



North Dakota Book and Arts Festival Returns to Jamestown

Submitted by Jennifer Long

Mark your calendars! The North Dakota Book and Arts Festival returns to Jamestown on **Saturday, September 26, from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM** at the Harold Newman Arena (1104 N. University Dr.). Organized by the James River Valley Library System and hosted by the University of Jamestown, this **free** event brings together more than 80 authors and artists from across our state.

Featured voices include two Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa authors whose work illuminates North Dakota's Native history:

Dr. Ramona Klein, a Fort Totten Indian Boarding School survivor turned lifelong educator, who has testified before Congress in support of boarding school truth and healing legislation and now serves as first vice president of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

Dr. Denise Lajimodiere is North Dakota's first Native American Poet Laureate (2023–2028). She is widely acclaimed for her book *Stringing Rosaries*, which documents the powerful stories and narratives of boarding school survivors. A prolific writer, her poetry collections include *Dragonfly Dance*, *Thunderbird*, *Bitter Tears*, and *His Feathers Were Chains*, and she is also the author of the children's book *Josie Dances*.

Music lovers won't want to miss **Chuck Suchy**, North Dakota's first State Troubadour from Mandan, North Dakota. Known for his prairie ballads, Suchy captures the spirit of the prairies and rural life through folk music that chronicles North Dakota's unique history.

Come celebrate North Dakota's rich literary and artistic traditions!

2027 Great Reads From Great Places Cast Your Vote!

Adult Nominees:

- "Brothers No More: A Vietnam Odyssey" by Lee Rebsom
- "Little Sister: A Family Memoir" by Gayle Larson Schuck
- "Tough but Fair: Reformation of a Prison, Memoir of a Warden" by Winston E. Satran

Youth Nominees:

- "The Girl in Lime Green Jeans" by Lindsey Miller
- "Oliver the Owl: The Culinary Pro" by Rayna Jo Zest
- "Sofia's Monster" by Daniel Wolfe



Vote By December 31

In Other News

International Observe the Moon Night is taking place on September 19. Visit their [website](#) for event details, observing tips, Moon resources, events near you, and more.

Student teams are invited to design and build small devices that utilize wetting properties to create a fluid shift in microgravity. This challenge is open to students in grades 8-12 at U.S. schools. Visit the [website](#) for competition details and eligibility requirements.

Digital Collection Spotlight

By Trevor Martinson

Photo Gallery - Images from the NDSU Institute for Regional Studies



"Photo Gallery - Images from the NDSU Institute for Regional Studies" is a collection consisting of historic photographs and postcards of North Dakota. The collection features over 10,000 items.

This collection is provided by NDSU Archives, and it is available on [Digital Horizons](#).

[View The Collection](#)

Tables of Contents:

Celebrating 25 Years of Library Support and Storytelling

Submitted by Tammy Kruger

Williston Community Library held its 25th year of Tables of Contents on Sunday, September 13th! This annual fundraiser is hosted by the Williston Community Library Foundation. It features themed tables, a silent auction, and snacks. The Tables of Contents' over-arching theme was The Great Gatsby. Table themes could come from a wide variety of inspiration, including books, local cultural, or family traditions.

2026's Chapters

This year offered viewers 20 Chapters (tables):

- Gentlemen Prefers Blondes (book-inspired)
- National Treasure (book-inspired; the Liberty Trail Foundation set clues about treasures in Williston)
- Sunday Chicken Dinner (holiday and family-inspired)
- Husen Thanksgivings (holiday and family-inspired)
- Time for Tea with the Babysitter's Club (book-inspired)
- The Easter Bunny's Brunch (holiday and family-inspired)
- Cherry Blossom Legacy (in memory of creator's grandmother)
- My Sergei: A Love Story (book and ice skating-inspired)
- A Little Lunch (memories of grandparents' farm and a reminder to take breaks and grab a little treat)
- Autumn Harvest (holiday-inspired)
- Strawberry Shortcake (baby shower settings)
- Litte Camper, Big Memories (memories with creator's mom and camping-inspired)
- A New Little Fisherman (baby shower settings and wanting to include the soon-to-be big brother)
- Ol' McDonald (childhood song-inspired)
- Nutcracker on Ice (ballet inspired; table was designed by the Williston Figure Skating Club)
- A Trip Down Memory Lane (memories of Ladies Aide Bible Studies)
- Thanksgiving (holiday-inspired)
- The Great Gatsby (book-inspired)
- The Sun Rises in Paris (book and Stephens College-inspired)
- Celebrating 250 Years of Patriotism (American history-inspired)



My Thoughts

Tables of Contents mixes fundraising and community engagement in a fun and unusual way! This program clearly takes quite a bit of work – ask Andrea how tired she is afterwards – but it also brings community members into the library for community fun and storytelling. A picture is said to be worth a thousand words; these table settings tell intriguing stories about the local and world-wide community!



For More Information

If you would like more information about Tables of Contents, contact Andrea Placher at andreap@ci.williston.nd.us.



Library Card Sign Up Month

If you don't have a library card, what are you waiting for? September is Library Card Sign-up month! Did you know that a library card can be considered the most valuable card in your wallet? You can get access to our regular print books, large print books, state documents, STEM kits, book club kits and our lending machines that are scattered across the state. If you haven't tried our [lending machines](#) and they are near you, head over to one to get books for adults and kids, DVDs or even WhaZoodles, which are an audio device for kids. You can also access electronic books through the [Library2Go](#) database, as well as our other online resources, with your library card and password. If we don't have a title you want, you can also use your library card to Interlibrary Loan a book from another library. If you don't want a card in your wallet, we even offer small library cards that go on your keychains! Visit us or go to our [website](#) to fill out a ND State Library card application.



Twenty-four Hour Comics Day

In the days of yore (1990), Scott McCloud issued a challenge to his friend Steve Bissette: Complete a 24-page comic in 24 hours. Both comic book authors completed the task, and some of their friends decided it would be fun to join in. This has expanded from a challenge among friends to a widespread phenomenon. Even though people participated in the 24-page comic challenge since the early '90s, the first official 24-Hour Comics Day was held on April 24, 2004. The day is still going strong and is now celebrated on the first Saturday of October every year!

There are live events (often held in comic book shops) and ways to participate virtually (usually through Discord channels). The rules are simple: complete a 24-page comic book in 24 hours. This includes art, words, and color (if applicable). If you fail to complete your comic in 24 hours, you have two options. Option One is the Gaiman Variation in which you stop once you hit the 24-hour mark whether you are finished or not. The second option is the Eastman Variation: Keep writing until your project is done. Both options are considered successful failed attempts at a 24-hour comic. There are no official prizes, but sometimes hosting sites will provide goodies to help keep the artists motivated. If nothing else, participants walk away with a fun story and a complete comic to share.

What happens to the completed comics? In the early days of the challenge, part of the challenge was to send Scott McCloud your completed comic, and he added the comics to his [website](#). When 24-Hour Comics Day became an official thing, Scott could not keep up with the volume. Current practice is to encourage participants to send a copy of their comics to the 24-Hour Comic Book Day archive, which is hosted by the [Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum](#).

Are you interested in participating in this exciting challenge? Check out the 24-Hour Comics Day [website](#)!



AI For All Kits

The term "Artificial Intelligence (AI)" gets thrown around daily in our fast-paced world. You may wonder, What is AI? How does it work? Is it safe? EduTech, through the Strengthen ND Creative Community Solutions grant, is excited to bring a beginner friendly AI Roadshow and "edutainment" kit to North Dakota communities. The **AI for All** kit is designed to help North Dakotans of all ages become AI literate through guided exploration of what AI really is, how to use AI safely, and the ethics behind the choices people make with AI.

Open to any librarian, educator, parent, student, or lifelong learner, **AI for All** offers an approachable introduction to artificial intelligence and its growing impact on education, work, and everyday life. Please join us as we showcase the kits that will be available for checkout through the State Library and at our AI for All Roadshow in four locations around North Dakota.

Roadshow locations and times (open-house style):

- Tioga Community Center, October 1, 5:30-7:00 PM
- Minot Public Library, October 2, 3:00-4:45 PM
- Jamestown, Alfred Dickey Library, October 6, 4:00-6:00 PM
- Thompson City Hall, October 7, 4:00-6:00 PM

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library

Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
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.

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.

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.

