

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Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Libraries April 29-30, 2026

Registration is Now Open

Our world is changing before our very eyes. We have reached a time where artificial intelligence is increasingly integrated into our lives, where our online presence is quantified and monetized, where a photo or video can live on in perpetuity, and our personal data is a commodity. We are faced with re-evaluating the traditional services our libraries provide, adapting them to meet the evolving needs of our communities while also helping people navigate this changing world.



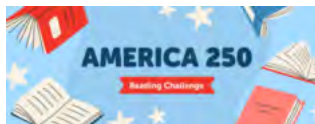
Librarians must develop the knowledge and skills to meet those changes we face both today and tomorrow. Topics include cybersecurity, AI Awareness, Information Literacy, News Media Literacy, and future-focused library services that will impact our students, patrons, and communities as well as presentations on programming that you can host at your library. There are opportunities to network with fellow librarians at various roundtables. Please join us for this virtual conference where we will learn today's skills for tomorrow's services.

[View The Agenda and Register](#)

America 250 Beanstack Challenge

Submitted by Tammy Kruger

NDSL has added the *America 250 Challenge* to its summer Beanstack lineup! This challenge runs July 1 through July 31. Participants read 300 minutes as they honor 250 years of stories, innovation, and history. Already planning to take part in a *Summer 2026: CSLP Unearth a Story* challenge? No problem! Minutes will count towards BOTH the Summer Reading and America 250 Challenge!



[Beanstack](#)

School Librarian Credit

Submitted by Tammy Kruger

North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is offering one credit, through Valley City State University, for attending the [Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Libraries virtual conference!](#) Conference dates are April 29-30. Additional webinars are required to meet the needed 15 hours.

NDSL is trying something a bit different for this conference. While it is great to be able to attend the sessions in real time, two full school days is a bit much for many school librarians to be in a virtual conference. As such, sessions will be recorded and uploaded to Niche Academy. These recordings will be available for 30 days post upload - May 5 through June 3. With that said, if you can go to some of the sessions in real time, please do!

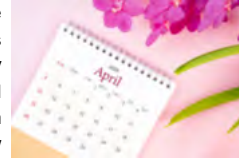
The assignment is to a) watch each of the sessions (either recorded or in real time), and b) reflect upon them. This credit will be offered as a Summer 2026 course. Reflections will be due June 17. Prior to April 29, please reach out to Tammy at tkruger@nd.gov so she can make sure you get all the information needed to complete this course successfully

[View the Agenda and Register](#)

State Aid for Public Libraries

Submitted by Allie Suko

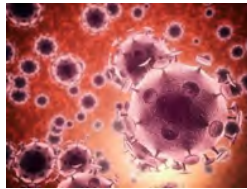
Spring is in the air, and you know what that means: The State Aid application process is open! State Aid applications must be submitted through the Counting Opinions website by April 30, 2026, for your library to be considered for State Aid funds. There have been no changes to the application from last year. For a refresher on the State Aid process and how to fill out the application form, visit the North Dakota State Library YouTube channel and view the [StateAid to Public Libraries Walk-Through](#), or refer to the [State Aid LibGuide](#). If you have any questions regarding your application, or issues with the Counting Opinions website, please contact Allie Suko at 701-328-2492 or ndsl-fiscal@nd.gov.



[Learn More](#)



Science Education Through the School Library



The school library is an integral part of education and can play a powerful role in supporting science-based learning. This article lists titles that can enhance classroom instruction and spark curiosity. While many of these books are written for younger readers, picture books can be effective tools for introducing complex topics to middle and high school students.

[Continue Reading](#)

Make Your Plan to Vote - June 9 Primary Election

Submitted by the Office of the North Dakota Secretary of State

The next election is always the most important election, and it's coming up on June 9! The North Dakota Primary Election is the opportunity for you to choose your local leaders who make decisions that affect your daily activities and quality of life.

North Dakota gives you several ways to cast your vote: absentee voting, voting at the polls on Election Day, or early voting if your county offers it.

North Dakota's Voter ID Law applies to all voting methods. Before you head to the polls or request a ballot, make sure you have one of the accepted forms of identification: a North Dakota driver's license, a North Dakota nondriver ID, a longterm care certificate, or a tribal ID or tribal letter.



If your address on your ID has changed, you should update it before Election Day. Information about how to update your address, and options for voting if your ID isn't updated can be found in the [Forms of Voter ID](#) section of the North Dakota Secretary of State website.

If you choose to vote absentee, you can start that process now. You will never be mailed a ballot without first requesting one, so you must fill out and return an application for a ballot to your local county auditor. You can get an application at vote.nd.gov/myvotinginfo or by contacting your [county auditor](#).

The county auditor will review the completed application and verify your ID information before you are mailed a ballot. Completed ballots must be received by the county auditor by the close of polls on election day to be counted.

Election officials and the North Dakota Secretary of State are your trusted sources for election information. If you have questions or want to learn more, visit vote.nd.gov, email soselect@nd.gov, or call 701-328-4146.

[Learn More About Voting in North Dakota](#)

Digital Collection Spotlight

By Trevor Martinson

State Historical Society of North Dakota

The "State Historical Society of North Dakota" collection is the State Archives division's main collection on Digital Horizons. Included are nearly 12,000 items from its photograph, manuscript, film, cataloged publications, and map collections that document the history of the entire state of North Dakota and the Northern Great Plains region. The collection is publicly accessible on [Digital Horizons](#).



[View the Collection](#)

BITS OF TRIVIA

By Stacey Goldade

North Dakota Blue Book

Are you familiar with the *North Dakota Blue Book*? This book is all about North Dakota and was first published in 1887. The books were intended to help legislators make decisions. They are also for the public, to learn about their government and elected officials. Since the officials that serve in various offices change periodically, the book is currently published every two years. In the past several years, there is also a special chapter that is not repeated in the next edition. Therefore, all the issues are unique and different, with information on topics that have ranged from ND state parks, Theodore Roosevelt, state historic sites and museums, 150 years of Bismarck, North Dakota's part in the 250th anniversary of America and more. These books are a great resource to have and the 2025-2027 one is available now. For more information, go to <https://www.sos.nd.gov/about-office/north-dakota-blue-book>. For many recent editions, there is a list of ND authors and poets included as well. As a side note, ND State Library staff have often been involved in the creation of these books, with staff assisting with writing, editing and indexing the book over the years.

[More Information](#)

National Library Week: Find Your Joy Events

Submitted by Bismarck State College Library

The theme for National Library Week this year is *Finding Your Joy*, so the BSC Library asked faculty and staff, "What do you love about what you do?" Everyone's answers will be at the BSC Student Union on April 20 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



There will be performances, treats, games, and information from all over campus, including Enrollment Management, Campus Police, Current & Emerging Technology, and Humanities. Several photo-ops will be around as well so everyone has a chance to win a prize for the best cardigan (which everyone knows is the lab coat of library science). A sneak peek reading of *Figments*, the BSC literary arts magazine, will be in the gallery of Skogen Hall, which will be full of amazing student art projects. Nicole Morrison's playlist will also be playing the entire time! Nicole is a BSC faculty member, business owner, and author of *Growing up happy in a lonely world*; she will be doing an author talk at 12:00 PM in the library on April 23.

The full schedule for the week:

- April 20 (9:00 AM - 2:00 PM): Comic-Con at the Student Union
- April 21 (3:00 PM): Zootopia 2 at the NECE Auditorium
- April 22 (8:00 AM-11:00 AM): Books & Brews at the Student Union
- April 23 (12:00 PM): Nicole Morrison Author Talk at the BSC Library

[Learn More](#)



NDLA CALL FOR **Conference Proposals**
 North Dakota Library Association

NDLA is seeking **dynamic** and **engaging presentations** from passionate library professionals like you! We are looking for **session, lightning round, and poster presentation proposals**.

NDLA welcomes proposals from all types of libraries, including public, academic, school, and special libraries. We particularly encourage submissions from new librarians or those that haven't presented before!

Submit proposals by 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 30th, 2026

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[Submit a Proposal](#)

Public Library Infographics

The State Library is happy to provide a personalized infographic for your public library using the numbers you have provided in the Public Libraries Survey (PLS).

These basic infographics can include any statistics that are useful for your library, such as number of visits to your library, registered card holders, items in the collection, programs, circulations, etc. If you would like statistics not included in the PLS, please include that information in your answer to number 4 in the request form.



[Request An Infographic](#)

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Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
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Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis.

www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

Times referenced are Central Time.

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