



# OUTRIDER



WYOMING STATE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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## \$12.6 Million to go to Library Construction

Five Wyoming libraries have been approved for a total of \$12.6 million in funding from the Wyoming Library Multi-Purpose



Community Facility Program (WLMCF).

This Wyoming State Library federal subgrant program is funded by the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF) through the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Assistance Listing Number 21.029; Federal Award Identification Number CPFFNo188). The projects that were approved are:

- Park County Library: \$8,497,458 for construction of a new Powell Branch Library
- Albany County Public Library: \$1,030,136 to renovate three public multi-purposes spaces in Laramie

- Uinta County Library: \$647,171 for health and safety renovations in Evanston
- Sweetwater County Library System: \$1,475,646 for improvements to multi-purpose community rooms in the three libraries in Rock Springs and Green River
- Washakie County Library: \$949,589 for a library expansion in Worland

The WLMCF is a competitive subgrant program that has made ARPA funding available for library construction and renovation projects that support work, education and health monitoring. Eligible projects address community needs that were created, exacerbated or made apparent by the Covid-19 public health emergency.

Questions about the WLMCF program may be directed to Susan Mark, Wyoming State Library Outreach Librarian, at [susan.mark@wyo.gov](mailto:susan.mark@wyo.gov) or (307) 777-5915.

# WSL News

## MONTHLY TRAINING CALENDAR MOVING TO THE MAINE STATE LIBRARY

After more than 17 years at the Wyoming State Library, the monthly continuing education (CE) calendar is moving on. The



Maine State Library (MSL) is now taking over this valuable, nationally-recognized resource that started in Wyoming. A [landing page](#) for the calendar has been created where people can subscribe and suggest programs for inclusion. Comments or questions may go to [CECAL.MSL@maine.gov](mailto:CECAL.MSL@maine.gov).

The calendar was a major team effort over many years, most recently headed up by Paige Bredenkamp and Jessica Otto. Jamie Markus first created a list in late 2005 or early 2006 as a way to collate online trainings and send them out to Wyoming libraries all at once rather than as they were received.

Soon, he began actively looking for events, and created a document of continuing education providers to check for events before sending out

the email each month. Over time, the list was shared with CE coordinators from other state libraries, and WebJunction began promoting it on their site. At some point, an online version was added. With many other states and WebJunction sharing the information, the calendar developed national reach.

“I am truly excited that Maine State Library will continue the important work started by the Wyoming State Library,” said Lori Fisher, Maine State Librarian. “Librarians of all types benefit from this monthly compilation, and the MSL staff is honored to be able to contribute to the library profession through this work.”



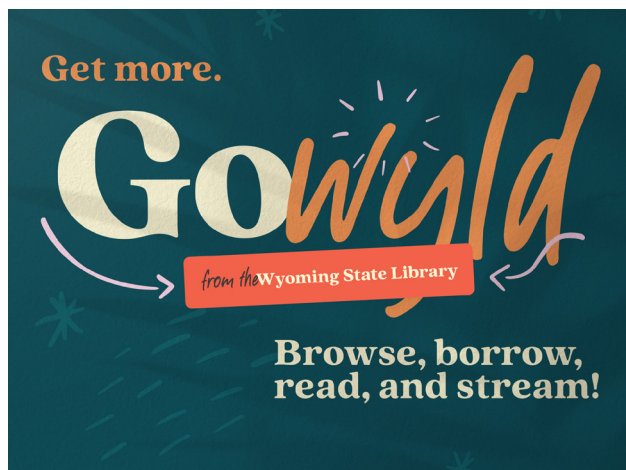
# Calendar

- Jan 1-30, 2024 [National Braille Literacy Month](#)
- Jan 1 [Public Domain Day](#)
- Jan 4 [World Braille Day](#)
- Jan 21-27 [Data Privacy Week](#)
- Jan 22-26 [National News Literacy Week](#)
- Jan 27 [Multicultural Children’s Book Day](#)
- Mar 1 [Letters About Literature Deadline](#)

## THE IMPACT OF FEDERAL LIBRARY FUNDS IN WYOMING



Each year, the Wyoming State Library receives more than \$1 million in federal Library Services and Technology Act funds through the [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#). These funds support libraries statewide through projects that include statewide electronic resources in the GoWYLD databases, resource sharing, and more. In addition, passage of the CARES and ARPA legislation in response to the Covid-19 public health emergency brought additional funds to Wyoming. Learn more about what federal funds do for the Equality State in these two brief videos [here](#) and [here](#).



## Around the State

### UINTA COUNTY LIBRARY TRANSFORMED INTO WHOVILLE FOR FUNDRAISER



*Santa, the Grinch, and friends at the event.*

The Uinta County Library in Evanston turned the library into Whoville for a fundraiser for the children’s department. The event was a huge success, raising \$4,000 for books and activities. More than 500 people came to see Santa Claus, the Grinch, Martha May, Cindy Lou Who, and the staff dressed as Whoville citizens. Fifteen businesses donated trees to decorate the library. The year-long planning and preparation that went into this event paid off! [See more photos](#) on the WSL blog.

# Databases & Electronic Resources

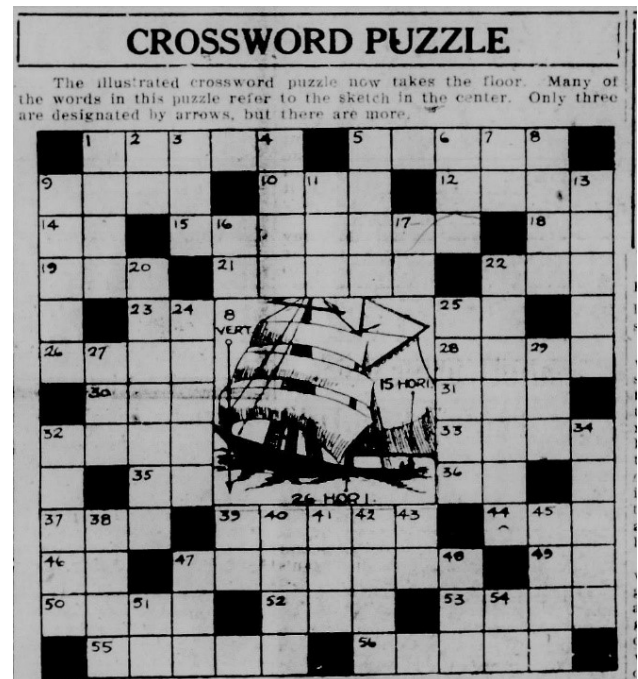
## CROSSWORD PUZZLES IN WYOMING DIGITAL NEWSPAPERS

Crossword puzzles are a common sight today, but they were once a novelty.

In 1913, Arthur Wynne created what many consider the first crossword. Published on the *New York World's Fun* page, this puzzle started the advent of the modern crossword. By the mid-1920s crossword-mania had struck the nation.

In Wyoming, it wasn't until 1924 that newspapers published a crossword. By 1925 newspapers across the state included crosswords in their daily editions. The [Casper Daily Tribune](#), [Sheridan Post-Enterprise](#), and the [Wyoming State Tribune](#), [Cheyenne State Leader](#) all offered daily crosswords. Yet by the year 1926, only one newspaper in the state continued to publish the puzzles on a regular basis.

The crosswords on our [blog post](#) are examples of these 1925 crosswords, each from a newspaper digitized in the [Wyoming Digital Newspaper Collection](#). In the collection search for the keyword "crossword" while checking the box "Hide restricted content." This will reveal all public domain references to crosswords in the collection. You can find everything from



*Sheridan Post-Enterprise April 2, 1925.*

[crossword advertisements](#) to discussion on puzzle [psychology](#).

## New Books

The latest additions to the Wyoming State Library's professional development collection are available to you through [WYLDcat](#). Send questions, comments, or purchase suggestions to Library Development Manager Brian Greene at [brian.greene@wyo.gov](mailto:brian.greene@wyo.gov) or (307) 777-6339.

### [Compact Copyright: Quick Answers to Common Questions](#)

Sara R. Benson

Chicago: ALA Editions, 2021

## School Libraries

### RESOURCES FOR SHARING SCHOOL LIBRARY IMPACT

Sharing the impact of your school library program provides tangible evidence of its value to your stakeholders, including school and district administrators, parents, teachers, and students. This month's [blog post](#) from the Colorado Virtual Library provides an overview of strategies and tools for telling the story of your library program through data, research, and anecdotal feedback using resources in the Colorado State Library's School Libraries Communication Toolkit.

## People News

**Kaijsa Calkins** was appointed Interim Associate Dean, Education & Research Services, at University of Wyoming Libraries in August, in addition to her position as Assistant Dean. Her role as Associate Dean includes oversight of faculty affairs, organizational assessment, and project partnerships.

**Paula Martin** was appointed Interim Associate Dean, User Services, at University of Wyoming Libraries in August, in addition to her position as Assistant Dean. In her role as Associate Dean, she is responsible for recruiting employees,

staff annual reviews, facilities, and oversight of Resource and Discovery Management

## Training

### ON-DEMAND RECORDING: GETTING THE MOST OUT OF AI MODELS LIKE CHATGPT

If you missed this month's webinar, "Techniques For Getting the Most Out of Foundational AI Models like ChatGPT", [the recording](#) is now available on the Wyoming State Library's YouTube Channel. This recorded webinar delves into prompt engineering techniques aimed at extracting the maximum potential from ChatGPT and similar foundational large language models.

### ONLINE TRAINING 'AT YOUR LEISURE'

In addition to the live webinars in our [training calendar](#), each month we try to pick some videos out there that you can watch "At Your Leisure." These on-demand offerings caught our attention for December.

- [CSL in Session: Supporting Students with Invisible Disabilities in the Library Classroom](#) (Colorado State Library)
- [The Future ELA Classroom Is Here: Using Generative AI to Improve Writing Practice, Feedback, and Revision](#) (edWeb)
- [Parallel Primary Sources for Enhancing STEM Experiences](#) (Library of Congress)

## Library Jobs

The Wyoming State Library maintains a [job board](#) for library positions around the state. Contact Susan Mark at [susan.mark@wyo.gov](mailto:susan.mark@wyo.gov) to post your openings.

### Librarian

Gillette College  
 Gillette, WY  
 Open until filled

### Branch Services Specialist (part-time)

Campbell County Public Library  
 Wright Branch Library  
 Wright, WY  
 Open until filled

### Adult Services Specialist

Natrona County Library  
 Casper, WY  
 Open until filled

### Makerspace Coordinator – Engineering & Physical Sciences Deans Office

University of Wyoming  
 Laramie, WY  
 Open until filled

### Librarian – Youth Services

Campbell County Public Library  
 Gillette, WY  
 Open until filled

## Grants & Awards

### WYOMING HUMANITIES INVITES COLLABORATION ON LATINO POETRY

Grant funding of up to \$1,200 is available to libraries for the [Latino Poetry Project](#). Deadline to apply is January 5, 2024.



Wyoming Humanities ([thinkwy.org](http://thinkwy.org)) is now offering to collaborate with and support any of the state’s libraries that would like to apply for this opportunity intended for programs exploring Latino poetry and its ongoing relevance to American national life.

They may be able to offer additional programming funding, scholar assistance, marketing, and even livestreaming. Contact Lucas Fralick at [lucas@thinkwy.org](mailto:lucas@thinkwy.org) to learn more or with questions

## What’s Up?

Have great happenings at your library? We'd like to know! Send news to Christi Weinzierl at [christi.weinzierl1@wyo.gov](mailto:christi.weinzierl1@wyo.gov).

## GRANTS IN BRIEF

### [Walmart Community Grant Program](#)

**DEADLINE: December 31, 2023**

Grants of \$250 to \$5,000 will be awarded in support of local nonprofit organizations within the service area of individual Walmart or Sam's Club stores for projects that benefit the community at large. Eligible nonprofit organizations must operate on the local level or be an affiliate/chapter of a larger organization that operates locally and directly benefit the service area of the store from which they are requesting funding.

### [National Endowment for the Arts Big Read](#)

**DEADLINE: January 10, 2024, for Intent to Apply; completed applications due January 24, 2024**

The NEA Big Read annually provides support to selected nonprofit organizations around the country to host dynamic community-wide reading programs, each designed around a single NEA Big Read title.

### [Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant](#)

**DEADLINE: January 12, 2024**

Designed to increase the availability of local foods in schools and help connect students to the sources of their food through education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips, and local food sourcing for school meals. Grants can launch new programs or expand existing efforts.

### [Wyoming Arts Council Arts Access Project Grant](#)

**DEADLINE: Rolling**

The Fiscal Year 2024 Arts Access Project Grant application is now open for projects taking place between July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. This grant is designed to provide arts project funding for organizations that meet any of the following four criteria: projects increasing arts access for, or primarily serving, people with disabilities; arts projects led by and/or primarily serving BIPOC communities (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color); projects involving folk & traditional arts and artists; and organizations in rural communities with a population of less than 3,000. An organization is eligible to receive up to \$1,000 with no match requirement.

### [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.

## News in Brief

### [Today's Document from the U.S. National Archives](#)

The National Archives has all kinds of treasures in its stacks, and one way they share them with the public is through their social media account, "Today's Document." Available to follow on [Twitter](#), [Tumblr](#), and [Facebook](#), Today's Document highlights all sorts of records from the curious to the mundane every single day.

### [Let's Polka! Explore the Sackett Folklore Collection Online](#)

Just in time for the holidays, a collection of audio recordings featuring polka music, folk stories, oral histories, and more are available online in the Samuel J. Sackett Folklore Collection at Fort Hays State University's Forsyth Library.

### [Knowing the Health Consumer from Public Libraries Online](#)

The Medical Library Association's [Consumer Health Information Specialization \(CHIS\)](#) second core competency is "Know the Health Consumer." [This article](#) from Public Libraries Online offers information to define consumer

health and health literacy and makes clear the library's role in helping health consumers.

### [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Staff Learning Resources from WebJunction](#)

WebJunction is committed to an approach which looks to create and sustain diverse, equitable, inclusive spaces where libraries and communities can thrive. The [OCLC 2023 Annual Report](#) features some of their most popular webinars from the past year that can help inform your library's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

### [ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program Application now Open](#)

The American Library Association Spectrum Scholarship Program application is open until March 1. At least 50 Scholars are selected each year, each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship and expenses associated with the Spectrum Leadership Institute during ALA Annual, and access to a network of over 1,300 Scholars.

### [2024 Día Program Registry Now Open](#)

The 2024 National Día Program Registry is now open, and ALSC invites libraries, schools, and community organizations to [register](#) their upcoming programs. By using the national registry, program planners help build a searchable database that showcases all types and sizes of programs that highlight El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) and Diversity In Action.