

North Dakota State Library Receives Federal Funding

The North Dakota State Library is happy to report that it has been awarded the full allotment of the Grants to States funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (FFY25), which began October 1, 2024, and must be expended before September 30, 2026.

"We are pleased to be awarded these federal funds, which are essential to supporting statewide library services, innovation, and equitable access to information for all North Dakotans," said Library Services Division Director Dani Kappel.

The funding, which comes to \$1,297,053, allows the State Library to provide many popular services and resources to North Dakota libraries, state employees, and citizens. These include e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines that are available through the Libby app; physical items that are available at the State Library and in the library lending machines; InterLibrary Loan services; and online library resources, such as Universal Class, Digital Horizons, and those that support homework and general research needs.

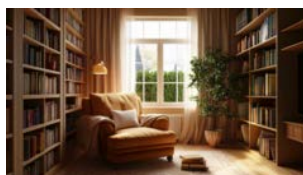
"Our agency is grateful for this vital federal funding, and we thank Senators Hoeven and Cramer and Representative Fedorchak for their support of libraries and specifically for supporting the Grants to States program," said State Librarian Mary Soucie. "This investment will be instrumental in expanding access to resources, enhancing our programs, and ensuring that North Dakota libraries of all types continue to be dynamic hubs for learning and community engagement across North Dakota."

The North Dakota State Library looks forward to supporting all North Dakotans through the coming years. Visit the State Library's website at www.library.nd.gov to apply for a library card and access the resources and services that the State Library provides.



EPISODE 23: TAMMY KRUGER
NORTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY

HOSTED BY ND STATE
LIBRARIAN MARY SOUCIE



The Reading Nook

By Jessica Robinson

2025 Historical Fiction

Jo Harkin's *The Pretender* takes us back to the early days of the Tudor ascendancy—as in the royal family that produced Elizabeth I—and centers around a less famous figure in their struggle for power. Enter John Collan, a young man from a small village, who learns that he's the son of King Richard III's older brother, and therefore competition to the English throne. John, later known in history books as Lambert Simnel, is secreted away to learn the art of kingship away from his uncle's ambitious eyes.



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Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

By Tammy Kruger

Keti Koti

Juneteenth, observed June 19, celebrates the ending of slavery in the United States. However, America is certainly not the only country that took part in forced servitude. The Netherlands also acknowledges its own history with slavery. Keti Koti, celebrated on July 1, marks the abolishment of slavery back in 1863.

A Little About Keti Koti

On July 1, 1863, the emancipation of slaves was signed into law in the Netherlands. However, it would take about another decade for forced servitude to be fully eliminated there. Keti Koti is Surinamese for "broken chains". The Netherlands was a major player in the transatlantic slave trade, which lasted from the 1500s through the 1800s. The Netherlands was also one of the last European countries to abolish slavery (Keti, n.d. and Nwanazia, 2024). Fun fact: Norway-Denmark were the first European countries to outlaw slavery (Slavery, n.d.).

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WebJunction Highlight: Back to Basics: Sharpening Foundational Skills with LiFT

Submitted by Al Peterson

When we think about continuing education and professional development for library staff, it's easy to focus on exciting new things: the latest technologies, innovative programming ideas, or emerging service models. While staying ahead of the curve is exciting, many library staff need training on the basics. Foundational training empowers librarians to respond to change with confidence, deliver consistently excellent service, and build stronger connections with their communities. Over 13,000 learners have enrolled in the Alternative Basic Library Education (ABLE) courses, created by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), which focus on essential skills like cataloging and collection management. Content that teaches these foundational skills comprises nearly half of the top 10 courses in the WebJunction catalog. As popular as the ABLE courses are, they were developed years ago and don't address some of today's realities in 21st century libraries. And with the library workforce experiencing significant turnover and disruption, the need for robust foundational training is more urgent now than ever.

WebJunction is excited to announce LiFT- Library Foundational Training, a refreshed series of courses designed to empower library staff with the essential skills needed to service today's patrons and succeed into the future. LiFT builds on the basic skills presented in ABLE. LiFT will initially focus on collection management and collection development. The courses will cover topics such as:

- Introduction to library collections
- Introduction to library collection policies
- Selection and acquisitions
- Organizing and maintaining a collection
- Collection assessment
- Weeding the collection

There will also be a webinar introducing LiFT on July 30. Register to attend at <https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/elevating-core-skills-with-lift.html>

[WebJunction](#)

Library Tidbits

The Friends of the [James River Valley Library System](#) is working to fundraise \$25,000 to update patron computers and to purchase audio-enabled children's books

The Class of 1975 donated \$330 to the [Edgeley Public Library](#).

[Dickinson Area Public Library](#) received a \$5,000 donation from the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation

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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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