

Library Coordinating Council Nominations Sought

Writers Workshop Opportunity!

Jill Kandel, North Dakota author of *The Clean Daughter: A Cross-Continental Memoir* and *So Many Africas: Six Years in a Zambian Village*, is offering a memoir writing workshop on memoir writing on May 6th at 10:00 AM. This event will take place both in-person at Bismarck Public Veterans Memorial Library and virtually at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/adding-creativity-to-memoir-writing-tickets-1308818022939>.



About This Event

This class will discuss the difference between diary and memoir writing, how to find and use details to enliven memoir, writing thematically and not strictly chronologically, and various ways of making memoir absorbing and fascinating to readers.

If participants would like to purchase any of Kandel's books, they will be available along with a book signing following the event.

Brought to you by the Institute of Museums and Library Services and sponsored by the North Dakota State Library and the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

About Jill Kandel

Jill Kandel's essays have been published in *The Missouri Review*, *Gettysburg Review*, *Pinch*, and *Brevity*. Her work has been anthologized in *Best Spiritual Writing 2012* (Penguin Books) and in *Becoming: What Makes a Woman* (U. of Nebraska Press). Her first book, *So Many Africas: Six Years in a Zambian Village*, (Autumn House Press, 2015) won both the Autumn House Nonfiction Prize and the Sarton Women's Literary Award. Her second book, *The Clean Daughter: A Cross-Continental Memoir*, (NDSU Press, 2022) was chosen by the Library of Congress as a 2024 Great Reads Book.

Kandel teaches memoir writing at the Fargo Fine Arts Club, guest lectures for NDSU Writing Classes and hosts a weekly writing club. She enjoys both writing and teaching the craft of memoir.

Register

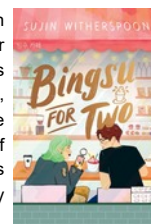


The Reading Nook

By Jessica Robinson

2025 Young Adult Fiction

Sometimes you just want a romantic comedy in your life and Sujin Witherspoon's *Bingsu for Two* fits the bill. It only takes a day for River to blow up his life, leaving him with no girlfriend and no job at his parents' successful chain of cafes. Thanks to an abundance of charm, River manages to get a new job at a failing family café, where he clashes with his new co-worker Sarang. When River shares a video of his new job online, his followers are immediately obsessed with his volatile relationship with Sarang, leading to new customers but plenty of new problems.



Continue Reading

Digital Dimension

By Trevor Martinson

Primary Source Sets

The [Digital Initiatives Department](#) of the North Dakota State Library (NDSL) is excited to announce the creation of two online primary source sets: "Homesteading (From a Distance)" and "Mirror Images - NPL & IVA Political Cartoons."

Primary Source Sets are curated collections, or mini exhibits, of original content that provide insight into an event or topic. NDSL's sets are designed to develop critical thinking skills and to promote lifelong learning by exploring a variety of topics relating to North Dakota's history and culture.



Using primary sources from the digital collections of NDSL, with supplemental secondary sources, these sets bring together materials to provide context and to help understand a certain topic.

In "[Homesteading \(From a Distance\)](#)," visitors will learn about homesteading in North Dakota, and explore the peculiar practice of distance, or wide shot, photographs of the homesteads and settlers.

In "[Mirror Images - NPL & IVA Political Cartoons](#)," visitors will learn about political cartoons, and explore replicated cartoons from the Nonpartisan League (NPL) and Independent Voters Association (IVA) era of North Dakota history.

Students, educators, and lifelong learners are invited to use and explore these Primary Source Sets.

[View These Primary Source Sets](#)

State Aid for Public Libraries

Submitted by Allie Suko

The State Aid application process is open! State Aid applications must be submitted through the Counting Opinions website by April 30, 2025, for your library to be considered for State Aid funds. There have been no changes to the application since 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 watch the State Aid to Public Libraries Walk-Through 2024, 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 ndsl-fiscal@nd.gov or 701-328-2492.

[Learn More](#)

New NDSL Book Club Kits



The State Library has added six new book club kits to the collection.

"Lore" by Alexandra Bracken

"Wild Bill" by Tom Clavin

"A Girl Called Samson" by Amy Harmon

"Dear Henry, Love Edith" by Becca Kinzer

"The Loves of Theodore Roosevelt" by Edward F. O'Keefe

"Poison in Paddington" by Samantha Silver

[Reserve a Book Club Kit](#)

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

World Lupus Day

May 10th marks World Lupus Day. (May is also Lupus Awareness Month.) This observation, started in 2004 and led by the World Lupus Federation, attempts to shed light on this disease and show support to those living with it. The theme for 2025 is "Make Lupus Visible." The supporting color is purple (World, n.d.).

What is Lupus?

Lupus is an autoimmune disease. It can affect the entire body, and comes with common symptoms of joint pain, skin rashes, extreme fatigue, and fevers that last for days. Unfortunately, the cause of lupus is still unknown (World, n.d.). Most patients with this ailment – an estimated 5 million individuals across the globe – use steroids as a primary treatment. This, of course, comes with its own negative side effects, including weight fluctuations, weakened muscles and bones, and changes in mood and sleeping habits (Lupus medicines, n.d.).

[Continue Reading](#)

Library Tidbits

[Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library](#) is hosting a "Novel Night" with trivia, scavenger hunt, pizza, desserts and more.

[Dickinson Area Public Library](#) will be closed from Monday, May 5, through Monday, May 26, for renovations, including new carpet installation and updates to the shelving and materials layout.

[Fargo Public Library](#) is seeking local photos for the 2025 "Northern Focus" project. The deadline to submit photos is May 30.

[Minot Public Library and Ward County Public Library](#) are gearing up for summer reading programs. (video)

[Morton Mandan Public Library](#) is working with Western Plains Public Health to give residents of Grant, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, and Sioux Counties a way to test the radon levels in their homes.

Online Library Resource

Britannica School

Britannica School is an all-in-one online library resource with content differentiated for all ages. This resource is great for knowledge building, research, and homework help with thousands of engaging up-to-date curated, and curriculum-relevant articles, images, videos, news stories, and biographies across all subject areas that inspire curiosity and the joy of learning. Choose from three levels of learning – elementary, middle, and high school – for a wealth of unique content to explore.



The State Library provides marketing materials to help your library promote the online library resources, including bookmarks for Britannica School and Library. Request them by filling out the form at <https://bit.ly/ndsipaform> or by contacting BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov or 701-328-4656.

[Start Exploring](#)

WebJunction Highlight: Introduction to AI

Submitted by AI Peterson

Interests and concerns about how artificial intelligence (AI) will impact librarianship and the services that libraries provide are increasing. The field is vast, ever-changing, and, at times, overwhelming. This article from WebJunction was shaped by the results of a recent poll of library staff and explores different aspects of AI and the intersections with public libraries including some basics of AI, along with ethical, legal, and environmental considerations. Topics covered include defining what artificial intelligence is, what the difference is between AI and Generative AI, what are the benefits and concerns of AI, and what is the potential future impact artificial intelligence will have on libraries and society at large.

While you are on the WebJunction website, check out their great selection of classes in their course catalog or explore other library related subjects in the Topics section.

[Access This Article](#)



Upper Midwest Digital Collections Conference

Submitted by Trevor Martinson

Anyone working with or interested in digital collections is invited to attend the Upper Midwest Digital Collections Conference and Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) Annual Meeting.

This event will be held over two days – May 6-7, 2025 – at the Union Depot in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Though the full conference is in person, there is a streaming option on May 7th with live or recorded access to the keynote presentation and 12 breakout sessions.

The deadline to register is April 30th. Visit the [event website](#) for more information.

[Learn More](#)



Starting a Library Podcast Part 2: Who will be Involved?

Part 2 of this series on starting a library podcast is all about the people who will be involved. This includes your target audience, host, producer, and interviewees.

Target Audience - Who are you hoping to reach with your podcast? In her book "So You Want to Start a Podcast," Kristen Meinzer says to imagine an audience member and think about where this person lives, what type of person they are, what their day looks like, what their worries include, why they would want to listen to your podcast rather than something else, etc. This can help guide your podcast's mission and, if you're ever unsure about something, you can ask yourself, what would that audience member think about it.

According to Pew Research, two thirds of adults aged 18 to 29 listen to podcasts in the United States. If you are looking for ways to target young adults, a podcast may be a way to reach them. Visit <https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2023/04/18/podcast-use-among-different-age-groups/> for more information.

[Continue Reading](#)

Talking Book Update

Many Faces of BARD Program

Learn more about the new features in BARD Express during the Many Faces of BARD Program at 6:00 PM on Thursday, May 8, 2025. The program will begin with a presentation and demonstration, after which there will be time for questions about the topic or anything else related to BARD. This program will be recorded.

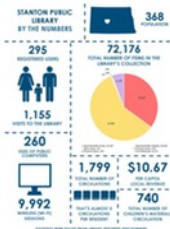
[Join the Meeting](#)

Public Library Infographics

Now that the Public Libraries Survey is completed, the State Library is happy to provide a personalized infographic for your public library.

Based on the numbers provided in the survey, these infographics can include any statistics that are useful for your library, including the number of visits to your library, registered users, items in the collection, programs, circulations, etc.

If you would like an infographic for your public library, please fill out the form below.




[Request an Infographic](#)

TODAY'S SKILLS FOR TOMORROW'S LIBRARIES CONFERENCE

ND STATE CAPITOL

JULY 28-30



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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 nds1pa@nd.gov.

Times referenced are Central Time.

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