



OUTRIDER



WYOMING STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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The WSL Says Goodbye to Systems Librarian and Hello to New Youth Services Consultant

It's been a busy end of 2024 and beginning of 2025 as the Wyoming State Library (WSL) welcomed Joanne Pruitt as their new Youth Services Consultant bid a grateful farewell to their Systems Librarian, Cori Hundley.



Joanne Pruitt

Joanne joined the WSL's Development Office's (LDO) team on December 30, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new position. She looks forward to being the Collaborative Summer Library Program's touchpoint for Wyoming Libraries

Read more about Joanne [here](#).

After serving as the WSL's Systems Librarian since 2021 and being a part of the Wyoming library community for the past eight-and-a-half years, Cori has accepted a position in Ohio in which she will use a lot of the knowledge and skills she has gained at the WSL. Her last day was January 15. She is glad to be closer to family and is thankful to everyone with whom she had the pleasure of working. She will be missed by the entire WSL staff, but especially by the WYLD Office team. Read Cori's farewell blog post [here](#).



Cori Hundley and her dog, Briar Rose

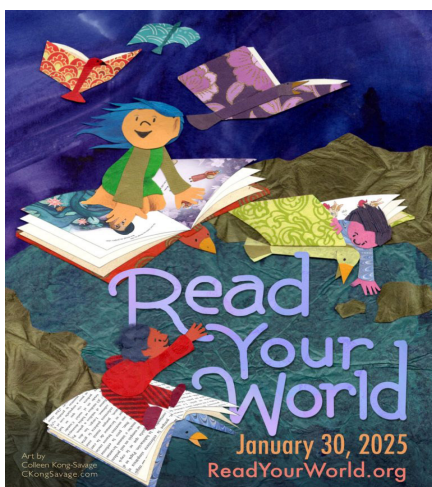
WSL News

THE WYOMING STATE LIBRARY SEEKS A NEW SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN

The Wyoming State Library has an opening for a **Systems Librarian** to provide technical support for the 103 member libraries in the statewide WYLD consortium. The **Systems Librarian** provides technical expertise and administrative support for library solutions including the Symphony integrated library system, Aspen Discovery catalog, MessageBee notification service, and staff reporting tools. This position may assist library staff using the ILS in other areas as needed and is required to be on-call for evening and weekend support on a rotating basis.



For more information or to apply, visit the State of Wyoming’s Job Opportunities [website](#).



Around the State

CELEBRATE AMERICA’S 250TH ANNIVERSARY THROUGH THE SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL GRANT PROGRAM IN WYOMING



[The Wyoming Semiquincentennial Planning Task Force](#) recently announced the launch of Phase Two of the Semiquincentennial Grant Program. This initiative is eager to engage Wyoming communities in celebrating America’s 250th Anniversary through meaningful projects and programs. [The grant program](#) will support initiatives focused on strategic planning, public art, monuments, exhibits, cultural and historic preservation, and other areas designed to showcase Wyoming’s significant contributions to American history.

This funding opportunity is exclusively open to local governments, public education institutions, nonprofit organizations, state agencies, and the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Business Councils through their officially recognized designee(s).

Eligible applicants must have project management experience and, if applicable, be registered as a compliant 501(c)(3) nonprofit

organization. A letter of support from the official county Semiquincentennial Committee or County Commission is also required.

Applications are now open for submission and will be reviewed on a rolling basis until December 31, 2025. All applications must be complete; any late or incomplete submissions will not be considered. For more information regarding eligibility, application procedures, and project guidelines, visit wyoming250.com/grants

WYOMING HUMANITIES' STATEWIDE READING PROGRAM RETURNS FOR ITS SECOND YEAR



In 2024, Wyoming Humanities launched a new, free, year-long reading program for Wyoming readers with the goal

of encouraging participants to read at least one book each month during the year. The statewide program, Pronghorn Reads, is back for its second year with a new set of monthly challenges giving Wyomingites the opportunity to expand their reading horizons.

The program's format is the same as last year. A theme has been chosen for each month, and the book read relating to the theme can be a print book, a digital e-book, or audiobook. Monthly themes range from reading a book recommended by a friend or family member to reading a well-

reviewed book in a genre you actively avoid. After participants read their monthly selection, they must complete a short reflection form to be entered in a monthly drawing. The program is designed for all ages, so everyone is invited to participate.

Pronghorn Reads is presented as part of the Wyoming Center for the Book, a part of Wyoming Humanities. For more information on Pronghorn Reads, view the program's monthly themes, or to register for this year's program, visit the Pronghorn Reads [website](#).



Calendar

- Feb 1-28 [Black History Month](#)
- Feb 1 [Take Your Child to the Library Day](#)
- Feb 5 [World Read Aloud Day](#)
- Mar 1-31 [National Women's History Month](#)
- Mar 1-31 [National Reading Month](#)
- Mar 3 [Read Across America Day](#)
- Mar 2-8 [National Consumer Protection Week](#)
- Mar 16 [Freedom of Information Day](#)

Youth Services

IT'S TIME FOR THE WYOMING BOOK AWARDS

WYOMING BOOK AWARDS  Wyoming librarians, now is the time to collect your student-driven book

nominations to the three Wyoming Book Award lists! The committees for each award have created packets, voting forms, posters for you to use. The links to nomination guidelines, nominating next year's books, and voting for this year's award are listed below.

- Buckaroo (grades K-3) [webpage](#),
- Indian Paintbrush (grades 4-6) [webpage](#),
- Soaring Eagle (grades 7-12). [webpage](#)

The deadline for 2025-2026 Wyoming Book Awards nominations is March 1, and the last day of voting for this year's 2024-2025 awards is March 15. For voting, students must have read a minimum of three books from this year's list.

If you have questions, please contact Eva Dahlgren at edahlgren@tclib.org or any one of the co-chairs from the committees listed on the linked webpages. Thank you for all your efforts in fostering a love of reading with Wyoming kids!

DON'T MISS THE 2025 MAGIC PUZZLE CHALLENGE!



CyberWyoming is excited to announce the MAGIC Puzzle Challenge on **April 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (MT)**

This virtual event is designed to boost tech skills and inspire the next generation of cybersecurity professionals. The beginner-friendly cybersecurity Capture the Flag challenge is open to **middle school, high school, and college students**. It's an excellent opportunity for students to enhance their problem-solving, teamwork, and cybersecurity skills in a fun and engaging environment.

The Wyoming Department of Education sponsors registration for Wyoming schools, and CyberWyoming Alliance will provide pizza for participating teams on challenge day to keep them energized!

Register your team [here](#) by **March 14, 2025**, for this exciting and educational event!

Share the News!

Do you have colleagues who aren't on the *Outrider* mailing list? Encourage them to [sign up](#) and catch all the library news.

Wyoming Library Association

2025 LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION HELD AT LARAMIE COUNTY LIBRARY IN CHEYENNE



Wyoming legislators and library professionals alike shared great food and conversation at the 2025 WLA Legislative Reception

On Thursday, January 16, the Wyoming Library Association hosted their 2025 Legislative Reception at the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne. Over a potluck dinner, Wyoming librarians expressed their gratitude to Wyoming legislators and had the opportunity to have meaningful conversations about issues facing Wyoming libraries. All attendees enjoyed great food and conversation, as well as a slideshow of photos, statistics, and patron quotes collected during the Wyoming State Library's October Snapshot Day event.

Celebrations and Resources

January was a month full of celebrations and great opportunities to use the Wyoming State Library's amazing resources!

January 2 was National Science Fiction Day, which also happens to coincide with the birthday of famous science fiction writer, Isaac Asimov. Whether you are looking for your next great science fiction read or wanting to venture into the genre for the first time for the new year, be sure to check out the many [readers' advisory tools](#) on GoWYLD to help you find a book that suits your needs. Both NoveList Plus, for adults, and NoveList K-8 Plus, for younger readers, have recommendations for both fiction and non-fiction titles. Don't forget to also check out Gale Books and Authors, another great recommendation resource available on GoWYLD. Have your Wyoming library card and PIN ready to login to use this reader's advisory database.


January 3 was J.R.R. Tolkien Day. This prolific author of poetry and high fantasy is most famous for his works, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, which transport readers to the fictional world of Middle Earth to join hobbits, wizards, elves, dwarves, dragons, and other such beings in their quests and adventures. If you don't feel like bundling up and braving the elements to check out one of J.R.R. Tolkien's books or other reading material,

[Libby](#) on GoWYLD allows you to check out e-books and e-audiobooks without leaving the comfort and warmth of your home! With your Wyoming library card and PIN, you can access a vast collection of more than 95,000 e-books, e-audiobooks, comics, and magazines to read on your digital device.

January 5 marked the one hundredth anniversary of Nellie Tayloe Ross' inauguration as Wyoming's governor--the first female governor in the history of the United States. Read more about Nellie Tayloe Ross and other remarkable people in Wyoming's history in the [Wyoming History subject guide](#) on [GoWYLD](#).

Happy New Year, and here's to finding many reasons to celebrate and use Wyoming State Library Resources in the coming year!

WYOMING HUMANITIES SEEKS COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR MANY VOICES, ONE NATION

Wyoming Humanities, in partnership with the  Smithsonian Institution, is bringing a new exhibit to our state!

Many Voices, One Nation is an exhibition focused on your local community. They have a Starter Kit designed for smaller spaces and to give host organizations and their partners flexibility to shape the content and appearance of the exhibit. The Smithsonian

will provide the national scope for the exhibition and digital materials and templates for the local venue to customize and focus on the local community.

Wyoming Humanities is looking for partners, including libraries, museums, or community centers to host this exhibition. The host will have the opportunity to work with Smithsonian experts and consultants on crafting their exhibit and planning programming with Wyoming Humanities. This is an excellent opportunity to talk about the history of your hometown and county, within the context of Wyoming's rich past.

The work for the exhibition starts in March 2025, with an exhibit launch date of June 2026—just in time to celebrate the 250th of the Declaration of Independence in your community!

The application to host is out now on the [Wyoming Humanities' website](#)! For more information, please reach out to Wyoming Humanities Program Coordinator Lucas Fralick at lucas@thinkwy.org. Wyoming Humanities looks forward to hearing from you!

What's Up? If you have great happenings at your library, we'd like to know! Send news to Christi Weinzierl at christi.weinzierl1@wyo.gov.

People News



Jamie Markus has been appointed to the Lifetime Arts Board of Directors.

Jamie is the Assistant Dean of Resource Discovery & Management at the University

of Wyoming Libraries. He has worked in libraries for nearly two decades, and was previously the Wyoming State Librarian.

Lifetime Arts honored Jamie with the following words: “Jamie is a recognized leader in advancing access to knowledge and resources. His expertise in managing collections and fostering partnerships within the library community will support Lifetime Arts’ efforts to deepen connections with cultural institutions and expand creative aging programs in libraries nationwide.”



Paige Bredenkamp was recently appointed a fellow in the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute and will have the opportunity to participate

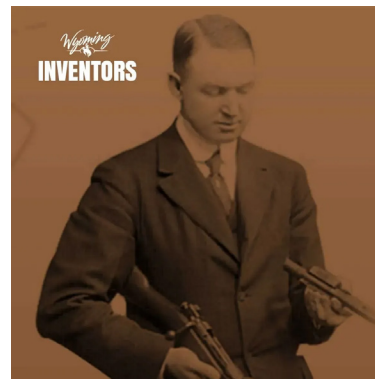
in their May event in Colorado, which will include expert instruction, hands-on projects, and peer collaboration with the other library professionals who were selected to attend.

Paige is the eResources and School Library Consultant at the Wyoming State Library and has been at the WSL since 2015.

“What a fantastic opportunity,” said Paige regarding the honor. “I couldn’t be more excited!”

Professional Opportunities and Training

FREE WEBINAR-WYOMING’S HISTORIC PATENTS: EXPLORING THE WYOMING INVENTORS DIGITAL COLLECTION



Mark your calendars for next month’s webinar, “**Wyoming’s Historic Patents: Exploring the Wyoming Inventors Digital**

Collection” on **Thursday, February 13th at 2:00 pm MT.**

This webinar will take participants on a trip through time with the Wyoming Inventors Digital Collection. They will learn how to navigate the Inventors collection, while also getting a tour of Wyoming’s early patents.

From the first pre-territorial invention to a patent by Buffalo Bill Cody, join the Wyoming State Library's State Publications Librarian, Anne Kuipers, and dive into the history of innovation in Wyoming.

Register [here](#) for this exciting learning opportunity! This webinar will be recorded.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR BOOK CHAPTERS ON SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP IN LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES



Do you have knowledge, experience, expertise, or passion for sustainability

in libraries and archives? Check out this opportunity to make your voice heard!

Proposals can be submitted using this [proposal form](#) through February 28. If you would like to be a peer-reviewer for this book, please fill out this [peer-reviewer form](#).

This project will be edited by Erin Renee Wahl, PhD. Questions about the book can be directed to ewahl@nmsu.edu.

Read the full [blog post](#) for more details.

Library Jobs

The Wyoming State Library maintains a job board for library positions around the state. These are the latest opportunities. Contact Christi Weinzierl at christi.weinzierl@wyo.gov to post jobs.

[Librarian Technical Analyst](#)

Wyoming State Library
Cheyenne, WY
Posted January 13, 2025
Open until filled
[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Marketing and Communications Manager](#)

Laramie County Library System
Cheyenne, WY
Closes February 23, 2025
Posted January 27, 2024
[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Assistant Librarian-Collection Management Librarian](#)

University of Wyoming-Resource Discovery and Management Division
Laramie, WY
Open until filled
Posted October 17, 2024
[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Library Branch Manager](#)

Fremont County Library System
Riverton, WY
Open until filled
Posted October 7, 2024
[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Grants & Awards

[Peggy Barber Tribute Grant](#)

Deadline: February 3, 2025

The Peggy Barber Tribute Grant is an annual grant of the American Library Association (ALA) that recognizes, promotes, and supports meaningful programs in libraries that have limited and/or no access to budgetary support for programming. The grant, named after the late library leader Peggy Barber, aims to help ease library budget challenges by awarding three libraries \$2,500 to support a proposed program, program series, or programming effort. Each year, the grant will focus on supporting a specific type of library programming. For the 2024–2025 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications to support programming related to combatting isolation for older adults. Some hypothetical examples include a technology training club to teach seniors how to use technology so that they can stay connected online or a social club to bring adults together around an activity like crafting, gardening, etc.)

[Libraries Transforming Communities Engagement Grant](#)

Deadline: February 3, 2025

The Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant recognizes, promotes and supports innovative and meaningful community engagement efforts in libraries. It will provide two grants of \$2,000 for a school,

public, academic, tribal or special library to expand its community engagement efforts. Libraries are invited to apply by designing and outlining activities for a library-led community engagement project. Community engagement is the process of working collaboratively with community members – be they library patrons, residents, faculty, students, or local organizations – to address issues for the betterment of the community. Each year, the grant will focus on supporting a community engagement project with a specific theme. For the 2024–2025 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications for a community engagement project focusing on building neighborhood connections. Libraries should collaborate with community members and at least one partner organization to develop a project that addresses a local issue and builds upon community assets.

[EBSCO ALA Annual Conference Sponsorship](#)

Deadline: February 3, 2025

This scholarship from EBSCO Information Services and the American Library Association is an annual award consisting of \$1,000 for actual reimbursed expenses is designed to allow librarians to attend the ALA Annual Conference. These scholarships allow recipients to learn more about digital content, innovation, and leadership, and expanding their professional development and networking with fellow library professionals.

[Penguin Random House & United for Libraries Grants to Rural and Small Libraries](#)

Deadline: February 17, 2025

Penguin Random House, in partnership with United for Libraries, is offering grants to support rural and small U.S. libraries. Grants of \$500 and \$1,000 will be awarded, from a total grant pool of \$25,000. In-kind book donation grants of \$500 will also be awarded to 20 libraries to purchase Penguin Random House titles. Along with the grants, recipients will receive [free eLearning](#) from United for Libraries, including monthly webinars on leveraging grant funds to support libraries. Free sessions will help libraries prepare for the application process and strengthen their grant-writing skills. For more details and to register, visit this [United for Libraries form](#).

[ALA Pat Carterette Professional Development Grant](#)

Application Dates: February 15, 2025

The American Library Association's (ALA) Learning Round Table (LRT) will award up to \$1,000 to an individual to participate in a continuing education event(s) between September 1, 2025, and August 31, 2026.

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Documentation/receipts will be required prior to payment. If the recipient is participating in a ALA or ALA-related event, monies will be transferred internally instead of being paid to the recipient.

[STARS Virginia Boucher Distinguished ILL Librarian Award](#)

Deadline: February 21, 2025

This is an award from the Reference and User Services Association and the American Library Association. The STARS Virginia Boucher Distinguished ILL (Interlibrary Loan) Librarian Award is an annual award consisting of \$2,000, sponsored by OCLC, and a citation. It recognizes an individual for outstanding professional achievement, leadership, and contributions to interlibrary loan and document delivery through recent publication of significant professional literature, participation in professional associations, and/or innovative approaches to practice in individual libraries. The candidate must have been employed in a library and held some responsibility for his or her institution's ILL, document delivery, or resource sharing services at the time the contributions to be honored were made.

[BRASS Excellence in Business Librarianship Award](#)

Deadline: February 21, 2025

This award from the Reference and User Services Association and the American Library Association is available to a librarian that has distinguished themselves in the field of Business Librarianship. This award is sponsored

by FTSE Data and Analytics. The recipient's contribution may lie in a variety of endeavors, such as authoring a seminal book or articles in business librarianship, the development of an imaginative and successful program centered around business within a library, the teaching of business librarianship in a particularly creative manner, the display of unusually strong leadership in a professional association geared to business librarianship, or other activities that encourage librarians to excel in business librarianship.

Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture

Deadline: March 15, 2025

Talk Story grant funding supports library and community organization opportunities to highlight AANHPI and AIAN stories through programs, services, and collection materials. Children and families can connect to rich cultural activities through Talk Story in their homes, libraries, and communities while challenging mainstream Anglocentric literacy practices. They welcome libraries and community organizations to develop their own Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture project to serve family literacy needs. Four grants of \$500 are available to libraries and community organizations that serve AANHPI or AIAN children and their families. With the exception of cross-border tribal organizations, organizations must be based in the United States or U.S. territories.

Organizations who have previously been awarded two *Talk Story* grants are ineligible for additional awards.

Wyoming Humanities' Indian Education for All Program

Deadline: Ongoing

One of the best ways to fulfill the Indian Education for All Act is to have Tribal Knowledge Keepers visit Wyoming classrooms. This is not always feasible because of the costs for travel and an honorarium to those wanting to share their valuable wisdom. To address these challenges, Wyoming Humanities is offering funds for K-12 educators in Wyoming to bring an Indigenous Knowledge Keeper into their school, classroom, or field trip. All requests for support should help fulfill Indian Education for All standards and requirements. Wyoming Humanities will offer one-time compensation to support the inclusion of an Indigenous Knowledge Keeper in the classroom, including: a \$350 Honorarium (a "thank you" for the Indigenous Knowledge Keeper's time and energy) and \$200 in travel funds (if 100+ miles roundtrip). Payment will be made directly to the Indigenous Knowledge Keeper. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. If payment is required prior to the classroom visit, apply at least six weeks before the visit. If payment is NOT required prior to the classroom visit, apply at least four weeks before the visit.

[Wish You Well Foundation](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The Wish You Well Foundation supports adult and family literacy in the United States by fostering the development and expansion of new and existing adult literacy and educational programs. The focus is on supporting nonprofit organizations that teach adults the literacy skills they need to communicate, grow, and thrive within their communities. Grants amounts range from \$200 to \$10,000.

[Scholastic Possible Fund](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The Scholastic Possible Fund was established to provide a single repository of quality children's books to be donated to charity partners that share the Company's mission to improve global literacy and put books into the hands of children who might otherwise have none. The Fund seeks to improve access to books in underserved communities and to provide relief in communities recovering from crises or natural disasters. The non-profit partners receiving donations from the Fund have demonstrated the ability to effectively educate children and families in diverse communities about the importance of books and reading from birth through adulthood.

[Jan Stauber-Sherlock Holmes](#)

[Literacy Grant](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The mission of the Jan Stauber Grant is to provide needed financial assistance to persons and organizations developing literacy programs

and other educational experiences that will introduce young people to Sherlock Holmes. Educators or librarians can be awarded up to \$1,000 for a project that encourages young people to read and introduces them to Sherlock Holmes.

[Books Save Lives Grant](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

Each Books Save Lives Grant will provide up to \$5,000 per school library. The grant money must be used toward purchasing diverse books and the books must remain on the shelves for a minimum of three years. Applicants must nominate a school library within the United States to receive a Books Save Lives Grant. Applications may be completed anonymously. The grant must be used to purchase diverse books for school libraries. Winning libraries may select titles and quantities based on book lists provided by WNDB. They will ship the books directly to the school. *Note: They will continue adding books to the lists.* Winning schools must provide a signed written agreement that the books they receive via the grant will remain on shelves for a minimum of three years.

[Art Resources Transfer's Library Program](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

This program provides free books on contemporary art to public institutions nationwide. Public libraries, public schools, prisons, and reading centers that self-define as under-served are eligible to order free books

through their Library Program. Institutions can order anytime throughout the year. Books are entirely free and shipped free of charge.

[The Pilcrow Foundation's Children's Book Project Program Grant](#)

DEADLINE: Rolling The Pilcrow Foundation, a national non-profit public charity, provides a 2-to-1 match to rural public libraries that receive a grant through its Children's Book Project and contribute \$200-\$400 through local sponsors for the purchase of up to \$1,200 worth (at retail value) of new, quality, hardcover children's books. They provide a list of over 500 quality hardcover children's books from which Children's Book Project grant recipients can select books best suited for their community. The book list includes award-winning and star-reviewed titles from educational and literary organizations.

[Black Hills Corporation Community Giving](#)

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Areas of focus are arts and culture, civic and community development, education, environment, human services, and youth development. Giving limited to Black Hills Energy service areas.

[BNSF Railway Foundation Grants](#)

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Supports organizations and programs that support and improve the general welfare and quality of life in the communities in which

BNSF Railway Company operates. Generally, they will consider requests for funding that clearly fall within one or more of the following categories: civic services, cultural organizations, educational institutions, health and human service organizations, youth organizations, and a federally recognized tribal government.

[T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program](#)

DEADLINE: Ongoing

T-Mobile is investing \$25M in 500 rural towns over 5 years to jumpstart projects and build stronger communities. These grants can be used to help upgrade tech at your local library, build new hiking trails, revitalize historic buildings, and more.

News in Brief

[Best Practices for Engaging Seniors at the](#)

[Library](#)-Public libraries can be a proponent of healthy aging and have a positive impact on the physical, mental, and social health of the seniors in their communities.

[Seed Swaps](#)-Interested in hosting a seed library or seed swap at your library? This guide will help you organize your swap while educating people about the basics of seed saving and the structure of your seed library. Seed exchanges or swaps are a great way to bring the community together. It's a time to connect with other gardeners, share stories, and find a new plant to fall in love with or share an old one with new friends.