



## MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 21.2

Friday, January 22, 2021

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Visit your library's website to get help writing your resume.



### Announcements & Reminders

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: <http://www.fils.org/2020reopenpoll/>. If you are closing your library due to a COVID-19 exposure, please also email [sglogowski@fils.org](mailto:sglogowski@fils.org).

NYS Annual Reports for Public Libraries will be due to Kristi Downham by March 1. Boards of Trustees should plan accordingly and make sure your Annual Reports are on your February board meeting agendas to be voted on by your board so that you can get your reports in on time. *At this time, no extensions will be given.*

### Links to Make You Think

**289 million ebooks were borrowed from the public library in 2020**



**REALM Project Happening Now: Tests 7 & 8 underway**

**Join LJ for our Winter Summit: Building the Next Normal**

**READ: Transcript of Amanda Gorman's inaugural poem**

**New Research Shows that 71% of Americans Now Get News Content via Social Platforms**

## From The Director



We have many state and advocacy updates for you this week:

**State Budget** – The Finger Lakes Library System is once again facing significant state funding cuts that will impact our ability to provide the level of service we are used to providing our membership. Earlier this week, Governor Cuomo released his FY2021-2022 Executive Budget proposal. While much

depends on federal funding and the continued economic impact of the pandemic, for the fifth straight year the Governor has proposed to reduce library funding.

The proposed funding is 7.5% less than what it was in last year's enacted State budget. The current proposal is for library aid to be \$87 million. In contrast, NYLA's funding initiative is to ask for \$123.1 million. The proposed funding for library construction aid is \$14 million, which is equivalent to that of last year's enacted budget. \$14 million is less than one percent of the community's needs for aging library buildings throughout the state. NYLA's advocacy initiative is \$45 million for library construction aid.

An advocacy alert email was sent out on Wednesday to directors and trustees urging them to contact their legislators. Please consider using the simple email form to voice your concerns today.

**Advocacy Day** – A reminder that Advocacy Day will be taking place virtually this year on Friday, February 26. FLLS is in the process of working with our neighboring library systems and our regional library council to schedule meeting with shared legislators. Kristi from FLLS will be sending out a save the date reminder and more information will be coming in the next few weeks on how you can participate virtually. NYLA has their advocacy information available at <https://www.nyla.org/2021-legislative-session/?menukey=advocacy>.

**Vaccine and Library Workers** – I want to acknowledge that I understand everyone's frustrations about not including library workers in the 1b vaccination schedule. I have received a record number of phone calls and emails not only from our members, but also from across the State as PULISDO Chair. As PULISDO Chair I have had multiple check-ins with both NYLA and the State. I assure you that NYLA is working daily to continue to advocate for library workers, who provide critical access to information and technology for New Yorkers, to be considered in the same eligibility as essential retail workers. There are many factors that come into play, first and foremost being the lack of available vaccines. Our neighboring public library system directors, along with the South Central Regional Library Council, met earlier this week and agreed to take a more localized approach by contacting our local legislators to urge them about the importance of including library workers. With information and guidelines changing rapidly, we will continue to update you on any changes.

I hope you all have a relaxing weekend!  
Sarah

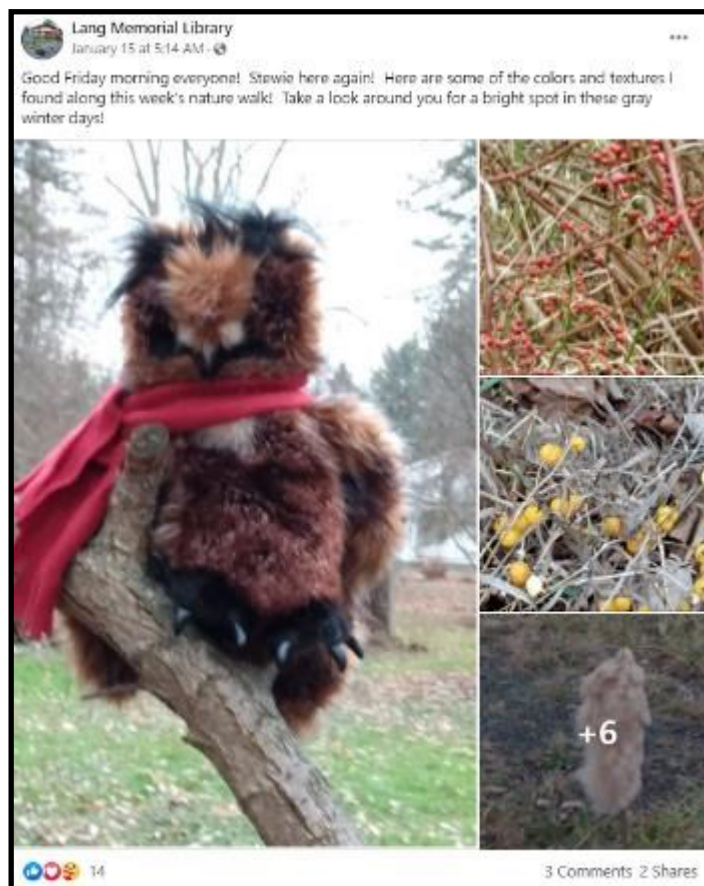


# Member Library News



“The **Coburn Free Library** Accessibility Annex is currently under construction and nearing 95% completion! When construction has concluded, the annex will include an elevator system providing access to all floors of the historic building. There will also be ADA accessible rest room facilities. The accessible entrance will be located at the back of the building with a level walkway from the parking lot.”

Follow **Lang Memorial Library's** mascot Stewie on Facebook to see his adventures around Cato!



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# Online Learning

## Upcoming Webinars & Meetings

### **Pre-Application Webinar for Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries Round 2**

**Tuesday, January 26, 2:00pm**

Are you applying for the second round of Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries? Join ALA Public Programs Office staff for a pre-application webinar where you'll get an intensive look at the application, tips on how to write a comparative narrative, and the opportunity to ask questions. Learn more about the grant on page 8 of this bulletin or visit: <http://www.ala.org/tools/librariestransform/libraries-transforming-communities/focusgrants>

### **Introduction to Polaris Leap from Innovative**

**Tuesday, February 2, 1:00pm**

Come see how the Polaris Leap web client has re-imagined the staff user experience for libraries. Leap is an intuitive and effective tool for completing tasks and serving your patrons in both traditional and non-traditional settings. In recent Polaris implementations, a majority of library staff were able to train on and use Leap for their work without needing the desktop client. Leap brings the power and functionality of the Polaris ILS to library staff through a browser. Polaris Leap can be used on a desktop, a notebook, or a tablet, freeing staff to connect with patrons and complete tasks wherever it is most convenient – even outside the library walls. This webinar will provide a broad overview of Polaris Leap for libraries considering it for their staff.

### **NYLA Library Advocacy Day (Virtual)**

**Friday, February 26**

Save the date! More information coming soon!

### **Virtual and in-person library programming for parents and infants: Who, how, what, when, where, and why?**

**Tuesday, March 2, 1:30pm**

A Ready to Read at New York Libraries early literacy webinar presented by Betsy Diamant-Cohen (Mother Goose on the Loose, LLC). Programming for parents with infants in the library is a relatively new phenomenon; virtual programming for this population is even newer! Why is it important to present programs for children this young? What are the important factors to take into account when programming for these dynamic duos? What type of activities work best and how can they be adapted virtually? Registration will be available soon: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/earlylit/webinars.htm>

## Conferences & Special Programs



### **NYLA YSS Conference 2021**

Apply today for one of the scholarships to attend the all new virtual 2021 YSS Spring Conference on Friday, March 26, 2021. There are two scholarships available. Each of the scholarships is designed to cover registration fees and up to \$250 reimbursement.

The purpose of Spring Conference Scholarships is to encourage continuing education in the field of library youth services by participating in the annual YSS Spring Conference. Two awards are given annually. The first is the New Member Spring Conference Scholarship. It is given to a new member of our profession. The second is the Lisa C. Wemett Spring Conference Scholarship. It is given to a highly motivated established librarian who has had a significant impact on youth and youth services in her/his community

- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Scholarship Page](#)
- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Scholarship Application](#) (Contact [nburrows@fls.org](mailto:nburrows@fls.org) if you would like a PDF copy)
- [2021 YSS Spring Conference Page](#)

**SCHOLARSHIPS DEADLINE:**  
**February 1, 2021**

*Please address PDF applications to:*

### **Meghin Roberts**

YSS Scholarship Committee Chair  
Baldwinsville Public Library  
33 E. Genesee St  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
(315) 635-5631



# Programming Ideas

## Leaving Our Fingerprints: A People's History of COVID-19

FLLS has partnered with the Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) for a new project, **Leaving Our Fingerprints: A People's History of COVID-19**. Erica Freudenberger and Jack Scott at SALS have developed a public website where people can share their story of the COVID-19 pandemic. Surveys have been created to collect responses that will be uploaded to the website and placed into special exhibits. Respondents can include text and images. All information collected will be anonymous. Respondents can choose to answer all or some of the questions posed. Several NYS library systems are currently participating and NYS will archive the website.

We have a special survey just for our system, which can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B6RMHDQ> or <https://tinyurl.com/shareyourstory-flls>. The survey is available NOW and the website will have a public launch at the end of this month. This survey was designed for adults; a special survey for children and teens is being developed.

Resources including an overview, social media graphics (see below), and social media templates can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jCpLGjEXaQaie2DTLwml2fOr7MRoOjk?usp=sharing>. For more information about this project, please contact [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org).

**Sample Copy for Social Media:** *Help make history by sharing your story of the COVID-19 pandemic. Just as we relied on information about the Spanish Flu epidemic in 1917-1918 to inform our response to COVID-19, future generations may benefit from understanding what we experienced. By collecting your stories, we become witnesses-to-history, providing insight into daily life during this global pandemic and adding to the historic record.*

*How can you get involved? Please take some time to fill out the form at <https://tinyurl.com/shareyourstory-flls> and feel free to share with your friends, family members, and neighbors — the more people participate, the better understanding we'll have of the impact of COVID-19.*





# Polaris FAQ

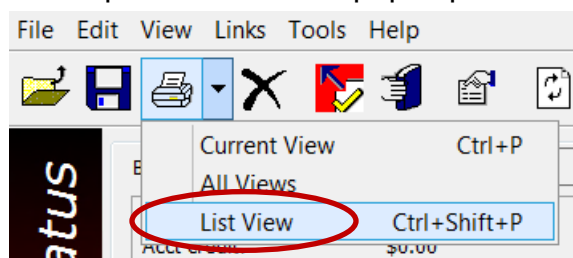
## Print a Patron's Reading History

Your patrons may request a physical copy of their reading history. Follow the instructions below to print a patron's reading history in Polaris. *Note: Patrons may view their reading history by accessing their patron account in the PAC. Please be aware that this history can be subpoenaed by law enforcement agencies so it is recommended that the patron enable this service directly from their PAC account, where a warning will display informing them of this possibility.*

1. Open **Patron Status (F6)** and then open the **Reader Services** page. At the bottom, you will see the patron's **Reading History**.
2. Hit **Ctrl Shift A** on your keyboard to retrieve all results. The bottom of the window should show that all records have been retrieved.

Title	Author	Format	Checkout Date	Loaning Library
Tidelands	Gregory, Philippa, author.	Audio ...	12/15/2020 9:33:33 AM	FLLS-Finger Lakes Library System
The mister	James, E. L., author.	Audio ...	12/15/2020 9:33:21 AM	FLLS-Finger Lakes Library System
How to be an antiracist	Kendi, Ibram X., author.	Book	12/8/2020 9:54:53 AM	FLLS-Finger Lakes Library System
Magpie murders	Horowitz, Anthony, 1955-...	Audio ...	11/16/2020 12:37:5...	FLLS-Finger Lakes Library System
The Dutch house : a novel	Patchett, Ann, author.	Audio ...	11/16/2020 12:37:5...	FLLS-Finger Lakes Library System

3. Now you are ready to print. Click on the arrow next to the print icon. Select **List View**. Click **OK** in the print window that pops up.



**REMINDER:** All trainings will be held virtually until the pandemic ends. Jenny is available for one-on-one and small group Polaris trainings on Zoom. Email [jshonk@fls.org](mailto:jshonk@fls.org) to schedule a session.

**REMINDER:** Polaris handouts on the FLLS website have been updated. To access the handouts visit <https://www.fls.org/> and click on **STAFF LOGIN**. Enter the username and password and click on **Log In**. Then click on **Polaris Documentation**. Please contact [jshonk@fls.org](mailto:jshonk@fls.org), [efranks@fls.org](mailto:efranks@fls.org), or [rhelwig@fls.org](mailto:rhelwig@fls.org) for the username and password.

PAC brochures have also been updated, visit <https://www.fls.org/brochures/> and scroll down to **Library Catalog Brochures**.



## **Awards & Grants**

### **Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus On Small and Rural Libraries *Round 2 Now Open!***



The American Library Association (ALA) invites libraries in small and rural communities to apply for grant funding to help them address issues of concern in their communities.

Up to 650 U.S. libraries in small and rural communities will receive \$3,000 each to tackle issues ranging from media literacy to COVID-19 safety to unemployment. Grants will be awarded in two rounds in 2020 and 2021.

- [Learn about the libraries funded in Round 1](#)
- [Learn how your library can be part of Round 2](#)

*Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is part of ALA's longtime commitment to preparing library workers for the expanding role of libraries. The initiative is offered in partnership with the Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL). Questions? [publicprograms@ala.org](mailto:publicprograms@ala.org)*

#### **For Applicants**

- [Project guidelines](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)
- [Apply online](#)
- [Is your library eligible? Click here to find out](#)

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### **Other Grant Opportunities:**

[Apply Now: The Inaugural Peggy Barber Tribute Grant](#)

[Penguin Random House Library Award for Innovation](#)

[Apply Now: Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant](#)