

Connections

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Coming To A Library Near You: [Beanstack](#)

It's June, and that means public libraries everywhere have begun their summer reading programs. Your public library is probably doing their program a little differently this year, compared with previous years. Many libraries have moved to an online reading log due to concerns over the COVID-19. The State Library is no exception to this and has subscribed to a new database called [Beanstack](#).



Beanstack lets patrons from all over the state create an account by choosing their public library. A patron can create an adult account for themselves and then add accounts for their children as well all under the same username. The challenges come at four different levels for the different types of users. There is the emerging reader challenge, which is ages 0-5; the children challenge, which is ages 6-13; the teen challenge, which is ages 14-17; and the adult challenge, which is ages 18+. You can add as many teen or child accounts as necessary to the parent account, and the parent account can enter the reading information. Not only does Beanstack provide a reading log, but it also comes with non-reading badges that can be earned to complete the challenge. If you'd like to find out more about how to sign up for Beanstack, we have a tutorial available on our [YouTube channel](#) that will walk you through every step.

If you have any questions, please contact us at ndsitrain@nd.gov.

Summer Reading With The State Library

As mentioned in the article above, the State Library is going to conduct the Summer Reading program differently this year. Instead filling out a BINGO card, participants can register on [Beanstack](#) and collect badges for completing books, minutes, and activities.

The Summer Reading Program runs from June 1 through August 31. The prize winner will be selected at random on September 1.



If you have any questions or concerns, please send an e-mail to ndsipa@nd.gov or call 701-328-4622.

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In-Person Services Provided By The State Library

The North Dakota State Library has begun the process of re-opening the building and beginning in-person services as of Monday, June 1, 2020.

“The State Library is looking forward to continuing to serve patron needs in-person via appointment or by mail,” says State Librarian Mary Soucie. “Libraries across North Dakota are implementing a phased approach to re-opening, and we are grateful to our colleagues for sharing best practices and their plans, which were invaluable to us as we crafted our plan for reopening.

Since no walk-in services are available at this time, patrons will need to schedule an appointment by calling 1-701-328-4622. Patrons will be allowed a thirty-minute timeslot, which will begin at the top of the hour. A limit of three patrons will be allowed in the building each hour.

Everyone will be screened before entering the building, including a questionnaire and a temperature check. If you are not feeling well and have a cough or fever, please do not enter the building. When you are in the building, please practice social distancing by staying at least 6 feet apart. The State Library requests that masks be worn when inside the building. If you do not have a mask with you, one will be available.



There will be two computers available for patrons. One will be reserved for people who are applying for unemployment. The other computer will have a 15-minute limit.

Other options available for patrons are receiving items through the mail or curbside pickup.

“Following the ND Smart Restart guidelines from the Governor’s office has given us the flexibility to offer limited access to the building for patrons and staff,” says State Librarian Mary Soucie. “Utilizing a phased re-opening approach allows us to balance meeting patron needs with observing social distancing practices recommended by the Governor, State Health Department, and CDC.”

Please continue to watch the [State Library’s website](#) for the most up-to-date information. The North Dakota State Library is open Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Virtual Summer Reading Kickoff

The North Dakota State Library partnered with public, academic, school, and special libraries across the state to put on a Virtual Summer Reading Kickoff on Facebook the week of June 1. Many of the performers and presentations are still up on the event page, so be sure to check them out. There were puppet shows, storytimes, craft projects, STEM/STEAM projects, and baking shows!

Keynote performers include an Author/Illustrator Bruce Arant, Storytellers Linda Hartman and Vera Oye Yaa-Anna, and Music Therapist Bobbi Jo Vandal. Check them out on the [Facebook event page](#).

We would like to thank all the participants, performers, and audience members for making this a fun time!

New Items At The North Dakota State Library

New E-Audiobooks



New E-Books



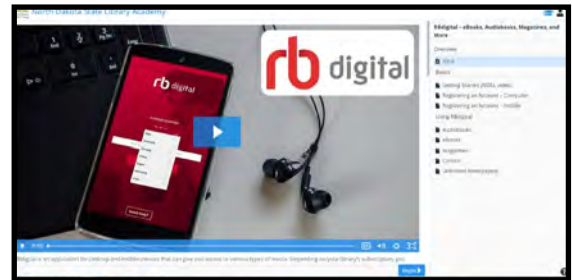
New Adult Print Books



The North Dakota State Library will mail out items from the collection to anyone in North Dakota who has a State Library card. If you don't already have a library card with the State Library, fill out an [online application](#) and a card will be sent to you.

Course of the Month: [RBdigital On Niche Academy](#)

It is likely that by now you have heard of the e-book, e-audiobook, e-magazine, and e-comic book service that the State Library offers its patrons. RBdigital has so many features that, unless you take time to explore it, there might be things that you have not seen. This course is designed to give an overview of what RBdigital has to offer and how to use it. This course won't cover everything, but by the end, you'll have a pretty good idea of what you can do on the database. Remember that you need an app-based device to run RBdigital, so make sure you have one available when you finish this course.



If you have any questions, please e-mail us at nds1train@nd.gov.

E-Audiobook Series: Fantasy

For maximum escapism, here are the series with the highest number of available e-audiobook titles. And they are all set to unlimited simultaneous usage, so no holds! Check them out [today!](#)

Greywalker by Kat Richardson (7 vol.)

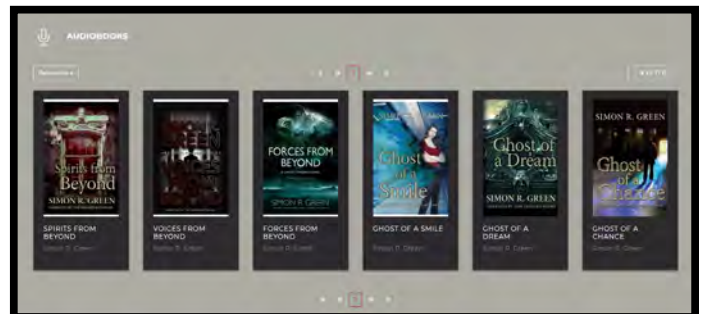
Darkover by Marion Zimmer Bradley (16 vol.)

Incarnations of Immortality by Piers Anthony (6 vol.)

Secret Histories by Simon R. Green (9 vol.)

Ghost Finders by Simon R. Green (9 vol.)

Earthsea by Ursula K. LeGuin (6 vol.)



5 Languages of Workplace Appreciation Webinar

Creating a work environment where individuals are connecting and honoring differences is critical to the success of any workplace team. This workshop provides valuable research and insight into how all employees need to understand that what they do on behalf of the organization matters. We will discuss the ways individuals best receive the message of appreciation that differs from person to person. The overarching goal of the Appreciation at Work workshop is to assist individuals in the workplace (both employees and volunteers) in understanding how to communicate appreciation and encouragement effectively to their colleagues and to provide the resources and support to apply this knowledge proactively in their current work environment.

Presenter: Gail Santy, Central Kansas Library System

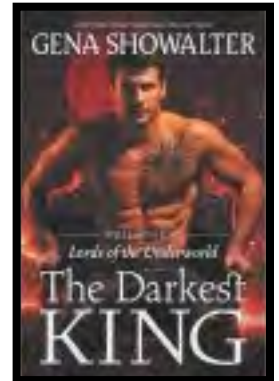
When: Thursday, June 18, 2020, 1:30-2:00 (CST)

Register: <https://bit.ly/3bwYmyH>

***The Darkest King* by Gena Showalter**

Reviewed by Angie Houser

The book that thousands of fans have been waiting for is finally here. *The Darkest King* in the *Lords of the Underworld* series by Gena Showalter was released on February 25, 2020. William has been a constant character in the series since its beginning, and now fans get to read about his mate and how she will break the curse against him. William's only goals are to become one of the 10 Kings of Hell and to break the curse that a jilted lover put on him. The curse foretells that when he finds his true mate, she will kill him, and the only way to break that curse is in a book that is written in code. Which means William needs to find a cryptanalyst to break this code. He finds her in Sunshine "Sunny" Lane, who just so happens to be out for revenge against William's one-time brother Lucifer.



As a fan of this series, the book was a wonderfully quick read, and it gripped me from beginning to end. Though the reader doesn't see much of the actual Lords of the Underworld in this one, we do get glimpses of them as supporting characters for William's story. The only thing I didn't like about this book was the end battle scene. I thought that it could have been longer considering the build-up to it from previous books. Otherwise, it was excellent, and if you are a fan of paranormal romance, this is the book for you.

Though you can read this one as a standalone romance, I highly suggest reading it as part of the series. You can do that through [RBdigital](https://www.library.nd.gov/). The North Dakota State Library owns *The Darkest King* and the rest of the series in our e-book collection.

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