
Libraries Transforming Communities - Accessible Small and Rural Libraries Grant

Submitted by **Monica Struck**

ALA is offering a second round of Libraries Transforming Communities – Accessible Small and Rural Libraries grants. The application period runs from September 11 – December 11. Libraries serving small, rural communities are eligible to apply. IMLS defines libraries serving small and rural communities as those located in an area that's more than, or equal to, five miles from an urbanized area and with a population of 25,000 or less. The purpose of this grant is to:

- Increase the accessibility of library facilities, services, and programs for people with disabilities in small and rural communities.
- Support libraries' community engagement efforts by providing resources to help them to work with impacted populations to guide improvement of library services.

The first-round grantees were announced in [May](#). If you think that there is no way that a small library from North Dakota will win one of these grants, think again! Our very own Forman Public Library is one of the first-round grantees! I encourage you to apply.

[Learn More](#)

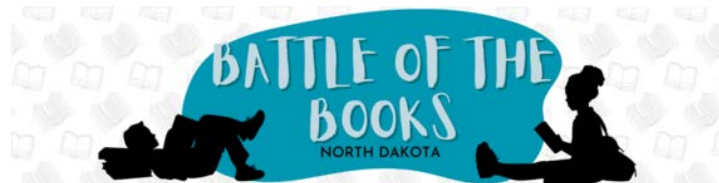
Hispanic Heritage Month

Submitted by **Lexi Whitehorn**

Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15th – October 15th each year, is a time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, histories, and contributions of Hispanic and Latinx communities in the United States. The month begins on the 15th of September which marks the anniversary of independence for several Latin American countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence during this period.

Hispanic Heritage month began as a weeklong celebration under President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968 and remained that way until 1988 when President Ronald Reagan signed the expansion of the celebration to a full month.

[Continue Reading](#)



Submitted by **Lexi Whitehorn**

There is still time to sign up! Registration for the Battle of the Books is now open through September 30th. Schools with grades 6-8 can sign up to participate in this year's battle. So far this year we have 17 schools from across the state signed up and ready to read!

Not sure what you're signing up for? Battle of the Books is a friendly competition where students read a predetermined list of books and then compete to answer trivia questions about those books. Simple easy – and the best part? You don't even have to come up with the questions! All registered schools will receive a packet of questions and answers they can use to form their battles and any other resources to have a successful competition.

Still not sure? Schedule a time [here](#) and we will meet virtually 1:1 and go over the process, what it could look like, and any other questions you may have.

[Learn More](#)

What Does Obscene or Harmful to Children Mean?

Submitted by **Monica Struck**

If you feel like the laws regarding obscenity seem murky at best, you are not alone. July's Info2Go webinar took us on a journey over the history of obscenity law and the notable cases that have shaped the constitutional doctrine surrounding the First Amendment. The presenter was Benjamin Plener Cover, Associate Professor of Law at the University of Idaho Law School. Even though he was speaking from his background in law, the information that he gave should not be considered legal advice.

Cover identified three landmark cases dealing with obscenity: *Ginsberg v. New York* (1968), *Miller v. California* (1973), and *Virginia v. American Booksellers Assn* (1988). These three cases have set precedent for defining obscenity and defining what can be considered harmful to minors.

[Continue Reading](#)



PLNs

What are PLNs?

Professional Learning Networks (also called Personal Learning Networks) are groups of people who connect to learn new ideas, ask and answer questions, share reflections, and dispense references. PLNs are most often conducted online (usually through a form of social media) but can be in-person. These educational opportunities focus upon personalized learning (Teach, 2018).

The Teacher Challenge offers a [free course](#) on what PLNs are and how to go about them.

[Continue Reading](#)



Kids' Books About Space

Reading can be out of this world! Below are some kids' space books to help encourage curiosity, embrace science, and travel the galaxy. If you have any requests for book suggestions, contact tkruger@nd.gov.

Look Up With Me – Neil deGrasse Tyson: A Life Among the Stars by Jennifer Berne

Publish Date: 2019

Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books

Summary: This biography of astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson takes learners on a trip through our universe! From a young age, Neil was curious. He especially took an interest in the stars and planets, going so far as to become a dog walker so that he could buy his own telescope. His curiosity only grew as Neil became older; he went on to share that same sense of wonder with others as the director of Hayden Planetarium.

Best For: PreK through Third Grade



[Continue Reading](#)



Spanish (Latin American)

September 15 begins National Hispanic Heritage Month, which coincides with the celebrations of Independence Day in many Latin American countries, including Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua (September 15), Mexico (September 16), and Chile (September 18). This 31-day celebration, authorized and expanded by the U.S. Congress, calls for Americans to "observe National Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities."

Mango Languages includes specialty courses that cover a range of culturally significant topics, including business, legal, medical, romance, Spanish for Librarians, and text talk. These courses were created using the same conversational methodology, native-speaker dialogue, and cultural context as Mango's world language courses.

Rocket Languages includes seven modules with Audio, Language and Culture, and Survival Kit lessons. Survival Kit lessons provide you with essential vocabulary that you need to survive in Spanish by learning and practicing all sorts of key terminology, from colors to countries.

Promotional materials are currently available for Mango Languages and will be available soon for Rocket Languages. Fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/ndslpaform> to request materials, and they will be sent as soon as possible.

Reference:

Britannica Library, s.v. "National Hispanic Heritage Month," accessed June 19, 2023, <https://library.eb.com/levels/referencecenter/article/National-Hispanic-Heritage-Month/433582>.

[Start Learning!](#)



[Library Card Sign-up Month is September \(KX News\)](#)

"Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September to mark the beginning of the school year. During the month, the American Library Association and libraries unite in a national effort to ensure every child signs-up for their own library card."

Digital Delight

Durard Bohn at a desk inside the Burt, N.D., school, 1920



Durard Bohn sits in a wrought-iron and wood desk on skids inside of a school classroom. In the background are folding doors, which typically separated the students from the lower and upper grade rooms in the schoolhouse.

A copy of this photograph was also featured in the "Memoirs of a Prairie Schoolteacher" article in the "North Dakota History" journal (vol. 42, no. 3, summer 1975).

Courtesy of Digital Horizons (North Dakota Memories Collection, ND State Library)

Digital Horizons

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis.

The North Dakota State Library provides no guarantee as to the security, reliability, or accuracy of information provided herein.

www.library.nd.gov

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

Stay Connected with North Dakota State Library:



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)