

## New Vision and Mission Statement

Submitted by State Librarian Mary Soucie

I am pleased to announce that the State Library has adopted a new vision and mission statement along with updated guiding principles.

The State Library's new vision statement is providing pathways to knowledge and opportunities.

Our mission statement is represented by these words:

*Strengthen • Connect • Ignite*

The mission of the North Dakota State Library is to strengthen and enhance ND libraries, connect people to reliable resources, and ignite lifelong learning.

Guiding principles:

The North Dakota State Library is committed to

- Providing leadership and expertise to the North Dakota Library Community
- Delivering access to and assistance with credible information sources
- Fostering a welcoming environment to all
- Collaborating with state government to meet the needs of North Dakota

We will be incorporating the new vision and mission statement into our strategic plan, which we are currently updating.

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## Library Coordinating Council Nominations Sought

Submitted by State Librarian Mary Soucie

The North Dakota Library Community Council (NDLCC) serves as the State Library's advisory board. The NDLCC assists with the creation and implementation of the Library Vision strategic plan, including the awarding of Library Vision grants. The Governor appoints NDLCC members according to Century Code §54-24.4. Typically, the Council meets quarterly with two meetings held in-person and two via videoconference. The in-person meetings also include tours of libraries.

Several of the current members have terms that are ending on June 30, 2025, and they have reached their term limits. One current member was filling a partial term and has indicated an interest in being re-appointed. The following seats will be open for appointment: Citizen At Large, School Libraries, and Higher Education Institution. The two library positions must be filled by someone working in a North Dakota library of that type.

Nominations, including self-nominations, may be sent to the NDSL Administrative e-mail at [ndsldamn@nd.gov](mailto:ndsldamn@nd.gov) by May 15. The State Library will compile the list of applicants and forward it to the Governor's office. Nominees will also need to complete the Governor's board application at <https://apps.nd.gov/gov/boards/Application/PersonalInfo>.

This is an interesting and exciting opportunity to help shape library services in our state, so please consider applying. If you have questions about the NDLCC, please contact State Librarian Mary Soucie at (701) 328-4654 or [msoucie@nd.gov](mailto:msoucie@nd.gov).

[Learn More About NDLCC](#)

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## Beanstack Reading Challenge - March

Celebrate Women's History Month this March by participating in a reading challenge! Log your reading in Beanstack and earn themed badges.



[Log Your Reading](#)

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**WE ARE HIRING**

Fiscal and Administrative Services  
Division Director

Closing Date: March 6, 2025



https://bit.ly/NDSLPodcast

The ND State Library Presents:

**PATHWAYS THROUGH THE PRAIRIE**

PODCAST



**HOSTED BY ND STATE LIBRARIAN MARY SOUCIE**

## New Episodes of Pathways Through the Prairie

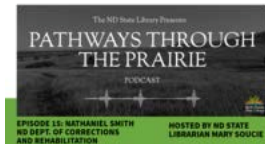
### Episode 14: Phyllis Kuno, Director of the Trinity Bible College Library

This episode features Phyllis Kuno, Director of the Trinity Bible College Library. Learn about her pathway to the library and how they assist on-campus and international students. 34 minutes.



### Episode 15: Nathaniel Smith, Librarian of the ND Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation Libraries

This episode features Nathaniel Smith, Librarian of the ND Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Libraries. Learn about his pathway to the library world and what the libraries offer the residents. 35 minutes.



[Listen to the Podcast](#)

## Liberty Memorial Building Exhibit

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

The Digital Initiatives Department of the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is excited to announce the opening of another online exhibit called "LMB 100." This exhibit celebrates the 100-year anniversary of the Liberty Memorial Building (LMB) on the North Dakota State Capitol grounds in Bismarck. The exhibit tells the story of the building from its inception to today.

The story of the LMB begins in 1919, during the Nonpartisan League (NPL) era, when the legislature appropriated funds for the construction of the building. The LMB's purpose was to alleviate cramped quarters in the Capitol and to commemorate the thousands of men and women from North Dakota who had served in the Great War (or World War I).

Construction began in 1920, and in August 1924, the LMB was completed. About a year later, in November 1925, the LMB was formally dedicated in a ceremony led by Governor Arthur G. Sorlie. Over the next 100 years, the LMB housed several state agencies and has become a landmark on the Capitol grounds.

The primary way to navigate the exhibit is to start on the homepage ("The Story") and then progress through each sub-page in sequential order (using the "Next" and "Previous" buttons at the bottom of each page). The main story is organized into 5 categories, or time periods: The Beginning (1918-1919), The Early Years (1924-1970), The Museum Years (1970-1981), and The Modern Years (1981-Today).

The "Timeline" page/ tab is a supplement to the main story, and it provides another way to experience the story (in a chronological and slightly condensed way).

The exhibit primarily features content (like images and documents) from the various digital collections of NDSL, but other contributors include the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library and the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

[View the Exhibit](#)

# New Items At The ND State Library

## Fiction Books



## Fiction E-Books



## Nonfiction E-Books



## Fiction E-Audiobooks



## Nonfiction E-Audiobooks



## E-Magazines



## New Items Added to Digital Horizons

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

### Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection

- Anderson boys by a bicycle, circa 1946-1950
- Duane Anderson on a bicycle, summer 1955
- Irwin Landers riding a bicycle, circa 1940



### North Dakota Histories

- Diamond Anniversary of Stanley, N.D.: 1902-1977

### North Dakota Memories

- George F. Griffin in military uniform, circa 1917
- Gold Star Band concert program, Fargo, N.D., circa 1919-1939

- Griffin family on Christmas, 1923
- Griffin twins boxing, Jamestown, N.D., 1930s
- Portrait of Leone Griffin and Richard Griffin, circa 1943
- Portrait of the Griffin children, 1915
- Program for Junior Prom, Minot, N.D., 1924
- Reishus Beauty School diploma for Juanita Conklin Heinlein, 1930s



- Sarah Griffin selling tickets at the Grand Theater, Jamestown, N.D., 1950s
- Victor Ball's letters to Elizabeth Ball while in Burma and China, 1945

### Political Prairie Fire

- An Accurate Portrayal of the N.D. Senate Voting on Bill 44 [political cartoon, 1917]
- Be On Hand to Help Your Team to Victory [political cartoon, 1916]
- Farms of North Dakota Make New Year's Resolutions [political cartoon, 1916]
- League Candidates for Governor in Three States
- Legislature gives greetings and taxes [political cartoon, 1919]
- Lynn J. Frazier for Governor
- NPL rising and falling [political cartoon, 1919]
- Old King Coal [political cartoon, 1919]
- P. M. Casey, Candidate for State Treasurer



- Portrait of Clark W. McDonnell, circa 1920-1931
- Thawing the Old Constitution water pump [political cartoon, 1917]
- The Gladiator [political cartoon, 1916]
- The People of North Dakota Are Listening, Gentlemen! [political cartoon, 1917]
- The Victory Parade [political cartoon, 1916]
- Townley gives Gov. Frazier a pay raise [political cartoon, 1920]



### [Prairie Recipes](#)

- Leeds Active Women All School Reunion Cookbook

### Digital Horizons

## Twenty Women Who Changed American History

Submitted by **Al Peterson**

Women's History Month is an annual observance held in the month of March honoring the contributions and achievements of women throughout history. To better understand who some of these important women were and their contributions, dedication to their work, and sacrifices they made for the advancement of justice and equality, Universal Class offers a course examining the lives of twenty influential women who helped shape the history of the United States. In this course, you will take a look at the lives of influential women such as Abigail Adams, Susan B Anthony, Helen Keller, Sojourner Truth, Fannie Lou Hamer, Sandra Day O'Connor, and many more. Each of the 15 lessons contain the main article, supporting stories as well as additional articles and exams. Throughout this course, you'll discover the narratives of twenty exceptional women, each with a unique story of resistance, determination, and grit.

[Take a Course](#)

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Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian

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[www.library.nd.gov](http://www.library.nd.gov)

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of Connections, please contact BreAnne at [nds1pa@nd.gov](mailto:nds1pa@nd.gov).

Times referenced are Central Time.

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