



OUTRIDER



WYOMING STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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Goshen County Library Honored as Library Journal's Best Small Library in America

The Goshen County Library (GCL) was recently honored by Library Journal as the [Best Small Library in America 2026](#).

"To say this is an honor is a bit of an understatement," said GCL Director Cristine Braddy. "This award is a representation of extensive community engagement, relationships across the Wyoming library landscape, and a lot of hard work by the GCL staff, board, and volunteers. I am thrilled that we were chosen the same year that Ten Sleep received the National Medal for Museum and Library Service and Conrado Saldivar received the Library Journal Mover and Shakers award. These awards tell the story of exceptional library service in Wyoming."

The GCL is located in Torrington, Wyoming, and serves a population of over 12,500 Wyomingites in the communities of Torrington, Lingle, Fort Laramie, LaGrange, Yoder, and their surrounding areas.



"It's a great honor for our little library," said GCL Adult Programming Coordinator and Circulation Manager Bethany Rose, who has worked for the GCL for five years.

For over 100 years, the GCL has provided resources, services, and programming for Goshen County citizens of all ages. Find out about their upcoming events and programming on the [GCL's website](#), and read more in the [full blog post](#).

WSL News

WYOMING REPRESENTED AT CREATIVE AGING LEADERSHIP SUMMIT IN UTAH

Wyoming State Library Library Development Manager Maggie Unterseher attended the Creative Aging Leadership Summit in Salt Lake City, Utah, held July 26-27, along with two delegates from other State of Wyoming agencies.

"Lifetime Arts and the Music Man Foundation hosted western states who participate in Creative Aging under their funding and framework," said Maggie. "The purpose was to get the western states together to hear what works for their programming for older adults, as well as challenges they face."

The conference included presentations by speakers and professionals focused on the importance of programming for older adults.

"The most impactful presentations for me were the state reports," said Maggie. "Each state gave a brief report of their successes and challenges they have faced since implementing Creative Aging. This was especially important as we heard from experts on the importance of inclusion for older adults for the sake of their physical and mental well being, community building, and finding a purpose."

As a result of the conference, Maggie and the other two representatives from Wyoming, Josh Chrysler with the Wyoming Arts Council, Lisa Engstrom with the Wyoming Department of Health's Aging Division, will meet and define their roles in Creative Aging programming in Wyoming.

"Once we meet and better understand what we want to do for Wyoming, we will move forward to bring in community partnerships with Wyoming libraries, seniors centers, etc." said Maggie. "This was the type of conference that serves as a reminder of the important work that people of Wyoming do for their neighbors," said Maggie. "I think that supporting older adults and making sure we see them is very important."

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



Left to Right-Josh Chrysler, Maggie Unterseher, and Lisa Engstrom represented three State of Wyoming agencies at the summit.

CELEBRATE WYOMING SNAPSHOT DAY'S SWEET SIXTEEN

Nearly sixteen years ago, the Wyoming State Library (WSL) held its inaugural Wyoming Snapshot Day with the purpose of sharing the impact of Wyoming libraries in their communities. Since its inception, Wyoming libraries have submitted photos of their libraries, patrons, and events, circulation and attendance statistics, and comments from their staff and patrons that the WSL has proudly shared on their social media channels and the Wyoming Snapshot Day website. Content from Wyoming Snapshot Day has also been prominently displayed at the Wyoming Library Association's Legislative Reception events.

This year, during the week of October 12-16, Wyoming libraries are once again invited to send content and statistics to the WSL to be shared with the public. The WSL would love to have as many libraries participate in this year's event as possible to help celebrate Wyoming Snapshot Day's Sweet Sixteen!



If your library needs a little inspiration, read this [blog post](#) with 16 ideas for Wyoming Snapshot Day content. (Please note that all library photos and comments are welcome; these are just some ideas to get your creativity flowing!)

No matter how big or small your Wyoming library may be, we invite your library to share your content with us during Wyoming Snapshot Day! We are excited to show off all the wonderful things happening at Wyoming libraries and convey the impact your library has on its unique Wyoming community every day.

Contact WSL Communications and Grants Specialist Christi Weinzierl at christi.weinzierl1@wyo.gov with questions or visit the [Wyoming Snapshot Day website](#) for more information or to sign up for this year's event.



WSL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER ATTENDS COSLA CE FORUM IN IOWA

Maggie Unterseher, the Wyoming State Library's Library Development Manager, attended the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies' (COSLA) 2026 Continuing Education (CE) Forum held August 3-7 in Des Moines, Iowa. This annual event brought library professionals together from around the country to work through their CE successes and challenges.

"There are so many learning opportunities that different libraries are innovating across the country, and it made me really excited," said Maggie. "There were some similarities, such as directors' workshops or retreats, but there were so many unique ideas for continuing education in libraries as well."



Conference attendees had the opportunity to tour the Iowa State Capitol Building, as well as the State Historical Society of Iowa while in Des Moines.

During the conference, Maggie noticed that the three biggest topics of exploration for states and their libraries were early education literacy and implementation, how to talk to patrons about Artificial Intelligence (AI), and trauma-informed care for frontline library workers with de-escalation.

"I definitely hear the concern about AI, so I am currently looking into Continuing Education opportunities for Wyoming library workers," said Maggie. "Being able to connect with other coordinators and hear about companies or people they liked working with helped out so much. That way, they have vetted the people and the information and saw that it was helpful for their patrons."

Maggie enjoyed her visit to the beautiful midwestern city of Des Moines, touring both the Iowa State Capitol Building and the State Historical Society of Iowa. On her tours, she was surprised to learn that Iowa has over 540 libraries within their state.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to get to learn from colleagues across the nation and hear about what works and what doesn't," said Maggie. "I'm excited to be able to share that out to our Wyoming libraries!"

Maggie's attendance was supported with Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

INVESTING IN WYOMING'S FUTURE: WHY EVERY DOLLAR OF OUR IMLS TRAINING GRANT MATTERS

Ever wondered how your local school libraries stay ahead of the curve, supercharge their programs, and bring fresh, exciting ideas into Wyoming classrooms? It all starts with continuous learning! Thanks to funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Wyoming State Library consultants Paige Bredenkamp (E-Resources & School Library Consultant) and Joanne Pruitt (Youth Services Consultant) headed to Casper College on July 29–30, 2026, for the dynamic School Library Summit.

Here is how sending our team to high-impact events directly translates into real value for students, teachers, and communities across the state:

Unlocking New Funding for Local Schools

From Fueling Joy: Grant Opportunities for School Librarians with Presenter Cassandra Hunter, Paige and Joanne brought back fresh insights on grants from the Wyoming Community Foundation, helping local libraries secure vital resources to expand their collections and programs.

Raising the Bar for Library Excellence:

From Melissa Snider's presentation on Instructional Standards & Guidelines for WY School Libraries, the State Library team took away resources in the form of the AASL's recently updated National Standards for Learners & Libraries. This includes purchasing extra copies of the 2nd edition to be made available (soon) on the Wyoming State Library professional collection.

Sparkling Civic Pride

The energetic duo behind the popular PB&J Library Show showcased fantastic civics resources on GoWYLD, giving educators turnkey tools to celebrate America's 250th birthday in classrooms statewide. PB&J highlighted Gale (In context) and the pro-con features of hot debate topics. Additionally, PB&J shared the educator resources from Britannica, including their America 250 Hub. This consists of ready-made civics resources for educators to use with students in their libraries or classrooms! One such resource is an online scavenger hunt, tic-tac-toe: civics edition, and a plethora of mini-lessons and graphic organizers.

IMLS professional development grants are more than just event passes—they are a direct investment in Wyoming's educational ecosystem. By keeping our State Library team connected, energized, and plugged into the latest trends, we ensure that every school library in our state has the expert support, innovative tools, and top-tier guidance it needs to help our kids thrive!



Paige Bredenkamp and Joanne Pruitt —also known as PB&J -- recently attended and presented at the School Library Summit in Casper, Wyoming.

Around the State

PARK COUNTY'S CODY LIBRARY SELECTED TO HOST NATIONAL AMBASSADOR FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE MAC BARNETT

Park County School District #6 and the Cody Public Library have been selected to host National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Mac Barnett. As one of only five U.S. communities selected as stops on the tour, this selection is a great honor for Cody.

"We couldn't be more excited!" said Park County Library Children's Services Director Holly Baker.

Mac Barnett is the award-winning author of over 60 children's books, including "Sam & Dave Dig a Hole," "Twenty Questions," and "The First Cat in Space" graphic novels.

Along with a family event open to everyone and two school presentations for students, a special session is scheduled for educators, library workers, and parents on September 21. Find more information using the following links:

[Park County Library Mac Barnett Family Event](#)

[Park County Library Mac Barnett Educator Event \(RSVP required\)](#)

Find out more about the Park County Library's upcoming events and programs on their [website](#).

BEHOLD, THE PICTURE BOOK!



News in Brief

[Beyond Books: How Public Libraries are Changing](#)

In this podcast, Minnesota Public Radio news host Angela Davis talks with her guests about the wide range of resources libraries provide, how to access them and how the role of public libraries is changing.

[Martindale Public Library Bridging the Digital Divide Through Partnership](#)

At the Martindale Community Library, a small 880-square-foot library in Caldwell County, partnerships have transformed what was once an overwhelming hurdle into one of the library's most impactful services.

[Engaging Teens and Tweens in Fan Programs](#)

Bringing fan culture to your library is a gateway to connecting teens to the wider community and to the other amazing services that the library can offer them.

Wyoming Library Association

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 2026 WLA CONFERENCE IN CHEYENNE

The 2026 Wyoming Library Conference, "Thriving Together," is scheduled for **September 30-October 2**. Don't miss this opportunity for growth and networking with other library professionals from across Wyoming. If you haven't secured your spot yet, now is the time to finalize your plans.

This year's event will include an engaging keynote by Mandy Fabel, and an author luncheon featuring Brandon Mull, author of the award-winning children's fantasy series *Fablehaven*.

Register on the WLA website on the [WLA website](#).



September 30-October 2, 2026

Little American Cheyenne
2800 West Lincolnway
Cheyenne, WY 82009

THE WLLI BASKET RAFFLE IS BACK!

Support Wyoming's Future Library Leaders!

How to Get Involved:

- 🐦 Donate a gift basket for the raffle
- 👤 Volunteer at the WLLI ticket table

Event Details:

- 📍 WLA Conference – Cheyenne
- 📅 Sept. 30 – Oct. 2
- 📸 Photos due Sept. 11
- 📧 Contact Jessica at jessica.otto@wyo.gov to sign up!

Upcoming Celebrations/Events

September 1-30: [Library Card Sign-up Month](#)

September 7: Labor Day

September 8: [International Literacy Day](#)

People News



Bailey Murray is celebrating her 20th year at the Albany County Public Library (ACPL.)

Since beginning her career as a circulation assistant at the library, Bailey has gained experience in various departments, including circulation, teen services, and technical services.

Notably, Bailey started and continues to maintain ACPL's Manga collection—Wyoming's first and largest Manga collection.

"Bailey embodies what it is to be a Wyoming librarian," said ACPL Director Rachel Crocker. "She works with passion and integrity to positively impact the ACPL community."

Congratulations, Bailey, on 20 years of contributing to the Wyoming library community!

Library Jobs

[Senior Multi Media Specialist](#)

Wyoming State Library
Cheyenne, WY

Open until filled

Posted May 12, 2026

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Assistant Librarian – Scholarly Communications & Open Publishing Librarian](#)

University of Wyoming –
Digital & Distinctive Collections
Unit

Laramie, WY

Open Until Filled

Posted August 26, 2026

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Assistant Librarian – Faculty Support Librarian](#)

University of Wyoming –
Research & Outreach Services
Unit

Laramie, WY

Open Until Filled

Posted August 26, 2006

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Youth Services Assistant](#)

Laramie County Library System
Cheyenne, WY

Open until filled

Posted August 25, 2026

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Library Assistant](#)

Park County Library System
Powell, WY

Open until filled

Posted August 21, 2026

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

[Adult Services Assistant Manager](#)

Laramie County Library System
Cheyenne, WY

Open until filled

Posted June 26, 2026

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Grant Opportunities

Here are some grant opportunities for libraries with deadlines during the next couple of months or with ongoing application periods:

[Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize for Public Libraries](#)

Deadline: September 11, 2026

One winning library will receive \$250,000 in unfettered monies for programs and services that benefit their communities from the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation.

[Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant Programs](#)

Deadline: November 13, 2026

- Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program - Supports the training and professional development of library and archives professionals to meet the information needs of their communities.
- National Leadership Grants for Libraries - Supports projects that develop, enhance, or disseminate replicable practices, programs, models, or tools to strengthen library and archival services.
- Native American Library Services: Basic Grants - Assists eligible Native Communities in establishing, sustaining, and improving library services and operations with their communities.
- Native American Library Services: Enhancement Grants - Advance the programs and services of eligible Native American Tribes, including Alaska Native villages, regional corporations, and village corporations.

[Doris Ann Norris We Love Libraries Prize](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

This \$500 grant is funded by the Sisters in Crime writing network.

[The Freedom to Learn Foundation Grant](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

This grant provides direct support to libraries serving rural and historically marginalized communities that have experienced a loss or threat to public funding.

[The Community Heart & Soul Grant Program](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program provides \$10,000 in funding for resident-driven groups in small cities and towns to start the Community Heart & Soul model.

[Believe in Reading – Grants for Literacy Program](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

Grants are made to organizations with 501(c)(3) status or its equivalent for educational institutions, including public libraries.

Rural Technology Education & Assistive Technology (AT) Grants

Deadline: Ongoing

Grants are typically \$500 - \$2,500 for staff and student-led projects in public schools and libraries designed to help spark student interest in technology-based careers.

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.

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 provide books to children.

Art Resources Transfer's Library Program

Deadline: Ongoing

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

The Pilcrow Foundations Children's Book Project Program Grant

Deadline: Rolling

This program provides a 2-to-1 match to rural public libraries that receive a grant and contribute \$200-\$400 through local sponsors for the purchase of up to \$1,200 worth of new, quality, hardcover children's books.

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

These grants are given to organizations and programs that support and improve the general welfare and quality of life in the communities in which BNSF Railway Company operates.