



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

**Save the Date**

**Submitted by AI Peterson**

The North Dakota State Library is offering three virtual conferences this year, the first one is coming in April. This online conference, *Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services*, will be held on April 18th and 19th from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM both days.

Topics include:

- Online Library Resources training
- Reader Advisory
- A.I. in Libraries
- Marketing
- Reference and Interlibrary Loan Services
- Makerspaces and Library of Things
- And Much More

We will also have a keynote speaker, Jorden Laducer-Dix who will speak on Biases and Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility.

Mark your calendars, make your arrangements, and keep an eye out for registration information.

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## Public Libraries Survey: Crunch Time

**Submitted by Monica Struck**

I don't know where March is going, but it is zooming by. When you read this, you will have about two weeks left to complete your Public Libraries Survey (PLS) submission. If you have already completed your PLS, kick back and relax. Your next mission is the State Aid application (The [webinar](#) is on March 28th.). If you are still working on your submission (or you haven't started yet!), please read on for some helpful hints.

- The PLS can be found in [Counting Opinions](#). If you do not know your log in, please contact Monica Struck ([mcstruck@nd.gov](mailto:mcstruck@nd.gov) or 701-328-4680).
- If you haven't yet, check out the [Walkthrough](#) and [Q&A](#) webinars. They may answer lingering questions that are keeping you from getting started.
- If you haven't had a chance to peruse the incredibly exciting PLS installments in the Flickertale, you can find the back issues of the newsletter on the [State Library website](#). There is a PLS themed article in the February [8th](#), [15th](#), and [29th](#) editions.
- If you are still working with your auditor(s) to get financial information, remind them of the deadline. They are busy humans, and busy humans forget things. Reminders help.
- If you are struggling due to incomplete information, director turn over, or some combination thereof, any data you can provide is better than no data. Use the edit check notes to provide context.
- Remember that you will have to satisfy all edit checks prior to submitting your PLS. If you have questions about your edit checks, please contact Monica Struck.

If you are struggling to start or finish the PLS, please don't struggle alone. Contact Monica Struck for assistance.

[Learn More](#)

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# 2024 Adventure Begins at Your Library Idea Exchange Webinar

Tuesday, March 26 (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Join other librarians from across the state as we share ideas for the 2024 summer reading program. Participants will get an opportunity to see what others are doing and share ideas of their own. We will also quickly go over partnerships and using Beanstack to track reading.

Register

## World Literature Speakers' Bureau

Submitted by Monica Struck

Did you know that PEN America has a Translation Committee? They advocate on behalf of literary translators working to foster a wider understanding of their art and offering professional resources for anyone with an interest in international literature. To promote an appreciation of world literature, the Translation Committee is offering a special opportunity to entities serving the general public.

Members of the Translation Committee are offering to speak **free of charge** at public libraries, public schools, community colleges, community groups, independent bookstores, and other non-profit entities serving the general public. These presentations can be held via Zoom or in person. While they are not charging fees for these speaking engagements, donations are appreciated. Groups interested in partnering with a speaker are asked to contact the speaker directly.

For more information, including available speakers and their topics, visit the [World Literature Speakers' Bureau website](#).

World Literature Speakers' Bureau

## Summer Food Service Program

Submitted by Lexi Whitehorn

Key Summer Food Service Program Data	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Males served (in millions)	31.4	34.2	32.2	34.9	34.1
Expenditures (in millions)	\$487.8	\$497.2	\$482.7	\$473.4	\$476.4

Does your library serve summer meals/snacks, or are you interested in being a meal site or supporting other meal sites in your area? Many libraries around the USA participate in the [Summer Food Service Program](#) (SFSP), a USDA-funded program that provides free meals and snacks to children ages 0-18 in communities with high levels of need.

[Libraries and SFSP are a great fit](#). The library is a trusted, accessible community center which is known for giving stuff out for free and has no stigma of "handout" attached to it. Libraries are also justly famous for drop-in enrichment programming, which increases the appeal and use of SFSP sites.

SFSP is good for the library too. Besides the obvious benefits of addressing hunger and supporting vulnerable youth, participation gives libraries:

- Access to new user groups, especially underserved and marginalized populations
- Increased visibility of the library as a community asset
- Opportunities for new partnerships
- Positioning of the library as an important stakeholder in community well-being and positive child outcomes
- Support for summer library programming through increased attendance

Continue Reading

# EBSCO to Change Wording

Submitted by Kathy Cline

To alleviate confusion over the meaning of "Boolean/Phrase," EBSCO will soon replace the search mode with "Proximity." This change will take place automatically about mid-March 2024. Users do not need to take any action, except for those who have customized the field with a different label. The term will not automatically update in these cases.

Please [contact Customer Support](#) with questions you may have.

EBSCO Host

## Library Law Booklets

North Dakota public libraries will soon be receiving a copy of the 2023 Library Law booklet in the mail to replace their 2021 versions. These booklets are to assist librarians by giving easy access to North Dakota laws that may affect them and their libraries. An electronic version can also be found on our website under Publications.

The contents of the North Dakota Library Law booklet are for informational purposes only. For a full citation of the laws, including legislative histories and case annotations, please consult the latest versions of the North Dakota Century Code and the North Dakota Administrative Code, which can be found at <https://www.ndlegis.gov>.

Library Law Booklet

## Niche Academy Highlight

by Al Peterson

## New Tutorials Added to the Niche Academy

**Category:** [Library 101- Adult Programming](#)

**New Tutorial:** *Niche Academy Webinar- Library Dementia Services*

More than 50 million people globally are living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and tens of millions further serve as their caregivers. As an aspect of our public service, it is important that librarians learn to serve and assist those with dementia in our communities. This webinar provides an overview of the spectrum disease known as Alzheimer's dementia, and a basic understanding of how librarians can meet the information needs of persons with dementia and their caregivers.

If your library board is concerned about material challenges, the *Welcome to the Board* series produced by Niche Academy has put out two new tutorials on the subject.

**Category:** [Library 101-Library Boards and Friends Group](#)

**New Tutorial:** *Welcome to the Board: Dealing with Materials Challenges*

Managing challenges is one of the most stressful things your board may deal with as trustees. This webinar explores how board members can support the director, manage meetings and media relations, and defend everyone's freedom to read.

**New Tutorial:** *Welcome to the Board: Preparing for Materials Challenges*

This webinar will provide the tools and training to keep board members from being caught off guard if a materials challenge takes place. Please encourage your board members to check out all the great training available in the category, Library 101 – Library Boards and Friends Group.

Niche Academy



## Building a Reading Culture for Secondary Students

It is quite common for a shift to occur between elementary and middle school where students read far less for recreation. Oftentimes, this trend's intensity increases as they enter high school. While there is not an all-around fix, building a reading culture in secondary schools can help re-instate the value of reading for pleasure, as well as improve reading comprehension for assigned texts.

### Reasons for This Shift

1. Primary teachers often encourage reading for pleasure far more than secondary teachers because elementary pupils are learning the skills associated with reading. After entering secondary school, the expectation is that learners know how to read, so it is no longer a priority to push extra reading. This is referred to as an expired expectation (Merga, 2022, & Engaging, n.d.).
2. Secondary students experience more competitors for their time. Extracurricular activities, jobs, growing social lives, and added schoolwork loads all take up time. Additionally, in the middle and high school years, social media outlets become available. (Social media platforms tend to require participants be at least 13 years old. This is not to say that no elementary students lie about their ages. However, the number of students who partake greatly increases in the secondary school years.)

[Continue Reading](#)



### [Fargo library hosts Disney story time \(KVLV-TV\)](#)

The Fargo Library is excited to host Disney-themed story-times this week (March 4-6). They are also giving away several tickets to the Disney On Ice show Saturday, March 9, 6:30PM. Patrons can register during story-time and a drawing will take place, and winners announced, the afternoon of March 6.

### [Hunt for eggs in the Williston Community Library \(KX News\)](#)

The City of Williston wants residents to mark their calendars for the fourth annual Community Egg Hunt. According to a news release, the egg hunt is taking place inside the Williston Community Library on Wednesday, March 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4-6 p.m. This is free and open for kids of all ages.

### [Library tries to fire up some local interest in clay, pottery \(Bowman County Pioneer\)](#)

Robin Reynolds has a passion for clay and pottery. An accomplished potter, Reynolds has recently opened a studio in Bowman — Dacotah Clayworks. She spent time Sunday discussing that passion to more than a dozen people who came to the Bowman Regional Library. She talked about her work and studio pottery.

### [Listen: Hubby Jenkins performs live at the Grand Forks Public Library \(Prairie Public\)](#)

Singer, multi-instrumentalist, and music historian [Hubby Jenkins](#) visited the Grand Forks Public Library last month, marking his first visit to North Dakota. Along with his library performance, Jenkins brought his music to local elementary schools, and the North Dakota Museum of Art on the campus of the University of North Dakota.

### [Movement class offered at Bismarck library \(KX News\)](#)

Adults in Bismarck have a new way to get up and moving. The Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library is hosting an adult mobility class called "Move It or Lose It" led by instructors from Northern Plains Dance.

### [The Light Up The Library open house March 16 \(NewsDakota\)](#)

An open house will be held at the Valley City Barnes County Public Library on Saturday to focus on restoring the roof. Library Director Anita Tulp said the building has been dealing with leaky roof issues for some time now. She talked about some of the fun events set for the fundraising kickoff on Saturday, March 16th.



## Women's History

With March being Women's History Month, what better time to highlight books about women? This list of titles contains stories ranging from the 1800s to modern day, as well as from around the world. These titles are intended for adult audiences. If you have a topic request for a *Top Picks*, email me at [tlkruger@nd.gov](mailto:tlkruger@nd.gov).

1. *Girls Who Run the World: 31 CEOs Who Mean Business* by Diana Kapp

**Publish Date:** 2019

**Publisher:** Delacorte Press

**Summary:** This title highlights 31 women CEOs, broken down into the categories of fashion/apparel, food, science, jewelry/accessories, makeup, flowers, stationary, apps/tech, media, fitness, home, packaging, and construction. Some companies mentioned include 23andMe, Spanx, EpiBone, Little Lotus, Bare Minerals, SoulCycle, and Poo-Pourri. Tips and tricks for how to start (and sustain) a business are also present.



[Continue Reading](#)

## Digital Delight

### Gascoyne, N.D., girls basketball team, 1935-1936



This photo is of the 1935-1936 girls basketball team from Gascoyne, North Dakota. Most of the girls wear uniforms with the letter "G" on them. Five stand in the back row, two kneel in the middle, and three sit in the front. The girl sitting in the middle of the front row has a basketball in her lap that has "GHS 35-36" written on it.

The girl holding the basketball has been identified as Dorothy Perkins Shamburg. Frances "Fanny" Hughes is in the middle of the back row.

[Digital Horizons](#)

## Community Driven Science Adventure(s) at Your Library this Summer!

March 27 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

Join SciStarter, STAR Net and the National Girls Collaborative Project to gain ideas and resources for connecting public engagement in scientific research with this year's Collaborative Summer Library Program theme: Adventure Begins at Your Library™. From counting pollinators and taking photos of biodiversity to observing clouds and measuring light pollution, citizen and community science is a way for everyone to join in the adventures of science.

[Register](#)

# International Peace Garden 2024 Theme: Children's Books and Reading!

Submitted by Debra McCallum,  
Education and Volunteer Coordinator  
International Peace Garden

With the anticipation of spring, the International Peace Garden is preparing for our 2024 theme, Children's Books and Reading! Visitors will have a wonderful literacy experience as they journey through the garden, with Classic Characters from toddler books to pre-teen featured in the floral designs, including Alice in Wonderland, the Wizard of Oz, Curious George, the Very Hungry Caterpillar, Clifford the Big Red Dog, and others.



We will be focused on engaging youth in reading with our Story Boxes, strategically placed throughout the garden to encourage families to take some time to read one of the beautiful books contained within. If you would like to donate a book or two from our book list, please visit our [Amazon Wishlist](#), select your choices, and they will be mailed directly to the IPG. We appreciate your consideration and support of our Children's Books and Reading theme and the International Peace Garden!

We will also be having Storytime in the Garden on Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, featuring Manitoba and North Dakota libraries. If your library would like to participate, read a storybook and do a follow-up activity, with support from the Education and Volunteer Coordinator, the following dates are available: July 3rd, July 17th, July 31st, and August 14th. If you have additional questions or would like to schedule your library for Storytime in the Garden, please contact Debra McCallum at [coordinator@peacegarden.com](mailto:coordinator@peacegarden.com) or call 701-263-4390.

Adopt a Flower Bed is back for the third year! Explore this great sponsorship opportunity for businesses, families, and memorials! Information and a sponsorship form can be found at <https://peacegarden.com/donate/adopt-a-flower-bed/>.

[More Information](#)

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

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at [ndsipa@nd.gov](mailto:ndsipa@nd.gov).  
Times referenced are Central Time.

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