Training Surveys
Submitted by Al Peterson

For most of my professional career as a librarian, I have been involved in training in one way or another. Starting in 2004, I have traveled the state from East to West, North to South, and parts in between conducting in-person trainings at libraries and schools. I have been hosting webinars for over ten years. I have trained librarians, teachers, students, and local patrons on using three different catalogs, many online library resources, and basic computer skills. After a few years off as the Public Services Manager, I am back to providing training opportunities for librarians in North Dakota.

I want to provide the best training possible on the topics you want to learn about. Therefore, I have created two surveys - one for public librarians and one for school librarians. These surveys are designed to help me gauge what training opportunities people are interested in and how to deliver that training to meet your professional development needs. In the future, I will survey the Academic, Special, and Tribal libraries as well so I can provide those libraries with the best opportunities for training.

If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the appropriate survey.

Public Librarians - **https://bit.ly/3i9Y4r2**
School Librarians - **https://bit.ly/3vD0Nwa**

I appreciate your time and your support.

Blind Date With A Book

The North Dakota State Library will be holding the annual Blind Date with a Book Program. The books will all be wrapped up, so you won't know what title you are checking out. The only information you will be given is the first line of the book, whether it is fiction or nonfiction, and the format (large print, regular print, audiobook). Be adventurous and read a book that you may not have checked out otherwise. Who knows, maybe you'll find your new favorite book/author!

If you would like to participate, please fill out the form at **https://forms.office.com/g/899ffb2AB7**, and we will send a selection to you the week of January 16th. You will be responsible for returning the item to the library, either through the mail or the State Library building.

In order to be eligible for a small prize, you will need to return the "Rate the Date" card (included in the book) to the State Library by Monday, March 6, 2023.

Don't have a library card? Fill out an application online at **http://library.nd.gov/librarycard.html**.

Library Vision Grant Opportunities

Applications open on Monday, January 2, 2023, for two grant opportunities from the State Library and the Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC). Neither of the grants have a match component.

The Collection Development Grant has a maximum award of $2,000. The purpose of this grant is to support collection development for libraries. Libraries are encouraged to use grant funds to develop a new collection for their library or to expand their North Dakota collection. The grant may be used for e-materials if a library belongs to one of the shared e-book collections.

The Laptop and Tablet Grant has a maximum award of $3,000. The purpose of this grant is to provide funding to purchase laptop computers and tablets for patron use. The devices may not be for staff use.

Both grants will follow the same timeline.
- **Application Period: January 2 - January 31, 2023**
- **Award Date: February 28, 2023**
- **Grant Period: March 1 - May 31, 2023**
- **Final Report Due: August 31, 2023**

More information can be found at **http://library.nd.gov/grants.html**.
The pre-recorded 2023 Library Vision Grants webinar is available at **https://youtu.be/vsNQziGsqg0**.

Applications must be submitted through Counting Opinions. If you need assistance with your login for Counting Opinions, have questions about the grants, or need assistance with your application, contact Grants Coordinator, James Murphy, at (701)328-3495 or **ndsl-ld@nd.gov**.

New Items Added to Digital Horizons

Here is a highlight of the items that were added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.

Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection
- Anderson-Landers picnic, 1947
- Fourth of July picnic, Belfield, N.D., 1942
- Gordon Anderson stands by Sanish Picnic Grounds sign, 1942
- Picnic at Taskers Coulee, N.D., 1940s

North Dakota Memories
- Dinosaurs on the Prairie threshing machine collection, Napoleon, N.D., 1988
- Grenz farm, Logan County, N.D., 1943
- Harley Grenz picking rocks, Logan County, N.D., circa 1953
- Spring planting on Grenz farm, Logan County, N.D., circa 1955

Digital Horizons is an online resource for thousands of images, documents, video, and oral histories depicting life on the Northern Plains from the late 1800s to today. Find a fascinating snapshot of the lives, culture, and history of the people who shaped life on the prairies at **https://digitalhorizonsonline.org/**.

Upcoming Niche Academy Webinars

UX Research Methods for Libraries   **Register: https://bit.ly/3GAzoRB**
Wednesday, January 11, at 1:00 PM
Join Mark Aaron Polger as he introduces selected user research methods utilized in User Experience (UX) design. No matter what kind of library you're in, Mark will discuss various qualitative and quantitative research techniques and activities to help participants better understand library users. UX research methods combine techniques used in marketing and ethnographic research. UX includes examples such as usability testing, A/B testing, card sorting methods, survey research, eye tracking research, diary studies, customer journey mapping, focus groups, and user interviews.

Level Up Your Book Displays   **Register: https://bit.ly/3WYsivI**
Wednesday January 18, at 1:00 PM
Book displays are more than a simple tool for passive Readers' Advisory. A well-crafted display captures patrons' attention, sparks imagination, and sends subtle (or not-so-subtle) messages about your library's values and institutional culture. In this presentation, Faithe Miller Lakowicz shares practical approaches for maximizing the impact of book and media displays, including low-cost "hacks" for maximizing visual appeal; highlighting diversity, equity, and inclusion; honing an institutional voice; using displays to create bridges between library departments; and ensuring that displays are accessible and compelling for a variety of patrons.

Lateral Reading Mindset: Contextualizing   **Register: https://bit.ly/3CgT2Qk**
Information Resources
Wednesday, January 25, at 1:00 PM
Lateral Reading is the process by which we read around an information resource to determine its validity, bias, inaccuracy, and hidden assumptions. Join Anders Tobiason for this presentation on the concept of lateral reading and how using lateral reading creates a divergent set of ways of knowing from traditional information resource evaluation techniques.

2023 Summer Reading Workshops

Training Dates and Locations:

Valley City Barnes County Public Library on February 3
Grand Forks Public Library on February 13
Morton Mandan Public Library on February 14
Minot Public Library on February 17
Williston Community Library on February 22

Register at http://library.nd.gov/summerreading.html

Sources for Reviewing Library Materials

A topic came across AASL's Member Forum recently that I want to address: Finding sources for reviewing library materials. Especially since most school librarians pick, order, and process all their library books, vetting materials is simply a part of the job! There are various resources, both professional and amateur, for readers' advisory. Below is an extensive (although certainly not all-encompassing) list:

Read More

The Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced With Adversity

It is of the opinion of Lemony Snicket, author, reader, and alleged malcontent, that librarians have suffered enough. Therefore he is establishing an annual prize honoring a librarian who has faced adversity with integrity and dignity intact. The prize will be a generous amount of cash from Mr. Snicket's disreputable gains ($10,000), along with an odd, symbolic object from his private stash, and a certificate, which may or may not be suitable for framing. It is Mr. Snicket's hope, and the ALA's, that the Snicket Prize will remind readers everywhere of the joyous importance of librarians and the trouble that is all too frequently unleashed upon them.

The deadline to apply is February 1, 2023. Visit **https://bit.ly/3vEScc7** for more information and to apply.

Discover Exoplanets: The Search for Alien Worlds Application Deadline Extended to January 13

The Space Science Insitute is pleased to announce a free NASA exhibit for public libraries. The next tour of 'Discover Exoplanets: The Search for Alien Worlds' will launch in June 2023, traveling to nine libraries across the country. All public and tribal libraries are welcome to apply. The application will close January 13th, 2023.

To prepare you for the application, the project team hosted a Pre Application Webinar on December 20th. The recording, slides, and application rubric can all be found at **https://bit.ly/3Z9KF2H**.

Kit of the Week

Fairy and Folk Tales STEAM Kit: Three Little Pigs

The Three Little Pigs is a part of a set of kits designed to enhance storytimes and STEAM clubs alike. This kit boosts hands-on learning for young children. Read the book and have kids follow along with the figurines and assembly pieces to build a house that can't be blown down.

This kit contains four Storytelling Hand Puppets (for librarian use only); one hard cover classic book by Paul Galdone; four Animal Figurines; Styrofoam house blocks; Platforms; Student Cards; Story Card; Teacher's Card.

To learn more about this kit, visit **https://library-nd.libguides.com/STEMkits/pigs**.

Reserve it today at **https://polaris.odinlibrary.org**.

---

www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at **ndslpa@nd.gov**. Times referenced in the Flickertale are Central Time.