



OUTRIDER



WYOMING STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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Another Successful Wyoming Reads Day is in the Books



First-graders wait patiently in line at the LCLS Wyoming Reads event in Cheyenne.

Wyoming first-graders each received a special gift on May 20, 2025—a hardcover book of their very own. Across the state, libraries hosted events in honor of Wyoming Reads Day, including storytimes hosted by special guest readers, plays, and plenty of educational fun.

One of the largest gatherings in the state took place at the Laramie County Library System's location in Cheyenne. Dozens of school busses lined the nearby streets, and hundreds of excited schoolchildren eagerly followed their teachers to their assigned areas to be read aloud to by volunteer readers and receive the books they had chosen from [this year's selected titles](#).

Wyoming Reads is a program of the Sue Jorgenson Foundation. The foundation has given away over 133,000 books to Wyoming first-graders since its creation in 1996 in memory of Sue Jorgenson by her family to celebrate her love of books and support of children's literacy. Events are held annually in May across Wyoming to celebrate reading and encourage literacy among Wyoming students.



*Governor Mark Gordon reads **A Home for Steamboat** to Cheyenne first graders*

Let's Ride!



The Wyoming State Library provides all Wyomingites **access to free resources*** that support research, business development, lifelong learning, personal enrichment, and more.

*A library card may be required.

FIND THE INFORMATION YOU NEED IN THE WSL'S RESEARCH GUIDES

Are you looking to find and evaluate information on a specific subject area? Our collection of [research guides](#) provide access to full-text article databases with rich content for current issues as well as deep backfiles for historical research. Each guide has been developed by Wyoming State Library staff to help you find exactly what you need in the most efficient way possible.

Researchers of all ages will find the information they're looking for by browsing the A-Z list of subject guides and tutorials. Once you've selected the subject guide corresponding to your area of research, you'll find one or multiple databases to delve into.

Our subject guides cover a variety of topics, including the arts, biography, business, history, Wyoming, and much, much more! Use the WSL's research guides to get access to a curated list of databases. Read more about the WSL's research guides in this [blog post](#).

REACH YOUR GOALS WITH THE WSL'S VIEW WYOMING'S HISTORY THROUGH MANY LENSES WITH THE WSL'S DIGITAL COLLECTION SUITE

Historically, many people have started or ended their day by perusing the local newspaper to read about current events, local news, and other important information. These days many prefer to consume their news digitally via computers or other digital devices. Thanks to the WSL's **Digital Wyoming Newspaper Collection**, you can access newspapers from dating all the way back to 1849.

The WSL's Digital Collection Suite also includes other resources, including **Wyoming Places, Wyoming Publications, Wyoming Legislation, Wyoming Inventors, and Wyoming Trademarks**. Read more about all the WSL's Digital Collection Suite has to offer in this [blog post](#).

ELEARNING TOOLS

Learning is an essential part of both our professional and personal lives. Perhaps your older vehicle needs a minor repair or you're looking for a new job or hoping to upskill for a promotion in your present position. Those who are still in school may need to prepare for an exam. You may need or want to learn a new language.

No matter what you need to learn, the [eLearning tools](#) provided by the Wyoming State Library, such as ChiltonLibrary, LinkedIn Learning, Mometrix, Pronunciator, ProCitizen, and Driving Tests can help you reach your goals, all from the screen of your computer or mobile device. The eLearning Tools on GoWYLD can fill a variety of your needs for school, your career, and your

personal life. What are you waiting for? Find out more about the WSL's eLearning tools in this [blog post](#).

VIRTUAL LIBRARIES HELP YOU READ ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE

Did you know that as a Wyoming library cardholder you not only have access to the physical materials housed in your library, but [thousands of e-books, e-audiobooks, and digital magazines through our virtual libraries](#). With resources including Libby, Tumblebooks, and TeenBookCloud, you have the freedom to borrow media to listen to, read, or watch using any of your digital devices--all free of charge. Find out more about the WSL's virtual libraries in this [blog post](#).



Calendar

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| June 1-30 | Rainbow Book Month |
| June 12-13 | WYLD Annual Meeting |
| June 26-30 | ALA Conference |
| July 4 | Independence Day |
| July 10 | Wyoming Day |
| July 20-22 | School Library Summit |

WSL News

WSL WYLD TEAM ATTENDS 2025 COSUGI CONFERENCE



Shaylee, Shantry, Nick, K.J., and Rachel at the 2025 Cosugi Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In April, five Wyoming library professionals attended the 2025 Customers of SirsiDynix Users Group, Inc. (COSUGI) Conference, “Brewing Success and Crafting Innovation,” where they gleaned important knowledge, attended many beneficial breakout sessions, and participated in meaningful networking with counterparts from across the U.S. and beyond. Four members of the Wyoming State Library’s (WSL) WYLD Support Team, K.J. Hillgren, WSL Systems Librarian; Shaylee Krueger, WSL Resource Sharing Librarian; Nick Marlin, WSL Library Systems Administrator; and Shantry Miller, WSL

Bibliographic Services Librarian; made the trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the event, as well as Rachel Crocker, the WYLD Network President and Albany County Library System’s Director.

All COSUGI attendees attended the opening program, a forum detailing Harris Computer’s recent acquisition of SirsiDynix, and a question and answer session with SirsiDynix’s leadership team together as a large group. They spent the remainder of their time at breakout sessions on many useful topics including BLUEcloud Analytics, the prudent use of AI, optimized training methods, cataloging, and acquisitions. Several sessions focused on ways specific customers were using various products, including increased security and ransomware attack recovery and a special library card project completed by a partnership between public and school libraries.

“The ransomware recovery session was helpful and very timely,” said Nick. “It gave me several ideas we can apply directly in our support of Wyoming libraries.”

Several networking opportunities were offered during the conference, including several meals during which attendees from different locations were encouraged to eat together and converse about their experiences with SirsiDynix. Staff from SirsiDynix were also available to chat with conference attendees during meals.

“I was able to talk with a librarian from Queens, New York, about the Wyoming State Library’s current interlibrary loan project,” said Shaylee. “It was great getting to share about what we’re doing in Wyoming and hear about what others are doing elsewhere.”

A Shark Tank Social gave participants the opportunity to dream big about the possible applications of SirsiDynix. Attendees shared many ideas—some realistic and others more far-fetched. During the conference, the team enjoyed getting to connect with the other participants, share their own experiences, and learn from other’s experiences.

“It was great to talk to librarians from other parts of the country,” said Shantry. “I enjoyed finding out what we do similarly and what we do differently, and hearing ideas to potentially try in the future.” Recent releases and upcoming capabilities for Symphony were also covered at the event.

“There are good things coming!” said K.J. “It was exciting to hear about their plans for the future.”

The group was able to sit down for face-to-face conversations with both their sales representative and their library relations manager, which they all agreed was especially beneficial.

Although it was busy three days for the team, everyone was able to take away plenty of use-

ful knowledge and insight that will help them continue to serve Wyoming libraries.

PAIGE BREDEKAMP ATTENDS MPLA LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Paige listens intently during a conference session.

Paige Bredenkamp, the Wyoming State Library’s eResources and School Library Consultant, recently attended the Mountain Plains Library Association’s (MPLA) Leadership Institute along with the three other Wyoming library professionals who were

accepted to the program earlier this year. The event was held May 4-8 at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado, and gathered library professionals from Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming for learning, networking, and growth. Participants learned about their own and others’ leadership styles, how to better understand those with differing styles, using conflict as a growth opportunity, effective collaboration, and inspiring and motivating those around them.

“It was a lot of information, and we had plenty of opportunities to interact with each other and

practice using the tools we learned about,” said Paige. “The event was so uplifting, and it was a great time getting away from the hustle and bustle, connecting with nature, and learning new skills.”

Wyoming Library Association

WLA-YSIG MINI-CONFERENCE GATHERS YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIANS



Forty-three participants from twenty Wyoming counties attended the event.

The WLA-YSIG Mini-Conference held in Douglas, Wyoming, May 1-2 was packed full of opportunities for learning, connection, and professional growth for youth services librarians from throughout the Wyoming library community. This event was coordinated by WLA-YSIG co-chairs Chelsea Fenton, Angel Capone Evans, and Karri Savage, with assistance from Joanne Pruitt, Wyoming State Library Youth Services Specialist.

“We had a great turnout,” said Joanne.

“There was so much energy, enthusiasm, and engagement.”

The forty-three participants benefitted from instruction from speakers regarding a variety of youth-related topics. A youth mental health speaker regarding how youth services professionals can help young library patrons in need of resources. Special guests, both human and canine, from K-9 Caring Angels, and a presentation by Sit Means Sit taught the attendees about how therapy dogs are trained and how they can be used in libraries with youth and children.

The librarians also participated in some educational and fun STEM activities with Karri, equipping them to include science, technology, engineering, and math in their library programming. Joanne shared information about GoWYLD databases, including some tips and tricks for increased efficiency. Plenty of networking and fun took place during a murder mystery icebreaker event on Thursday night, and a photo scavenger hunt and a children’s author icebreaker game on Friday. Friday’s agenda also included a business meeting, which included the adoption of updated WLA-YSIG guidelines.

At the end of the conference, participants left with renewed excitement and plans to implement new ideas in their libraries back home, and some even left with some amazing Collaborative Summer Library Program merchandise that was raffled and given away during the event.

"I loved that we were able to learn and practice new skills, easily access the resources you had for us, work together with other librarians, and to have fun while doing it," said Hayden Rawlings from the Rock Springs Library in Sweetwater County. "We have decided to start focusing on one database a month in our building until we fully understand the benefits and drawbacks of each one. We've already been able to more easily connect patrons with test prep resources."

People News



Brenna Philbrick, a University of Wyoming Libraries Administrative Associate, recently received the UW

Libraries Outstanding Staff Award. She has worked with UW Libraries for nineteen years--since she was a student in 2003, became a full-time employee in 2006, and now serves as an administrative associate for the UW Libraries Dean's Office. She received the award for her many contributions to UW Libraries last year, which included completing her duties with expertise, flexibility, efficiency, and professionalism. Read more in this [article](#).

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.

Training and Professional Opportunities

WYLD ANNUAL MEETING IS QUICKLY APPROACHING



The schedule for the 2025 WYLD Annual Meeting on June 12-13 has been finalized and is now available on the [WYLD Annual Meeting 2025 webpage](#), along with other important event information.

Content related to ILL, cataloging, Aspen, Overdrive, and more will be presented at this year's event. In response to survey comments requesting that there be more opportunities for networking, we will have several sharing sessions and meet-up opportunities built into the schedule this year. We will also have training sessions scheduled for the first time slot before the business meeting on Friday, which is different from years past.

A room block has been reserved at the Riverton Hampton Inn set aside for the group. The arrival date is June 11, 2025, and the departure date is June 13, 2025. Book your room using this [link](#) or call the hotel at (307) 856-3500 to book directly. Be sure to let the front desk know you are attending the WYLD Conference.

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.weinzierl1@wyo.gov to post jobs.

Assistant Librarian

University of Wyoming George W. Hopper Law Library

Laramie, WY

Open until filled

Posted May 7, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Library Branch Manager

Carbon County Library System

Baggs, WY

Open until filled

Posted May 7, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

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Circulation Clerk

Converse County Library System

Glenrock, WY

Open until filled

Posted May 6, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Assistant Librarian-Undergraduate

Research Librarian

University of Wyoming-Research & Instruction Department

Laramie, WY

Open Until Filled

Posted April 11, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Community Fine Arts Center Assistant

Sweetwater County Library System

Rock Springs, WY

Open Until Filled

Posted April 11, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Assistant Librarian-Instructional Design Librarian

University of Wyoming-Research & Instruction Department

Laramie, WY

Open Until Filled

Posted January 29, 2025

[Vacancy Announcement](#)

Grants & Awards

[WY SHRAB Historic Records Advisory Board Grants](#)

Deadline: May 31, 2025

Does your organization safeguard Wyoming's historical legacy? The Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board (WY SHRAB) is offering grants of up to \$2,500 to support your important work! Transform your historical records projects with funding for processing valuable collections, digitizing irreplaceable materials, creating online access to Wyoming's history, staff training and professional development, consulting services for records management. This opportunity is funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Find out more on the application website, where you will find grant application forms and guidelines, an informational presentation about the program, and examples of successful past applications for the grant.

[McMurry Continuing Staff Education Grants](#)

Deadline: May 31, 2025

Individuals in publicly accessible libraries are eligible for competitive continuing education grants from the Carol McMurry Library Endowment. Continuing education support qualifies as courses that support certification

or completion of a degree or certificate in the library-related subject area; conferences, workshops, seminars, or training in the employee's or volunteer's library-related subject area; and general courses that may not be directly library related but allow a library employee or volunteer to do their job more effectively. Awards are given to employees in public, academic, special, and public school libraries as well as public archives.

[Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation](#)

Deadline: June 18, 2025

The Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation seeks to improve health outcomes in the communities Sprouts serves in 24 states by supporting nutrition education, nutrition access, and wellness programs. The following grants are available: The Sprouting School Gardens Grant supports school gardens and classroom cooking programs to foster hands-on learning and nutrition education. Growing Healthy Kids Grants support community-based programs focused on children's nutrition access, nutrition education, and health and wellness. Wellness Across the Lifespan Grants support programs that provide adults and vulnerable populations with access to health and nutrition education, healthy lifestyle and behavior programs, and nutrition security.

Yiddish Book Center's Reading

Group Grants

Deadline: July 14, 2025

The Yiddish Book Center is accepting applications from public libraries to host “Between Two Worlds,” a three-part reading group series focused on Yiddish literature in translation. Forty selected libraries will receive a \$2,000 grant for events, speakers, or enhancing library programming related to the titles, travel, lodging, and meal expenses for a reading group facilitator to attend a three-day workshop at the Yiddish Book Center, copies of three Yiddish literature titles (17 copies each) in translation for book club discussion, funding for a fourth book, eligibility to host a small, specially curated traveling exhibit on the history of Yiddish and its role in Jewish life, religion, and culture, reading guides, and other educational materials related to the Yiddish titles, and access to virtual programs and an online community of fellow librarians and facilitation for discussion, connection, advice, and collaboration. The theme, “Between Two Worlds,” explores questions of identity, displacement, and belonging through the lens of modern Yiddish literature—works that reflect the experience of navigating between cultures, generations, and geographies. The series is designed to spark deep conversations and introduce readers to vibrant literary voices they may not have encountered before. Programs will run January-June 2026.

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. Grant funding requires a \$10,000 cash match from the participating municipality or a partnering organization.

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. Believe in Reading will consider funding programs that serve any age or aspect of supporting reading and literacy, including adult literacy, English as a second language projects, or Braille projects for the blind or visually impaired. Believe in Reading will supply funds only if they are earmarked for literacy, not just a general campaign. Reading must be the prime activity. Because addressing literacy is not a short-term process, Believe in Reading's grants are renewable for up to a maximum of three years, but a first-year award does not guarantee any subsequent awards. Currently, the maximum grant amount is \$10,000; however, the vast majority of grants are for \$3,000 or less. First-time applicants will not be funded for more than \$3,000.

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. The projects funded are designed to help spark student interest in technology-based careers like computer science, computer engineering, information technology, programming, cyber security, robotics, or similar areas. The focus is on funding libraries and schools in rural or high-poverty areas that are designed to reach multiple students equitably and help establish ongoing student interest groups like maker spaces and coding clubs.

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 costs for travel and 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 Indigenous Knowledge Keeper in the classroom, including a \$350 honorarium and \$200 in travel funds (if 100+ miles roundtrip.) Payment will be made directly to the Indigenous Knowledge Keeper.

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. It 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 this 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 projects that encourage 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 our Library Program. Institutions can order anytime throughout the year. Books are entirely free and shipped free of charge.

The Pilcrow Foundations 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 a local sponsors for the purchase of up to \$1,200 worth (at retail value) of new, quality, hardcover children's books. We provide a list of over 500 quality hardcover children's books from which Children's Book Project

grant recipients can select books. 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

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.

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

Here is a roundup of news and articles regarding libraries.

Engage New Patrons and Drive Circulation With Comics & Manga Book Clubs-A good book club can introduce readers

to new topics, ideas, and points of view they may have never considered before, while providing a welcoming space to connect with other readers and share insights and recommendations.

WebJunction's AI Poll Results: What We Learned

-Recently, WebJunction surveyed library professionals about their thoughts and opinions about AI. Here's what they found out.

Try These Tools for Helping Older Adults with Health Questions

-Census estimates show that the population of those age 65 and over will climb by 22 percent over the next decade, then grow at slower rates for the rest of the century. How can we help this population?

2025 Library Systems Report-This article discusses major events in the industry, major players in library technology, and recent trends that have emerged over the past year.

