



MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 22.10

Friday, June 10, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

You can click on each link below to quickly navigate to your favorite bulletin sections!

- [From the Director](#)
- [Member Library News](#)
- [Scam Alert](#)
- [Online Learning](#)
- [Programming & Outreach](#)
- [Polaris FAQ](#)
- [Awards & Grants](#)



This design & more available on Canva!
Register for [Canva for Nonprofits](#) to get FREE access to premium content!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Whenever your service model changes, please fill out the streamlined online reopening form: www.flls.org/2020reopenpoll/. Visit www.flls.org/member-library-service-status/ to view each library's quarantine period & hours information.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[The History of the Cherokee Phoenix, the First Native Language Newspaper](#)

[New Justice Gap Study Confirms Problem Persists](#)

[ALA Rainbow Round Table \(RRT\) Resources](#)



[Black Joy in Pursuit of Racial Justice](#)

[June is Rainbow Book Month](#)

[Auburn library awarded \\$2.5K digitization grant](#)

[How to see 5 planets align in the sky this month](#)

[Conservative Group Launches "Hide The Pride" to Remove Books from Library Pride Displays](#)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

While the end of school approaches and summer reading programs are beginning, we have some updates for you:



Collection Management Toolkit - I am happy to announce that the public library collection management policy template and guide are ready for distribution. As committee Chair, I would like to thank Sara Dallas and Paulette Roes of PULISDO, Sheryl Knab who represented ESLN, Jean Currie who represented LTA, and Chris Sagaas of Utica Public Library for being on the committee and reviewing the documents.

Directors and trustees will be getting more information, but for now, the toolkit is housed on the Western New York Library Resources Council's Ask the Lawyer Resources page (available [HERE](#)). I also have an unannotated version that I will be sending to directors and trustees that will allow easy editing for libraries to personalize.

Stephanie Adams, the "Ask the Lawyer" attorney who created the document with the committee, will be hosting a one-hour webinar on Tuesday, July 19 at 10am to discuss the toolkit. [Register for the webinar at this link](#). This is an ESLN webinar and I will be moderating with Stephanie.

Challenges/Hide the Pride – The collection management toolkit is useful to libraries who are experiencing library material challenges. Just this week we learned that libraries in New York State, especially in Suffolk County, are experiencing calls and questions about Pride book displays because of a "Hide the Pride" movement. Organized by a conservative group called CatholicVote, the movement calls for patrons to check out Pride display books and then write letters to boards of trustees demanding they be removed from the collection. ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom has received multiple reports over the last few days about this and offers some tips for libraries [HERE](#). If your library receives anything along this line, please contact me as soon as possible.

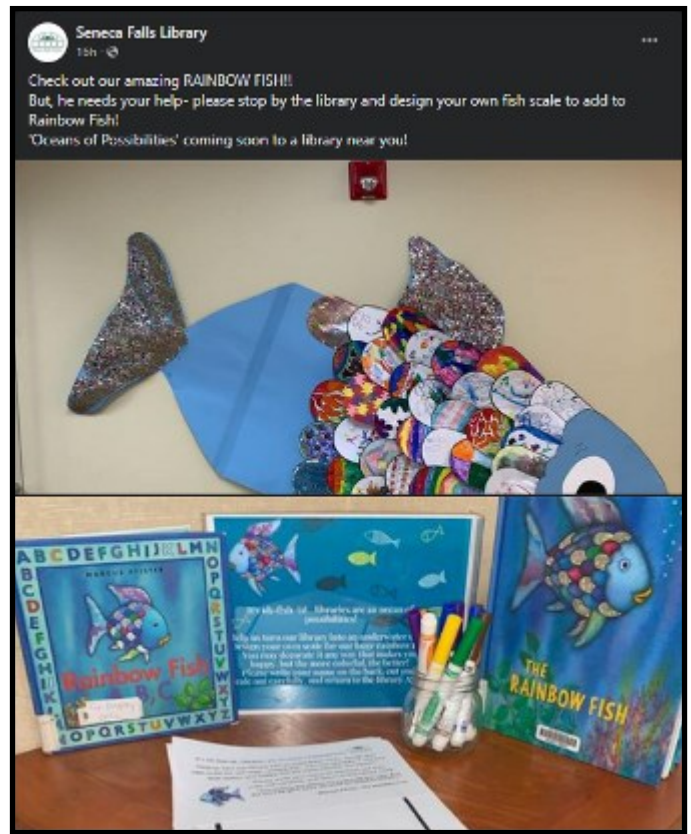
Open Meetings Law – A detailed email was sent out to directors and trustees on Thursday detailing the end of Open Meetings Law relaxation on June 8. Guidance from the Committee on Open Government and a checklist and sample policies from Stephanie Adams were included in the email. A reminder that the intent is to go back to in-person meetings, with some exceptions for extraordinary circumstances. As always, if you have individual questions about this guidance, please reach out to me by phone or email.

Juneteenth – A reminder to our libraries that Finger Lakes Library System will be closed on Monday, June 20 in observation of Juneteenth. There will be no deliveries that Monday.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!
Sarah



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS



Do you have something to share? Please email jshonk@flls.org!

[Back to Top](#)



SCAM ALERT!

Staying Safe Around Always-Listening Devices

With the overwhelming popularity of always-listening devices such as Alexa, Google Home, and smartphones, you've probably heard stories of these devices joining in on conversations without being prompted. Perhaps it's even happened to you!

While this idea can be alarming and unsettling, there are ways to protect your private information, and conversations, from these always-listening devices. To help you stay safe from these devices, here are some tips:

- **Review and delete voice recordings:** Your device will store your search and activity history to create a customized experience for you. However, you can review and delete these recordings from the device of your choice in order to protect your privacy.
- **Mute the microphone:** You can mute your microphone to ensure that your device is not listening and recording when you are not using it. The recording capabilities will remain off until you turn them back on.
- **Don't link accounts with sensitive information to your device:** If you have any accounts containing your sensitive information in them, it is best not to link those accounts to your device. This will keep your sensitive information secure from potential data breaches.
- **Change the settings to automatically manage data stored by the device:** Personally managing what data is being linked with your account will give you more control on the information that is being stored by your device and will save you time when deleting your history.
- **Turn off your device when you're away:** When in doubt, turn it off. If your device does not have a power button, simply unplug it.

By creating a habit of unplugging and deleting voice recordings from these always-listening devices, you can help to make sure that there is an extra layer of protection between your always-listening device and your private information.





ONLINE LEARNING

Upcoming Webinars

[Social Media 101](#) (CLRC)

Wednesday, June 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Great, your library has decided to step into the world of social media! Now, what?

This one-hour webinar will start you on your way to promoting, posting, tweeting, friending and trending. Learn social media basics, beginner best practices, management and policy tips, audience cultivation techniques, and some best practices around social media. Presented by Maurice Coleman, Principal of Coleman & Associates.

[Best Practices for Serving LGBTQ+ Patrons with Lisa Koenecke](#) (FLLS)

Wednesday, June 29, 11:00am-12:15pm

Learn the latest pronouns, flags, vocabulary, and laws relevant to the LGBTQ+ community. Discover free resources to help you develop your allyship and inclusive services beyond Pride Month in June. Explore best practices from other industries to support the mission at your library. Come with questions & walk away with answers on what it truly means to serve the LGBTQ+ community. Q&A will be held during the last 15 minutes of the session, enter an anonymous Q here:

<https://forms.gle/LAb68xVSWwKpA59j8>.

Attendees will be entered into a drawing to win a copy of Lisa's book, *Be an Inclusion Ally: ABCs of LGBTQ+*!

[New Librarians Meetup\(s\)](#) (FLLS)

Thursday July 7, 12:00-1:00pm

OR Monday, July 18, 10:00-11:00am

We will discuss certification/re-certification, CE, & jobs/resumes. Q&A included. The session is designed for current MLS/MLIS students, recent graduates, and new librarians (within 5 years) - but anyone is welcome, including those thinking about going back to school. Led by Jenny & Heidi.

Librarian's Guide to Homelessness FREE On Demand!

To gain access to the webinar series on Niche Academy, please have staff members email jshonk@flls.org.

Conferences & Special Programs



[Where Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice Meet: A Call to Action](#)

A Virtual Symposium Hosted by the Freedom to Read Foundation

**July 12 & 13, 12PM-4pm each day
FREE! [Register here!](#)**

The Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) invites all library workers, educators, authors, journalists, publishers, social justice workers and First Amendment advocates to attend and participate in its free virtual symposium.

The agenda for day 1 will focus on exploring the topics of Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice and how to find the balance between them. Keynote speakers and panelists will address essential topics such as library policies, intellectual freedom and community values, alternatives to neutrality, and challenges facing the library community. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions of the panelists and engage in both small-group and large-group discussions.

Day 2 will focus on empowering participants to take action. Panelists will draw on their knowledge and experience to offer strategies for community change, building consensus, developing strong policies, and building coalitions and public outreach. Participants will be invited to participate in breakout groups to plan specific strategies to shift narratives and communicate the ways in which social justice and intellectual freedom support one another.

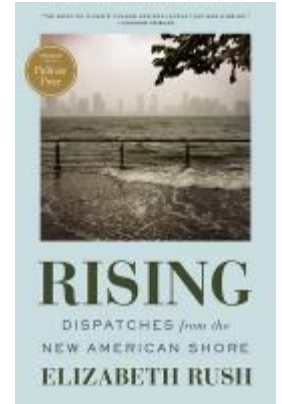


PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

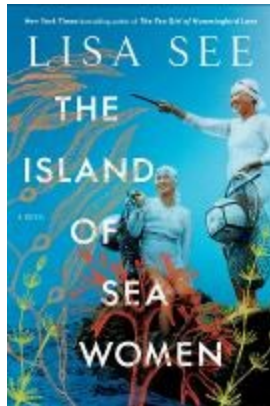
Adult Book Group Kits

Looking for a non-fiction title that fits with the Oceans of Possibilities theme for your next book club pick?

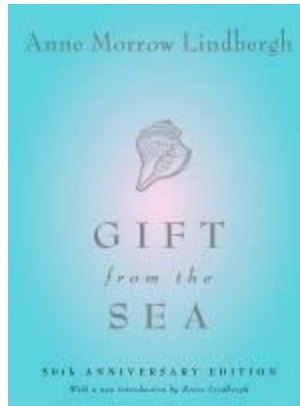
The Southworth Library donated 8 copies of [Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore](#) by Elizabeth Rush. The book was featured in [Science Friday's book club](#) last October and explores climate change, coastal flooding and its effects on communities around the world. The Rising book kit includes discussion questions and book club pointers. We also have digital copies of the book in our OverDrive collection. Barcode: A20519411821.



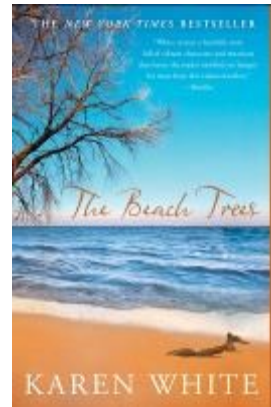
Looking for other titles that fit the SRP theme? Request these titles:



A20519411546



A20519403624



A20519411423



To see the full list of titles, visit <https://www.flls.org/programming/#clubs> and click on "Adult Book Group Kits." Feel free to share the guide with your patrons. Recent titles added include: *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Balli Kaur Jaswal and *The Paris Hours* by Alex George. Thank you to Lansing Community Library for donating books for both kits!

Sciencenter & Museum of the Earth/Cayuga Nature Center Pass Kits Update

It's been all hands on deck at FLLS as we work to get the kits ship-shape and ready to sail in time for summer. Each library will receive one [Museum of the Earth kit](#) and two [Sciencenter kits](#). The kits come fully cataloged, processed, and ready to circulate. Watch for more details from Heidi in the next week.

These kits were funded by the Myrtle Dee Nash Memorial Fund of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County.



POLARIS FAQ

POLARIS DOCUMENTATION & VIDEOS ONLINE

Did you know?

Polaris handouts and training video links are available on the FLLS website!

1. Visit <https://www.flls.org/> and click on **STAFF LOGIN**.
2. Enter the username and password and click on **Log In**. Contact jshonk@flls.org for the username and password.
3. Click on **Polaris Documentation** on the right hand side.
4. You will see Polaris documentation, Polaris training video links (with special password listed), and “*What’s New in Polaris?*” documents.

The screenshot shows the Finger Lakes Library System website. The header includes the logo and a search bar. The navigation menu contains links for ABOUT, RESOURCES, ADVOCACY, FOR THE PUBLIC, MEMBER LIBRARIES, STAFF LOGIN, FLLS HELPDESK, and BLOG. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column is titled "Polaris Documentation" and lists various documents with their update dates. The middle column is titled "What's new in Polaris?" and lists recent updates. The right column contains a sidebar with links for Librarians Home, Library Supplies, Polaris Documentation, and Polaris FAQ. A red arrow points to the "Polaris Documentation" link in the sidebar.

Polaris documentation and videos directly from Innovative are also accessible online, no login required:

<https://vimeopro.com/innovativeiii/webinars>

<https://innovative.libguides.com/polaris>

[Back to Top](#)



AWARDS & GRANTS



Thank you to everyone who applied for our 2022-2023 Outreach Mini-Grant cycle! Once again, it was difficult for our [COSAC](#) team this year as there were 16 applicants with limited available grant funds. We were able to fund the following projects:

Berkshire Free Library

*Project: Creamery Road Senior Apartments
Awarded: \$850*

Candor Free Library

*Project: Herbs and Spices
Awarded: \$540*

Southworth Library Association – Dryden

*Project: Art with The Masters Classes
Awarded: \$1,150*

Groton Public Library

*Project: Back to Basics – Learn to Sew
Awarded: \$1,650*

Interlaken Public Library

*Project: Love Your Library for Life
Awarded: \$743*

Lansing Community Library

*Project: Tween Advisory Group and Book Club
Awarded: \$1,650*

Lodi Whittier Library

*Project: Artist Led Classes for Adults
Awarded: \$1,439*

Peck Memorial Library – Marathon

*Project: Oceans of Possibilities 2022
Awarded: \$980*

Powers Library – Moravia

*Project: A Hand-Up Pantry
Awarded: \$400*

**Tappan-Spaulling Memorial Library
– Newark Valley**

*Project: LEGO Night
Awarded: \$550*

Newfield Public Library

*Project: NPL at the Food Pantry
Awarded: \$840*

Coburn Free Library – Owego

*Project: Teen Outreach: They asked, we listened
Awarded: \$1,000*

Seneca Falls Library

*Project: Building Life Skills Outside the Box
Awarded: \$1,560*

Waterloo Library & Historical Society

*Project: Integrated Crafts
Awarded: \$1,200*

Weedsport Free Library

*Project: Digital Inclusion
Awarded: \$671*

Congratulations to our OMG recipients!

Visit the [OMG blog post](#) to view project descriptions!