

## State Librarian's Update February 2023

We have some exciting opportunities coming up over the next month. First, on March 7, we'll be hosting a webinar with Libraries Without Borders-US (LWB-US), a DC-based non-profit that works to extend the capacity of libraries to conduct outreach activities. Their model is based on sustainability for the partnering library, and they're finding success in several spots across the country. Close by, they are working in Connecticut with several libraries of varying sizes to hone their outreach to identify and then reach underserved communities. Please join us if your schedule permits. Here is the registration link: <https://bit.ly/LWB-US>.

We're also hoping to hear in early March if we've received an Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grant. If funded, it will allow us to work with the NJ Department of Health to publicize the Affordable Connectivity Program and sign up eligible people at events across the state. We'll also be reaching out to see if your library or another organization in your community is interested in hosting an event. Details to come, but please let me know if you have questions in the meantime.

Plan ahead for the New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference, where we've invited Dr. Noah Lenstra to present the State Librarian's Program. Dr. Lenstra is on the LIS faculty at the University of North Carolina – Greensboro, and the founder of Let's Move in Libraries. He has a deep and abiding interest in how public libraries build healthy people and communities.

Andy O'Rahilly who is in charge of the machine lending section of the Talking Book and Braille Center will be retiring after 16 years of service to the State Library. We are grateful for his commitment to readers and will miss him.

As always, my thanks to you for the work you do for New Jersey residents through libraries. You make a positive difference in communities of all types.

Jen Nelson  
State Librarian

### Stay Informed:

#### JerseyConnect

The JerseyConnect team finalized its evaluation of spam filtering solutions and has renewed its agreement with GoSecure for another three years. The team evaluated nine different platforms and performed four proof of concepts over a six-month time frame. Ultimately, they found that GoSecure met the needs of JerseyConnect's customers as well as their needs as a service provider, the best compared to the other nine systems.

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*Connecting people with information through libraries*

## Makers Day

The State Library will be joining other libraries around the state by offering a number of virtual NJ Makers Day videos as part of the annual statewide Makers Day Event planned for March 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Collection News

During January, the State Library received a copy of the 1866 Extra Session of the Minutes of the General Assembly and the Senate Journal. This material was missing from our collection and is unique in that it is the session in which the NJ Legislature discussed ratification of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution. The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the US and provided equal protection under the law. New Jersey has a very conflicted past regarding the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment and this volume contributes greatly to scholarship on this topic. Find a digitized copy of the Senate Journal [here](#) and the General Assembly Minutes [here](#).

## College Financial Aid LibGuide

With college financial aid applications coming due this time of year, check out our LibGuide for [Scholarships and Grants for Education](#). You'll find many helpful resources for everyone from new applicants to graduate students.

## Spotlight Blog Post

In February, we are promoting both the historic [Annual Reports of the New Jersey State Reform School for Boys](#) as well as the School's newspaper titled, The Advance, in a Spotlight blog post titled, "[The Advance and the New Jersey State Reform School,](#)" found on our website.

## Digital Federal Depository Library Program

The Director of the US Government Publishing Office (GPO) has announced that Office's intent to adopt the majority of recommendations put forward by the Task Force on a Digital Federal Depository Library Program. State Librarian Jen Nelson served on this Task Force representing COSLA, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies. Read the GPO Director's [response to those recommendations](#).

## TBBC News

Two TBBC patrons were selected to participate in NLS (National Library Service) pilot access to Google and Amazon products, such as Alexa.

The "Many Faces of BARD" is an evening event hosted by NLS for consumers and attended by the Reader Services staff. Last month an overview was done on searching BARD for foreign language titles.

## You're Invited:

### Online lunchtime programs:

On March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm hear Gerard Raho address [5 Money Questions for Women](#), which will provide actionable steps to help women meet financial goals to help plan for retirement.

Storyteller Carol Simon Levin, helps us celebrate Women's History Month with her talk titled "[Women of the Seas and Stars](#)" on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. She will share stories about women who made careers and discoveries below the waves and above the clouds.

We are hosting a career building session titled [Creating a Target Market for Your Job Search](#) on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. Paul Cecala will present best practices for targeting compatible employers during a job search.

Learn more about the [Pinelands Flora and Fauna](#) when Joel Mott from the NJ Pinelands Commission shares sights and sounds of the Pinelands, including stories about iconic species found within it. This session will be held March 29<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.

## From Library Development

Free Naloxone Training provided by Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services. March 13 and 29, 2023 from 1:00-2:30pm (please only select one date). Join us for a free, virtual training about overdose death prevention strategies including the appropriate administration of naloxone and rescue breathing. Attendees will each receive one naloxone kit that will be mailed to them via UPS after the session. Please note that the session will NOT be recorded. The NJ State Library is coordinating this informational program in an effort to facilitate discussion and learning around this topic. The decision to receive a naloxone kit is solely at the discretion of the individual library. Link to register: <https://freenaloxonetrainingmarch2023.eventbrite.com>

Please Join the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Library Trustee Association for a special two-part presentation, Legal Issues for Libraries: Spaces, Patrons & Collections, presented by Tomas A. Lipinski, J.D., LL.M., M.L.I.S., Ph.D., Professor, School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. Register Here: <https://www.njstatelib.org/news/legal-issues-for-libraries-spaces-patrons-collections/> NOTE: The presentations will not be recorded or be available after the webinars.

- Part 1 – Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7:00 PM Free Speech Basics

The constitutional framework courts use to determine the constitutionality of a government regulation on speech, i.e., your library policy, limiting the free speech rights of patrons. Patrons: a review of principles and cases applicable to regulating patron behavior (codes of conduct), including the design of responses by the library that impact patron Liberty Interests, i.e., expulsion of a patron. Access to Library Spaces: a discussion of extant case law involving the use of public library meeting rooms by patrons. Use of content areas such as kiosks, bulletin board and display cases.

- Part 2 – Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 7:00 PM Collection Challenges and Regulation

A discussion of the law relating to content objections, e.g. book reconsiderations (banning) in libraries, both shelf/physical and online content and the immunity for online content when the library is a qualifying service provider under federal law. The case law regarding patron input into collection building, maintenance and programming is also covered as well as parental preference mechanisms.

## Get Involved:

**Suggestions Needed for CSLP 2026 Slogan and 2027 Theme:** The NJ State Library is soliciting youth and adult public library staff for creative suggestions for the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)'s Slogan for the 2026 program (theme is Dinosaurs and the artist is Kaylani Juanita) and 2027 Theme.

There is a [Jamboard](#) for you to suggest your ideas. Please suggest up to five catchy slogans and themes for the all age programs that work for early literacy, children, teens, and adults by **February 24**. To make sure you don't repeat a slogan or theme, here are the immediate future themes and their slogans:

- 2025: *Color Our World* (Theme is Art)
- 2024: *Adventure Begins at Your Library* (Theme is Adventure)
- 2023: *All Together Now* (Theme is Unity, Kindness, Friendship)

**The 90 Second Newbery Award Film Festival April 16, 2023 Trenton, NJ:** Youth services staff in libraries are invited to encourage the youth they work with, ages 9 -18, to make their own short videos retelling the plot of a Newbery Award winning book in just 90 seconds! For more information about the 90 Second Newbery Award Film Festival and how youth can submit their videos by March 3<sup>rd</sup> visit: <https://90secondnewbery.com/>.

Any films submitted by the deadline will be shown at the inaugural 90 Second Newbery Award Film Festival sponsored by the New Jersey State Library on April 16, 2023 at 3:00 pm at the NJ State Museum's Auditorium in Trenton (located next to the NJ State Museum). The festival will be hosted by author James Kennedy, founder of the 90-Second Newbery Award Film Festival, and co-hosted by author Chris Grabenstein.

The youth filmmakers, their family, friends and anyone interested in short films based on Newbery Award winning books are welcome to attend this free event. You'll also have the opportunity to meet and have books signed by both Chris Grabenstein (*Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library*; *The Smartest Kid in the Universe*, *Dog Squad*, *Shine!* and more) and James Kennedy (*The Order of Odd-Fish*).

Free parking is available on weekends in the State House garage and in lots adjacent to and behind the Museum. Questions? Please contact Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library, [srawlins@njstatelib.org](mailto:srawlins@njstatelib.org).