

MEMBER LIBRARY BI-WEEKLY BULLETIN

No. 24.9

Friday, June 14, 2024

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FLLS now has a Little Free Bookshelf in our foyer! Anyone can take a book or leave a book!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Staff Out-of-Office: Deb - June 14; Tom - June 14; Sarah - June 26-28.

FLLS will be closed Wednesday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth.

LINKS TO MAKE YOU THINK

[Fostering Well-being In The Workplace For Libraries, Public Library Training](#)

[News from the New York State Library](#)



[LED Lighting And Accessibility](#)

[The NYLA Voice June 2024](#)

[States begin to push back on book bans – by banning them](#)

[NYLA 2024 Annual Conference Keynote Speaker Amanda Jones](#)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Here are some items from over the last few weeks:

FLLS Delivery Van – Due to an extremely generous financial donation by the Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library, we were able to purchase a new 2024 Ford Transit delivery van that was delivered to us on Wednesday. Our FLLS Fleet Manager, Tom Smith, worked with Maguire Ithaca for our exact specifications as transporting all kinds of library materials means we need special customization of our delivery vans. On average, our delivery vans last approximately 5-6 years due to our heavy mileage. Thank you again to the Friends of TCPL!



State Legislature – The New York State legislature adjourned its 2024 session on Saturday, June 8. Some legislative priorities that had been more high-profile unfortunately were not able to be passed by the end of session, including eBook licensing regulation and Freedom to Read bills. NYLA will continue working on those items in the 2025 session and feel strongly that partnerships and coalitions of support made during this session will help during the next session.

One exciting piece of legislation that did move forward is a broad update of the State Aid for Library Construction program. Sponsored by our Senate and Assembly Library Committee Chairs, Senator Iwen Chu and Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, this legislation now heads to the desk of Governor Kathy Hochul. If signed, it will enact the following changes:

- Remove the 50% cap on system allocation of construction aid funds to projects eligible for matches above 50%
- Remove the distinction between libraries located in “economically disadvantaged” and “economically distressed” areas, consolidating both under the “economically disadvantaged” designation
- Provide state aid for up to 90% of total project approved costs for library buildings located in the new consolidated “economically disadvantaged” community category
- Increase the threshold requiring additional documentation to demonstrate eligibility for a reduced match from projects that request above 50% state aid to those that request above 75% state aid
- Allow coordinated projects to be eligible for reduced match
- Make certain provisions permanent to avoid the need for periodic reauthorization and consolidate chapters of laws to address current issues with the clarity of the law as currently written

We will be sending out more information shortly on this, so please look for future updates.

FLLS Closed June 19 – Please note that Finger Lakes Library System will be closed on Wednesday, June 19 in observation of Juneteenth. There will be no deliveries that day. Normal deliveries will resume on Thursday, June 20.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable weekend!
Sarah



MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Seneca Falls Library Opens Stuffie Adoption Center

“We have over 300 stuffies with name tags and adoption numbers. Starting June 24th, kids in preschool-5th grade can come in to adopt one as long as they promise to read to it at least 20min everyday during the summer! It's such a successful reading incentive program!!” - Tara Montoney, Youth Services Coordinator





CONTINUING EDUCATION

Upcoming Webinars

[Shifting the Narrative: What does it mean to center BIPOC library worker needs? \(SCRLC\)](#) **Tuesday, June 25 | 10:00-11:30am | FREE**

In the last four years, library employees have experienced and witnessed the need for workplaces to center their employees' well-being and how vital psychological safety, emotional intelligence, mental health, and trauma-informed care are. In *Fostering Wellness in the Workplace*, Twanna Hodge states, "No matter where you work, you have a right to a physically and emotionally healthy and supportive workplace" (p. 48). For Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) library workers in traditionally and predominantly white institutions, psychological and emotional violence is constant and harmful. This session will focus on how institutions can center the needs of BIPOC library workers and how BIPOC workers can incorporate self-care and self-advocacy strategies into their practice. Presented by Twanna Hodge.

[Generative AI in Libraries – Implications, Adaptations, and Ongoing Discussions \(RRLC\)](#) **Wednesday, July 31 | 2:00-3:00pm | FREE**

This webinar brings together two library workers to share updates, implications, and ongoing discussions regarding generative artificial intelligence tools in libraries, especially in teaching, learning, and education. The talk will center on recent trends and research on generative AI in libraries and will provide insight on how library workers are adapting and understanding the implications of generative AI tools. In addition, there will be a discussion on ethical approaches to use of AI in an educational setting. Bring your questions and ideas to this virtual forum! Presented by Raymond Pun and Leo S. Lo. *Select SCRLC as your ESLN when registering.*



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[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

2024 Summer Reading: Adventure Begins at Your Library

While June 20 is the solstice, many libraries are kicking off summer early! We'll be showcasing your summer programming on our socials and as part of the Road Trip. Good luck, everyone!

The June 2024 issue of American Libraries had an interesting article on re-thinking Summer reading incentives: [A Greener Way to Read](#).

Remember to check out the 2024 Summer Reading LibGuide where you'll find everything from how to borrow items from the FLLS physical collection (giant games!) to Summer Reading stats: <https://scrlc.libguides.com/flls-summer-reading-2024>.



FLX Library Road Trip

The July 1 start date is coming up! Starter kits arrived last week so libraries should have everything you need to greet Road Trippers. All patron-facing links for the event are [live](#).

The Staff LibGuide is a solid resource that will be updated throughout the event. Please make sure all staff are familiar with it.



A few things of note:

- **Monday, June 17 @ 10am:** Final FLX Library Road Trip Info Session. Link was sent via email and session will be recorded.
- **Monday, June 17:** FLLS Libby homepage will feature FLX Library Road Trip information
- **Saturday, June 29 from 6-9pm:** WVBR's Rockin' Remnants will host a road trip-themed show to kick off our event. The station broadcasts to all counties in our service area. Thanks to all who helped curate the playlist.

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AWARDS & GRANTS

Applications for the **ALA's State Intellectual Freedom Helpline Grants** are due July 14, 2024. The grants of \$10,000 will be awarded by August 31, 2024. The purpose of the grants is to establish or expand upon statewide support systems for school and library staff and administrators experiencing efforts to censor materials or services at their library. Recipients will receive training and support from ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

Information about the grant and eligibility can be found here: <https://www.oif.ala.org/ala-launches-intellectual-freedom-helpline-program-grant-applications-open/>.

To encourage participation in **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program**, The New York State Legislature has appropriated \$500,000 to be awarded through a competitive grant program.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a community-based program providing free books to children from birth until their 5th birthday, no matter their income. Local affiliates enroll children within their selected coverage area and pay, on average, \$2.20 per child/per month towards wholesale book and mailing costs.

Funds will be available to libraries, library systems, non-profits, school districts and BOCES in New York State. Individual grants will be limited to a maximum of \$49,000 to pay up to 50% of an affiliate's costs with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

An official announcement of the grant application process and guidelines will be forthcoming in the next several weeks.

Please see the attached information provided by Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and visit the [Imagination Library website](#) for more information on the book gifting program and the process to become an affiliate. We encourage any organization interested in becoming an affiliate to begin the process prior to the grant application announcement.

The New York State Regents Advisory Council on Libraries announced today that applications are being accepted for the **Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award** and will be due on July 12, 2024. This is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the amazing work that libraries do in our communities.

Special attention will be given to applications highlighting efforts aligned with the [Regents Advisory Council on Libraries Vision for Libraries](#). For more information about the Shubert Award and the application form, please visit the [Joseph F. Shubert Library Excellence Award page on the NYS Library website](#) or contact Tor Loney, Library Development Specialist I, via email at Tor.Loney@nysed.gov.

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