

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Friday, April 12, 2024

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sarah will be attending several member library board meetings in the coming weeks and she will be at NYLA's *Spring on the Hill* in Albany on April 23.

Staff Out-of-Office: Eric - April 19, 22, & 26; Jenny - April 19; Diana - April 25 (pm).

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Psychological Safety in Libraries and the Veneer of Niceness](#)

[ALA Releases State of America's Libraries 2024 Report](#)



[New Opioid Crisis Support Kit for Public Libraries](#)

[Southworth Library awarded \\$20K accessibility grant](#)

[Building Accessibility into Community Conversations](#)

[Book Résumés: A Tool for Defending the Right to Read](#)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Here are some updates for you that we have been working on for the past few weeks:

State Budget – Unfortunately, we do not have a New York State Budget in place at this time. While the deadline is April 1, we are now into our fourth budget extender. This is the third year in a row that lawmakers have not met the state deadline of April 1. It appears that current points of contention are housing, healthcare and education. During our NYALS (New York Alliance of Library Systems) Committee meeting this Tuesday, NYLA staff updated us that they believe the budget will most likely be finalized next week and that they have not been hearing anything regarding library funding. Once the budget is passed and library and construction figures are released, I will be sharing the information out to library directors and trustees.

Eclipse – I hope that everyone had a chance to witness the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8. Our libraries' social media accounts highlighted all of the great displays, crafts, creative snacks and viewing parties that took place across our service area on that day. FLLS and our libraries distributed (free of charge) over 10,000 eclipse glasses leading up to April 8. Many of our libraries are currently collecting remaining eclipse glasses to recycle and send out to other future eclipse viewing areas.

I spent the day traveling throughout our service area that was in the path of totality and ended up viewing the eclipse at the Fair Haven Public Library with library staff, volunteers, trustees and the public. A big thank you to all of our libraries who worked so hard over the last few months to promote this special occurrence. At our monthly directors' meeting this week, our library directors shared that the eclipse brought new patrons into their libraries with many libraries registering new borrowers and there was a tremendous feeling of community togetherness.

Happy National Library Week – While we are at the end of National Library Week (April 7 – April 13), it's not too late to say thank you to all of our library directors, staff, trustees and volunteers who work so hard to make our libraries great! This year's theme was *Ready, Set, Library!* and included National Right to Read Day (April 8), National Library Workers Day (April 9), and National Library Outreach Day (April 10).

Summer Reading – FLLS will be hosting one of our largest workshops for library staff and directors next Thursday, April 18 when we kick off our Summer Reading meeting. The 2024 theme is *Adventure Begins at Your Library* and our summer reading meeting will offer training, programming ideas, and a chance for our libraries to share ideas and network. A big thank you to our Member Services librarian, Heidi, who is leading our meeting next week.

I hope everyone has a relaxing weekend!
Sarah





MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

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

Seneca Falls Library
1h · 🌐

Would you like to recycle your solar glasses? Drop them off at the Seneca Falls Library. Our friends at the [Seneca Falls Rotary](#) are collecting them to be shipped to South America for a partial eclipse there in the fall.

Edith B Ford Memorial Library, Ovid
18m · 🌐

Come in at any point throughout the day to celebrate with us! We will have unicorn themed crafts and coloring activities, and unicorn prizes for our younger patrons! 🦄

National Unicorn Day
APRIL 9th

Groton Public Library
20h · 🌐

Your infamous director 🧑🏻 in front of our new Narcan dispensary.

Lansing Community Library
1d · 🌐

Join us this coming Wednesday for the 1st session of the Financial Series with Naya Sou!

RSVP with Bobbie at bobbiew@lansinglibrary.org and let us know what sessions you plan on attending.

Click here for more info on each session:... [See more](#)

FINANCIAL EDUCATION SESSIONS

Session 1:
APRIL 10, 2024
7:00 - 8:00 PM

What to Know about the SECURE Acts' Impacts on Your Personal Finance

The SECURE Acts brought some of the biggest changes to retirement planning in recent years. In this session, we will explore some of the key provisions, how they impact your financial plan, and strategies to mitigate some of the impacts. We will focus particularly on one of the biggest changes, the elimination of "stretch IRA" and what that means for asset transfers to future generations.

Presenter: Naya Sou



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Upcoming Webinars

[Intellectual Property Fundamentals with Ramon Mercado, Ph.D. \(NYSL\)](#)

Wednesday, April 17 | 12:00-1:00pm | Virtual | FREE

Unfamiliar with patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets? Learn about intellectual property (IP) basics and potential ways to protect your innovations as you transition from idea to product. The session will cover:

- What is the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)?
- An overview of intellectual property types: patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets.
- Why innovators and entrepreneurs should consider protecting their IP.
- How to get started in protecting your intellectual property.

[Going the Extra Mile: Making Your Library ADA-Friendly Instead of ADA-Compliant \(OWWL\)](#)

Thursday, May 2 | 10:00-11:00am | Virtual | FREE

This online workshop will provide various techniques to make your physical library space more ADA-friendly instead of only ADA-compliant. The presenter will also discuss ways to make programming more ADA-friendly. We will look at physical, mental health, and sensory ways to make your library a more welcoming space to all. Presented by Rachel Stevenson.

[Addressing Body Shape and Size Stigma in Libraries: Getting Started \(Infopeople\)](#)

Wednesday, May 15 | 3:00-4:00pm | Virtual | FREE

As library workers, we recognize the significance of creating environments that embrace diversity and prioritize the well-being of all patrons and staff. In this webinar we will be starting the conversation around how body shape and size stigma affect our society. We will be focusing on libraries, and how we can create services, spaces, and workplaces that better support people of diverse body shapes and sizes. We will describe the significance of weight stigma, its historical context, and its intersection with other identities, offering insights into the barriers it creates. Together we will discuss individual and organizational strategies to combat body shape and size stigma and support all library users and workers. Presented by Lorelei Rutledge, Erika E. Church, and Anneliese (Annie) Tillmann.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

[CLRC](#)

[METRO](#)

[SCRLC](#)

[WebJunction](#)

[Libby Webinars from OverDrive](#)

Polaris Help

To view Polaris documentation and videos from Innovative, visit the links below:

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

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

You can also view FLLS training videos below, contact 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](#)

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PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH

Eclipse Glasses

Check out the blog below for ways your library can re-use and recycle glasses! And don't forget, these glasses are fun to look at the sun anytime, so just hanging on to them is a great answer too! [What to do with extra and gently used eclipse glasses??](#)

eContent

New Kids (and Teens) on the Block/OverDrive Navigation Bar Updates:

OverDrive recently made improvements to its student reading app, Sora, to help increase student engagement with our collection. Now, when students use Sora to visit the FLLS OverDrive collection, the Explore tab will display the lists specifically curated through Marketplace for Kids and Teens guides. You'll see links to both in the top navigation bar on [our site](#).

OverDrive's Big Library Read: From May 9 to May 23, the nonfiction book [Wild New World](#) will be available for simultaneous use through the Libby app during the [Big Library Read](#) with no holds or waiting. Patrons can borrow the eBook or audiobook format of Dan Flores' portrait of iconic creatures such as mammoths, horses, wolves, and bison, as he describes the evolution and historical ecology of North America. It's the perfect title for a digital book club.

Summer Reading News

The New York State Library (NYSL) has several great Lunch and Learn sessions lined up featuring Summer Reading content. Be sure to bookmark the [NYSL calendar](#) to stay in the know. If you miss one, sessions are archived here: <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/webinars/>.

Looking for a book source for those summer reading giveaways? Amber at the [Family Reading Partnership](#) recommends [Book Depot](#). Here's her testimonial: *"They sell brand new books that they receive from publishers. They are MUCH higher quality than [other sources used], and the prices are incredible.... Every one in 50 books might have a black line on the spine or a crumpled corner, but generally they were in perfect condition. It is stretching my dollars and allowing me to purchase much nicer books."* Visit <https://www.bookdepot.com/>.

FLX Library Road Trip

Don't get left behind! Watch your email for (almost) weekly updates about the 2024 FLX Library Road Trip, a promotional event highlighting Summer Reading at your library. All library staff are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming Road Trip Info Sessions on April 30 and May 6. The sessions will be recorded and registration links will be emailed.



AWARDS & GRANTS

Applications Open for 2024 Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund Programming Grants

Deadline: April 30, 2024

Each year the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) distributes grants to organizations to support activities that raise awareness of intellectual freedom and censorship issues during the annual Banned Books Weeks celebration (September 22-28, 2024). Staff at all types of libraries, schools, universities, and non-profit community organizations are encouraged to apply. Grants are awarded for \$1,000 and applications are accepted now through April 30, 2024.

Grants are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- *IMAGINATION*: What makes your plan unique? How have you integrated the concept of the freedom to read?
- *SCHEDULE/ACTION PLAN*: Include key dates, responsibilities, and collaboration with other groups to carry out a creative project.
- *PR PLAN*: What are the ways you will promote your event and who is your intended audience? Do you have a media and social media plan? How will your promotion be creative, unique and eye-catching?
- *BUDGET*: Please detail your proposed budget. Institutions, and other groups they are working with, should partially contribute to the funding of proposed events rather than solely relying on the grant. Do not designate all of these grant funds for the purchase of books, or as an honorarium for one speaker.
- *EVALUATION*: Detail how you will evaluate the success of your program.

To be eligible for a grant, organizations must not have been a recipient of an FTRF grant within the past five years. FTRF Founder Judith F. Krug was a fierce proponent of education and intellectual freedom. During Krug's lengthy career she worked non-stop to prevent censorship and protect First Amendment rights.

Visit the [Freedom to Read Foundation](#) online to apply and learn more about past recipients and their projects through the [Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund](#). Contact Joyce McIntosh at jmcintosh@ala.org or Karen Gianni at kgianni@ala.org with questions.

[Apply now with this application.](#)