State Librarian’s Update
November 2022

State Librarian

It might be cliché at this time of the year, but it still feels important to express my gratitude for the work that each of you do in making our libraries vibrant centers of learning and connection each and every day. I know the year has surfaced challenges – censorship being a primary one – and I am proud to be a member of a library community that takes its role and responsibility for protecting freedom of information for all seriously. An informed citizenry is, after all, the foundation of an inclusive democracy. You are all fierce defenders of the right to read and I am grateful for you.

Jen Nelson, State Librarian

Stay Informed:

Funding Information Network Libraries, like NJSL, will have access to GuideStar Pro as part of their 2023 membership with Candid. Access to Candid resources like Foundations Directory Online and the upcoming GuideStar Pro are available onsite at member libraries.

NJASL Conference, Dec. 4-6, 2022, Hard Rock Hotel, Atlantic City
Sharon Rawlins will be presenting on Sunday, Dec. 4th from 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm:
“Too Many Books, So Little Time”
It’s hard to keep up with all the books published yearly. Discover some you may have missed or that have been overlooked in 2022 and hear about those publishing in late 2022 and 2023. Your students will think you have superpowers when you give them just what they’re looking for!

You’re Invited:

CSLP Inclusion Committee presents “Cultivating Affirmation and Belonging for LGBTQIA+ Youth”
November 22, 2022, 2 pm. Register for virtual event:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_U8NQW1wcSdy1HxWJv3kl5g

Examine statistics related to discrimination within libraries/schools and risks that LGBTQIA+ youth face on a day-to-day basis in their communities, then discuss ways that library professionals can improve the general climate of libraries and summer reading programs through various strategies from simple word choice to organizational policy change. An interactive safe space for all of your questions will be moderated by a CSLP Inclusion Committee member following the presentation portion. Digital resource handouts will be provided.
Outcomes: Participants will learn about implicit bias, the complexity and depth of gender, and explanation of acronyms. Participants will be given strategies to create a welcoming environment in their Library and their Library’s summer reading program for LGBTQIA+ youth.

Presenter: Director of Education and Outreach Amanda Erickson, Kaleidoscope Youth Center in Columbus, Ohio

NJLibsGrowBiz Virtual Discussion: How to make the most of statewide databases
Thursday, December 8 from 11:00am-12:00pm
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIldOqupzgiGNIGKamrwuvE5RqmJcvY1MLx
This virtual discussion will focus on ways to use the statewide databases offered through JerseyClicks to better connect with your local business community. Bill Carlson from Reference Solutions and Steven Vitale from the New Jersey State Library will join the conversation to cover how to promote the databases to library patrons, how to use the marketing and other materials provided, and how to schedule training sessions for staff and patrons. There will also be time to share your own experiences and ask questions.

CSLP Virtual Summer Symposium December 8, 2022, 11 am to 4:30 pm EST
Register to attend: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PswwKL3JQhKi_mmKzeBQPw
Sessions include:
• Keynote Speaker Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director of ALA! She will address The Library as a Civic Bridge and Community Learning Hub.
• Summer Library Outreach to Underserved Children and Caregivers with ALSC’s LSUCTC.
• All Together Now with Intergenerational Summer Programming with King County Library System and SilverKite Community Arts.
• Decorating Together with CSLP State Representatives.

Not able to attend the virtual event live? No need to register – the Symposium will be recorded. Recordings will be available here after the event, or you can sign-up here to request a recording notification: https://forms.gle/PAkG8WhWakGw2LDi6

Leap into Science Virtual Training December 15, 2022 from 2 pm - 4 pm
The State Leadership Team for Leap into Science is doing a virtual training on the Leap into Science curriculum “Light and Shadow” on December 15, 2022 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Developed by the Franklin Institute, Leap into Science integrates open-ended science activities with children’s books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families. Three different workshop models are covered in one training: preschool (ages 3-5), elementary (ages 6-10) and one for families. First time participants will receive an Amazon gift card to be used to purchase resources for the kits in support of the Leap program. Anyone who already took the training but wants a refresher is welcome to attend as well. All participants are encouraged to offer at least one workshop in your organization by the end of March 2023 and fill out a short report afterward. Register for the virtual training: https://tinyurl.com/2p8wytay
Questions? Contact the New Jersey State Leadership Team: Doug Baldwin; Vice-President, New Jersey Makers Day, dbaldwin@njmakersday.org, Sharon Rawlins; Youth Services Specialist, Library Development Bureau, NJ State Library, srawlins@njstatelib.org

Patriot’s Week Programs

Dec. 28th - Strangely Contaminated: The Loyalists of New Jersey – Andrew Dauphinee, our own Instruction and Outreach Librarian, will speak about New Jersey Loyalists during the American Revolution, including the military accomplishments and failures.

Dec. 29th - As part of Patriots Week, we have historian William “Larry” Kidder speaking about the Revolutionary World of a Free Black Man: Jacob Francis 1754 – 1836.

Get Involved:

Librarian Certification Rules Proposed
Share your perspective! The proposed update to Librarian Certification is now available for review and public comment. The proposed new rules are a re-adoption of the rules that expired in May 2022.

The proposal and instructions for comment are available until January 6, 2023. The New Jersey State Library welcomes your feedback.