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ANNOUNCEMENTS
Upcoming FLLS Staff Vacations: Tom July 31-August 4; Jenny July 31-August 4; Arlene July 31 & August 9-11; Heidi August 9-11; Sarah August 11-18. Sarah will also be at the PULISDO conference in Buffalo August 2-4.

Not sure who to contact? Visit the Staff Directory webpage and click on the FLLS Services Contacts Cheat Sheet!

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK
Bridgebuilding Resource Hub: Strengthening civic life and a sense of mutuality through libraries

Confronting White Nationalism in Libraries: A Toolkit

New App Gives Free Access to Banned Books Depending On Area

Ask the Lawyer: Legal Recourse for Slanderous Accusations Against Librarians

That Delicate Balance Between Quality Patron Services and Employee Personal Boundaries
Here are some updates from the last few weeks:

**NY State Aid for Library Construction**— I have been doing library visits to our libraries that have notified FLLS of their intent to apply for NY State Aid for library construction. We have projects ranging from new libraries (Hazard Library in Cayuga County) to LED lighting and parking lot construction projects. A reminder to those libraries applying that applications are due to FLLS by Friday, September 1. The FLLS Board of Trustees will be meeting on Wednesday, September 27 to vote on the proposed projects. If you have any questions, please email me.

**Construction Webinar** – If your library is planning a construction project in the next few years, the State Library is hosting a webinar that may be of interest. [Registration is now open](#) for a fall webinar on “Planning for a Library Construction Project” on Tuesday, September 12 from 2:00-3:30pm.

The webinar will be recorded and uploaded to the [New York State Library website](#) once closed-captioning work has been completed.

Webinar Description: A construction project is one of the most daunting challenges a librarian can undertake. In partnership with the design firm Sasaki, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners has developed a set of best practices for designing library space that may be applied to libraries across the nation. In this webinar, MBLC Library Building Specialists Lauren Stara and Andrea Bono-Bunker will provide an overview of the resource and answer questions about library design and construction.

**FLLS Annual Meeting** – A reminder to save the date for Friday, October 13 for the FLLS Annual Meeting. This meeting will be held in person in Auburn. More information will be sent out soon.

During the Annual Meeting, the election of 4 trustees will be occurring. FLLS is in need of the following trustees:

- 1 Trustee who resides in Tioga County to fill a five year term
- 1 Trustee who resides in Tompkins County to fill a five year term
- 2 Trustees who reside in Cortland County, both for 2 year terms. These are terms to be filled for Trustees who have left before the end of their terms.

An email will be going out on Monday with further information about our need for trustees. Please contact me if you have any questions or are interested in serving on our board.

**Sarah out of the office next week** – The Public Library Systems Directors Organization (PULISDO) is having their biennial meeting next week in Buffalo. For this conference, system directors are meeting at the Central Library of Buffalo and Erie County next Wednesday through Friday. I will be out of the office starting Wednesday to attend. Please note that while I will be responding to emails, responses will be delayed due to the conference.

I hope everyone has a relaxing weekend.

Sarah
MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

[Image 16x717 to 74x775]
[Image 36x76 to 302x401]
[Image 36x415 to 302x709]
[Image 310x415 to 576x709]
[Image 310x76 to 576x330]

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

[Image 16x717 to 74x775]
[Image 36x76 to 302x401]
[Image 36x415 to 302x709]
[Image 310x415 to 576x709]
[Image 310x76 to 576x330]
Upcoming Webinars

**Embodying DEI and Cultural Humility in Workplace Wellness** (CLRC)
**Wednesday, August 9, 10:00am**

In the last three years, we’ve experienced and witnessed the need for organizations that center their employee’s well-being and how vital diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural humility are to our wellness and work. In Fostering Wellness in the Workplace, I stated, “No matter where you work, you have a right to a physically and emotionally healthy and supportive workplace” (p. 48). During the course of this webinar, I will delve into how diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural humility are essential to workplace wellness, along with strategies and resources.

**Sign, Baby, Sign! with Kathy MacMillan** (FLLS)
**Wednesday August 30, 10:00am**

Babies can sign long before they can speak, and research shows that using American Sign Language with both hearing and deaf babies imparts language benefits that can last a lifetime. Learn the benefits of using signs with babies and toddlers, as well as ways to incorporate signs into your program and educate parents. Participants will leave with a basic vocabulary of signs to use right away. Kathy MacMillan is a nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter, librarian, and storyteller. She is the author of the Little Hands Signing series from Familius Press, Little Hands and Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together (Hands Up Press), the co-author of the bestselling Storytime Magic series (ALA Editions), and the creator of many other books for children, teens, librarians, and educators. She presents interactive programs and workshops to share American Sign Language with everyone. Find out more at StoriesByHand.com.

Conferences & Special Programs

**Trustee Handbook Book Club**

The Trustee Handbook Book Club is back! See more information and the full roster of sessions [here](#)! Some of the upcoming sessions include:

- **Strategic Planning** (Tuesday, August 15, 2023 | 5:00-6:30pm) [REGISTER]
- **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access & Justice** (Tuesday, October 17, 2023 | 5:00-6:30pm) [REGISTER]

All those who attend a live session will receive a certificate of attendance and a follow up message with a recording of the session. All sessions will be recorded and archived on the landing page for the series.

**Library Leaders’ Safety Summit**

4 Credit Hours | September 20

Learn how public and academic library leaders can help make libraries safer for staff and patrons while protecting their privacy and maintaining open, accessible, and welcoming spaces. [REGISTER]!

**Polaris Help**

To view Polaris documentation and videos from Innovative, visit the links below: [https://vimeopro.com/innovativeiii/webinars](https://vimeopro.com/innovativeiii/webinars)  
[https://innovative.libguides.com/polaris](https://innovative.libguides.com/polaris)

You can also view FLLS training videos below, contact [jshonk@flls.org](mailto:jshonk@flls.org) for the password:

- [Polaris New User Part 1](#)
- [Polaris New User Part 2](#)
- [Polaris Item Maintenance Part 1](#)
- [Polaris Item Maintenance Part 2](#)
- [Polaris Reporting Part 1](#)
- [Polaris Reporting Part 2](#)
- [Polaris Leap](#)

Looking for more?

- CLRC
- METRO
- SCRLC
- WebJunction
- Libby Webinars from OverDrive

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Watershed Awareness Week Wrap Up

Thanks to the libraries who participated in this pilot program arranged by the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, Community Science Institute, and Discover Cayuga Lake!

While the week is winding down, the materials and message are timeless. (And the Cayuga Basin Bioregion Map poster is gorgeous!) Please send any feedback to Heidi to pass along to the water organizations.

🌞 Sun Spot: Solar Eclipse Programming 🌚

FLLS and the Sciencenter are creating a Solar Eclipse Kit featuring two program possibilities (Bear’s Shadow and Big Sun, Small Moon) for your libraries to use before, during, or after the two upcoming eclipses.

If your library would like a kit, kindly respond here https://forms.gle/kg7rv4bAoKDK4rgp6 by August 4th, 2023. Our goal is to have them ready to distribute by late August.

Save the Date! Thursday, September 7th @ 10 am the Sciencenter will (virtually) host a follow-along kit demo and chat about solar eclipse safety.

Summer Reading Program 2023

CSLP SRP July 2023 Newsletter with info on upcoming 2026 and 2027 slogan listening sessions. Be sure to share your thoughts on CSLP materials in their Summer Survey!

You can easily sign up for notifications about new items posted on the New York State Library’s Summer Reading News blog by going to this page and entering your email address in the appropriate spot: https://nyslibrary.libguides.com/summerreading

Featured Professional Collection Books

Search Polaris and place a request today!

A20519413190  A20519411570  A20519412801
POLARIS TIP
How to Find a Call Number

OCLC created a great tool called OCLC Classify that would find almost any call number for you. It appears as though they’ve stopped updating the tool, but you can use WorldCat to help you find a call number for a non-fiction book.

Visit [https://www.worldcat.org/](https://www.worldcat.org/) and type in the title or the ISBN of the book you are looking for. Click on the appropriate title. You will see a page similar to the image below. Check the box: “Only public libraries.”

![WorldCat call number search](image)

Click **Borrow** next to a specific library or system, Onondaga County Public Library is always a good choice since they also use Polaris.

You will be redirected to the library or system’s catalog. Click on **Availability** if it is a Polaris library. You will be presented with the item information, see below. Otherwise, you will have to do some searching around.

![Library catalog](image)

If you have zero luck finding the call number, just contact dgeier@flls.org or jshonk@flls.org for assistance. We would be happy to help!
We all need to master the knowledge and skills to make smart financial choices and prepare for whatever the future brings. **Thinking Money for Kids**, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation, strives to teach children and their parents, caregivers and educators about financial topics — like saving, spending, sharing and budgeting — in a way that is both meaningful and fun.

ALA and the FINRA Foundation invite public libraries to apply to receive a **Thinking Money for Kids Program Kit**, a collection of expertly vetted resources to help libraries offer financial education for children ages 3 to 12, both in the library and in children’s homes.

Approximately 200 public libraries will be selected to receive a Thinking Money for Kids Program Kit (estimated kit value: $2,000). Libraries will keep all kit contents after the grant period ends. Each selected library will receive the following:

- All materials needed to host five different in-person children’s programs — such as ready-to-use games, props and other physical materials — for children ages 3 to 12.
- A set of Playaway Launchpad tablets pre-loaded with digital content that aligns with the in-person program offerings.
- Program instructions, talking points, related book lists and other resources to assist library workers in planning and hosting the in-person programs.
- Template promotional materials and digital graphics to assist library workers with marketing the programs and Launchpad tablets to the public.
- Access to virtual training and a community of practice.

**ALA will accept online applications for this opportunity from June 15 to September 8, 2023.** The programming period will run from September 2024 through December 2025. See important links below:

- **Apply online via our grants management platform**
- **View a PDF of the grant application**
- **Project guidelines**
- **Frequently asked questions**