

## Today's Skills for Tomorrow's Services

April 19, 2024

### Program Descriptions and Presenter Information

**9:15 AM – 11:00 AM Main Room Keynote: Understanding Bias**

**Speaker: Jorden Laducer-Dix**

Jorden Laducer-Dix serves as the Community Engagement Special Populations Coordinator at the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services through the Community Engagement Unit. His role focuses on leading outreach to underserved special population communities to better understand needs, facilitate information sharing and improve health outcomes while working with local health units and community organizations to address health inequities in North Dakota. Jorden is a Minnesota State University Moorhead graduate and is certified in Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Workforce through Cornell University. Jorden is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa.

Jorden serves as the department co-chair of the BeYOU Health Advisory Board through the Community Engagement Unit, the North Dakota Hepatitis C Advisory Council through the Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Diseases Unit, is a voting board member of the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors and was recently the first North Dakotan and first Indigenous person to be accepted into the 2023-2024 Minority Leadership Program through the National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors. Jorden has worked within the public health sector for 13 years and serves as a liaison between the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services and Special Populations to promote access to health services across North Dakota.

## **11:05 AM – 12:00 AM Main Room Discussion: Intellectual Freedom**

### **Speaker:**

Mary Soucie has almost 30 years' experience as a librarian. She has served as the North Dakota State Librarian since January 2014. In addition to the State Library, Mary has also worked in public and school libraries; as the Youth Services Consultant for a Regional Library System; and was also an adjunct professor at a community college teaching Reader's Advisory and Adult Programs. She has served as a trustee for both a public library and an Illinois Regional Library System. She has served in many volunteer capacities, both within the library community and her own community. Mary believes that libraries serve as community centers, connecting all the parts of the community that they serve.

## **LUNCH BREAK**

### **Breakout Room 1: 1:05 PM - 2:00 PM What are These Things Doing in the Library?**

We have all heard of Makerspaces and Library of Things, but what exactly are they? This presentation will discuss what makes up a Makerspace and a Library of Things, what the difference is between the two, and how to set one up at your library. We will also hear from librarians in our state who have had success in setting up makerspaces and Library of Things.

### **Speaker:**

Al Peterson has been with the North Dakota State Library since 2000. He has held various positions in Public Services and Training. Currently, he is the Outreach Specialist for the North Dakota State Library.

## **Breakout Room 2: 1:05 PM - 2:00 PM What is Reference in 2024 and Beyond?**

I can find whatever I need on the internet, why do we still have libraries? As annoying as this question is, it does apply to “traditional” library reference services. This begs the question, is reference still relevant in the age of the internet, Google, and ChatGPT?

Join NDSL Public Library Specialist Monica Struck and Patron Services Director Steve Hammel in a discussion about the future of reference services in libraries.

### **Speakers:**

Monica Struck started working in North Dakota libraries in August 2012. She started at Williston State College and then moved on to Dickinson State University. After many years in Academic Land, she made the jump to the State Library. She started as Public Library Specialist in Fall 2022. When she isn't working, Monica likes to read, bake, and chase after her four children.

Steve Hammel has been Patron Services Director at the North Dakota State Library since June of 2022. The Patron Services department provides circulation, research assistance, and interlibrary loan to individuals, state employees, and libraries of all types across the state. The Talking Books program, which provides services to individuals who are blind or print disabled, is part of the department as well.

Prior to coming to the state library, he was the director of the Valley City Public Library for nine years. Additionally, he has worked as a branch manager and reference librarian in Louisiana, and as a children's librarian and reference librarian in Kentucky. He is currently the servant of two cats; Beauty, who is the best and most beautiful kitty ever and Bert, who is a bit of a jerk on a regular basis.

### **Breakout Room 3: 1:05 PM - 2:00 PM Technology Basics for Library Computers: Best Practices for Patron Computing**

Basic guidelines for safeguarding patron privacy and data in computing without extra costs. Understanding how content filtering works, and effective implementation. Handling operating systems' end-of-life transitions and preparing for your next OS/Computer migration.

#### **Speaker:**

Ryan Kroh is a seasoned technology professional with over 20 years of experience leading IT initiatives across various industries. As the Director of the Technology Services Division at the State Library, he oversees the Information Technology Department and Digital Initiatives.

### **Breakout Room 1: 2:05 PM - 3:00 PM Adult Services**

Kids are easily impressed. Adults? It takes a bit more work. Join Mary and Lexi as they talk about adult services and ways to impress your adult audiences. With tips and tricks, programming ideas and more that will leave your adult patrons with childlike wonder and excitement.

#### **Speaker:**

Lexi Whitehorn has served as the Literacy Specialist at the State Library since January 2023. As the literacy specialist, Lexi's main focus is creating awareness and programs to support different literacies across the state. Prior to this position, she worked in education for 12 years as both a teacher and K-12 principal. With a passion for reading, she is forever trying to push new titles on to her friends and family. Lexi enjoys spending time with her kids, reading just about every genre, traveling, and learning new skills (aka hobby jumping). Her most current skill is woodworking and creating bookshelves to hold her very large collection of books.

## **Breakout Room 2: 2:05 PM - 3:00 PM Copyright and Libraries: Special Exemptions vs. Fair Use**

Most librarians and educators are familiar with Fair Use and know educational institutions have some special exemptions from copyright, but do you remember which is which? Knowing the difference is important when advising patrons and students. A portion of the presentation will allow for a question and answer period to discuss current topics such as A.I. or whatever topics attendees would like to discuss.

### **Speaker:**

James W. Murphy is the Grants Coordinator at the North Dakota State Library working with grants and statistics in the Library Development department. He has a background in library consulting, reader advisory, and public services. James holds undergraduate degrees in psychology and religious studies and a master's degree in library and information science. When not reading non-fiction or random Wikipedia articles, James enjoys the great outdoors, music, dancing, cycling, and, kayaking.

## **Breakout Room 3: 2:05 PM - 3:00 PM What's Up with A.I.**

When you hear the words Artificial Intelligence, what comes to mind? Curiosity? Acceptance? Fear? Trepidation? The session is an introduction to Artificial Intelligence or A.I. Will discuss what A.I. is, what are the advantages and disadvantages, and look at some A.I. tools. We will also discuss how A. I. can impact library services.

### **Speaker:**

Al Peterson has been with the North Dakota State Library since 2000. He has held various positions in Public Services and Training. Currently, he is the Outreach Specialist for the North Dakota State Library.

### **Breakout Room 1: 3:05 PM – 4:00 PM Native American Literature**

Is there special consideration to be given when selecting Native American literature? If so, what criteria should be applied when evaluating Native American material? Where can Native American literature be purchased? Attend this session to find the answer to these questions and so much more.

#### **Speaker:**

Kathy joined the State Library in November of 2021 as a copy cataloger. January of 2023, she began working as the State Library Academic, Special, and Tribal Library Specialist. Kathy previously worked as an educator and school librarian.

Kathy and her husband Wayne ranch south of Beulah. They have four children and four grandchildren~~referred to as “grands”, and six “grandpets”~~they are referred to as “fur therapy”.

### **Breakout Room 2: 3:05 PM – 4:00 PM Smart With My Money: Helping North Dakotans Create a Positive Money Mindset**

Unlock the secrets to a positive money mindset with Smart With My Money, North Dakota's premier financial wellness resource. Learn essential money management skills through personalized content and a vast array of courses covering 124 unique topics. Join us to explore the website, discover valuable tools, and contribute to our mission of making North Dakota the most financially literate state in the nation.

#### **Speaker:**

Kyle Patterson is the Education Outreach Coordinator at Bank of North Dakota, bringing with him 3 years of experience as a Vision Zero Outreach Coordinator. In his previous role, he dedicated his efforts to educating roadway and traffic safety knowledge to students and communities across North Dakota. Before venturing into education outreach, Kyle spent a decade in radio broadcasting, showcasing his passion for sports play-by-play in various stations across North Dakota, including Minot, Harvey, and Jamestown. His commitment to sports commentary continues through freelance opportunities. Kyle's family includes his wife, Kelsey, and their

two children, Landon, and Elyse. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Production and a Master of Science in Sports Management, both earned from Minot State University.

**Breakout Room 3: 3:05 PM – 4:00 PM Technology Tips and Tricks:  
Leveraging Your Computer's Potential**

Explore the built-in features of your operating system to enhance your computing capabilities. Discover useful keyboard shortcuts. Utilize built-in tools and commands to troubleshoot and resolve issues.

**Speaker:**

Ryan Kroh is a seasoned technology professional with over 20 years of experience leading IT initiatives across various industries. As the Director of the Technology Services Division at the State Library, he oversees the Information Technology Department and Digital Initiatives.