

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, Illinois

BY LIBRARIANS FOR LIBRARIANS

iREAD Showcase

Tuesday, October 14 2:45 – 3:45 pm • Room 47

Youth Services Forum Breakfast

Speaker: Wendy XuWednesday, October 15
8:00 – 9:00 AM • Room 26

ILA Institutional Members, don't forget to request your complimentary copy of the iREAD Resource Guide each year. Find out how here!





What is iREAD?

A flexible, nonprofit reading program designed by librarians featuring appealing incentives, compelling and adaptable themes, and a comprehensive resource guide chock full of ideas and reproducibles.

Visit ireadprogram.org to review 2026 iREAD incentives, and artwork by Jory John/Pete Oswald, Hatem Aly, Wendy Xu, and Sarah Ferone.



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Elmhurst University

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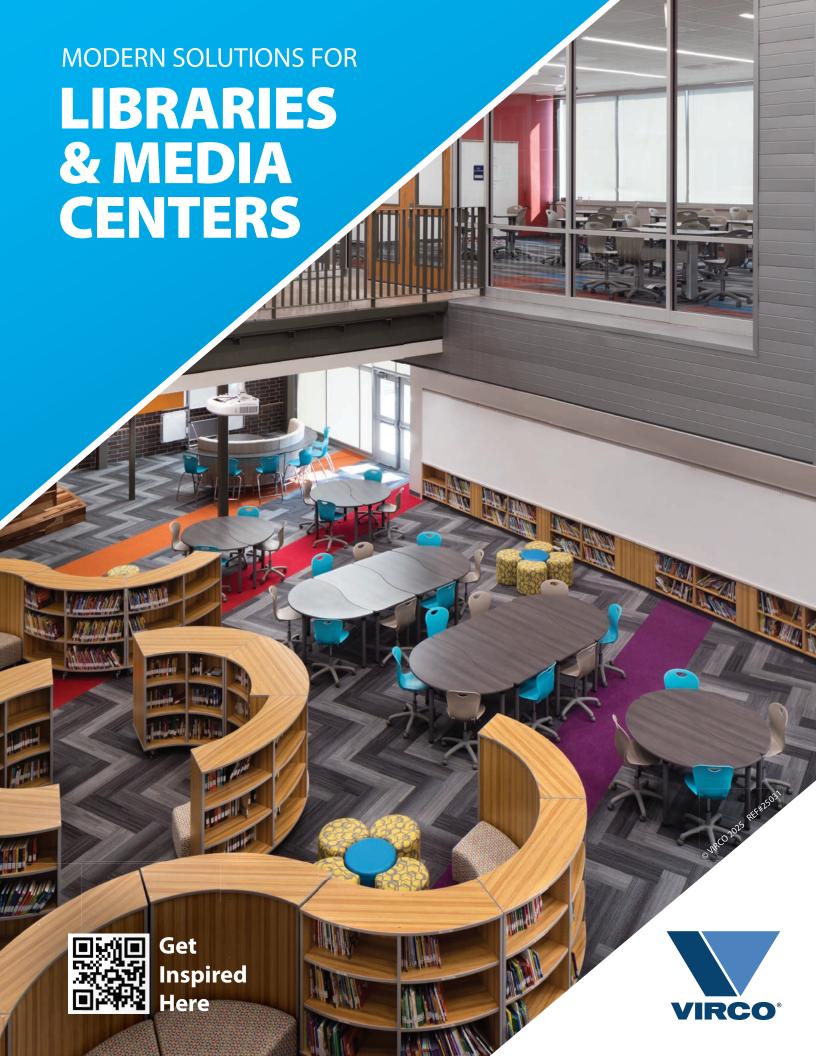
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Schedule at a Glance

Monday, October 13

7:00 A.M. — 5:00 P.M. Libraries Count: RAILS Data Conference

Tuesday, October 14		
8:00 a.m. − 5:00 p.m.	ILA Help Desk Open	
9:00 — 10:30 A.M.	TBS Opening General Session featuring Dr. Terrell Strayhorn	
10:45 — 11:45 а.м.	Program Session 1	
Noon — 1:15 p.m.	Awards Luncheon	
1:30 — 2:30 р.м.	Program Session 2	
2:45 — 3:45 P.M.	Program Session 3	
4:00 − 5:00 p.m.	Program Session 4	

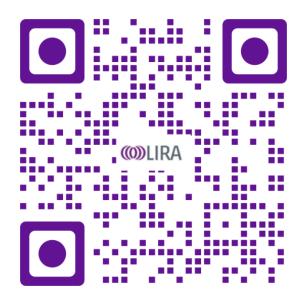
Wednesday, October 15		
8:00 a.m. − 5:00 p.m.	ILA Help Desk Open	
8:00 — 10:00 A.M.	Youth Services Forum Breakfast featuring Wendy Xu	
8:00 — 10:00 A.M.	Unconferences	
9:00 — 10:00 A.M.	Program Session 5	
10:30 а.м. — Noon	ILA Membership Meeting & President's Program featuring Dilla	
Noon — 5:00 p.m.	Exhibits Open	
Noon — 1:30 p.m.	Exhibits Opening Lunch	
12:15 — 1:30 р.м.	IACRL Luncheon featuring April Anderson-Zorn	
1:45 — 2:45 р.м.	Program Session 6	
3:00 − 4:00 P.M.	Program Session 7	
4:00 − 5:00 P.M.	Exhibits Snack Break	

Thursday, October 16		
8:00 a.m. − 4:30 p.m.	ILA Help Desk Open	
8:00 — 10:00 A.M.	Unconferences	
8:00 − 9:00 a.m.	Trustee Breakfast	
9:00 a.m. − 2:00 p.m.	Exhibits Open	
9:00 — 10:00 a.m.	Program Session 8	
10:00 − 11:00 A.M.	Exhibits Coffee Break	
11:00 а.м. — Noon	Program Session 9	
Noon — 1:30 p.m.	Exhibits Closing Lunch	
12:15 — 1:30 р.м.	Trustee Luncheon	
1:45 — 2:45 р.м.	DiversiTEA Closing Session featuring Roy Kinsey	
3:00 − 4:00 P.M.	Program Session 10	



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For More Information:



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Statement of Appropriate Conduct

Statement of Appropriate Conduct at ILA Annual Conference and ILA Hosted Events, Approved by the ILA Executive Board July 16, 2024.

The Illinois Library Association (ILA) holds many events throughout the year to enable its members to receive continuing education, build professional networks, advocate for legislation, and discover new products and services for professional use. To provide all participants members and other attendees, speakers, exhibitors, staff, and volunteers the opportunity to benefit from these events, ILA is committed to providing a harassment-free environment for everyone, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, religion, or other individual or group identity.

As an association, ILA is strongly committed to diversity, equity, and the free expression of ideas. ILA is committed to the value of civil discourse and the free exploration of competing ideas and concepts—with a fundamental respect for the rights, dignity, and value of all persons.

In the context of ILA policy and the professional practices of librarianship, critical examination of beliefs and viewpoints does not, by itself, constitute hostile conduct or harassment. This policy is not intended to constrain responsible scholarly or professional discourse and debate. We welcome engagement with difficult topics, done with respect and care.

ILA seeks to provide a meeting environment in which diverse participants may learn, network, and enjoy the company of colleagues in an environment of mutual human respect. We recognize a shared responsibility to create and hold that environment for the benefit of all.

At the ILA conferences, events, and meetings you agree to:

- Respect the boundaries of other attendees.
- Look out for one another.

Behaviors such as, but not limited to, the following will not be tolerated at ILA conferences, events, and meetings:

- Invasion of privacy, including harassing photography or recording.
- Being disruptive, drinking to the point that you cannot participate appropriately, stalking, following, or threatening anyone.
- Abuse of power (including abuses related to position, wealth, race, or gender).
- Homophobia, racism, or behavior that discriminates against a protected aroup of people.
- Harassment or intimidation based on race, religion, language, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, appearance, or other group status.
- Sexual harassment of any kind, including unwelcome sexual attention and inappropriate physical contact.

All participants are expected to observe these rules and behaviors in all meeting venues, including online venues, and meeting social events. Participants asked to stop hostile or harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. Meeting participants seek to learn, network, and have fun. Please do so responsibly and with respect for the right of others to do likewise.

Please contact ILA management if you believe you have been harassed or that someone has otherwise violated this policy. All such reports will be directed immediately to the ILA Executive Director or their designee, who will determine and carry out the appropriate course of action, and who may consult with and engage other ILA staff, leaders, and legal counsel as appropriate.

A misconduct reporting web form and hotline hosted by EthicsPoint, a third-party provider, is also available. Information provided via EthicsPoint will be sent to ILA on a totally confidential and anonymous basis if you should choose. ILA guarantees that all comments will be heard.

- Web form: ila.ethicspoint.com
- Hotline (toll-free): 1-844-796-6535

Event security and/or local law enforcement may be involved as appropriate, based on the specific circumstances. ILA will also follow up with individuals who report a violation of this policy.

Adapted from the American Library Association, the Digital Library Federation, the Michigan Library Association, and the TED Code of Conduct.

General Conference Information

Accessibility

ILA is excited to provide real-time English captions during the three keynote presentations in Room 24 with the help of Interpro Translation Solutions

Badges

Conference badges must be worn at all times to gain admission to conference programs, events, and the exhibit hall.

Coffee

Complimentary coffee and tea will be available each morning and afternoon. We thank our generous sponsors for their support in keeping the conference caffeinated!













Exhibit Hours

All Exhibits meals are included in your registration. Exhibits are not open on Tuesday, October 14. Tuesday lunch is NOT included. Exhibits-only passes grant entrance to Exhibit Hall G only and does not include conference program attendance.

Wednesday, October 15	
Exhibits Opening Lunch	Noon — 1:30 p.m.
Exhibits Afternoon Snack Break	4:00 − 5:00 P.M.
Passport to Prizes Announcement	4:30 р.м.

Thursday, October 16	
Exhibits Morning Coffee Break	10:00 − 11:00 A.M.
Exhibits Closing Lunch	Noon — 1:30 p.m.
Passport to Prizes Announcement	1:00 P.M.

Food Service

Conference registration includes Exhibit Luncheons and Breaks on Wednesday and Thursday in the Exhibit Hall G. Check the ILA Conference App (see pg 15) and or website for restaurants near the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center.

Handouts

Conference Program Handouts are available on the ILA Conference App (see pg 15) and and ILA Conference website if the speakers have made them available.

Hashtag

#ILAAC25

ILA Help Desk Hours

Tuesday, October 14

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday, October 15

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, October 16

8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Lanyards

Before you leave on your last day, be sure to stop by the Help Desk to recycle your lanyard. We'll reuse them for future conferences and prevent them from ending up in a landfill.

Lost and Found

Articles may be turned in and reclaimed at the ILA Help Desk.

Membership Meeting

The ILA Membership meeting will be held Wednesday, October 15, 10:30 — 11:00 A.M. Learn more about your association's initiatives and successes in the past year and what we're looking forward to in the coming year. You do not need to be an ILA member to attend.

Immediately following the ILA Membership Meeting, ILA President Carolyn Ciesla will welcome Dilla, Chicago's historian, for the 2025 President's Program. Winner of numerous accolades and awards, Dilla started by giving walking tours of Chicago's Black neighborhoods, and has now gained widespread recognition for his videos celebrating Chicago's unique history, and is considered one of the city's premiere historians

Mobile App

The 2025 ILA Annual Conference App is available in the Apple App Store and in the Google Play store. Search using: *PheedLoop Go!* With the app you can:

- Search for sessions by track, audience, format, and speaker
- Create a personal schedule by selecting the sessions you plan to attend
- "Check in" to sessions you attend to provide valuable feedback on how many people attended
- Evaluate and provide feedback on the sessions you attend
- Download session handouts
- View exhibitor information and handouts
- Access conference center and exhibit floor maps
- Find a map of local restaurants

The mobile app is made possible by the generous support of Today's Business Solutions.



Mothers' Room

A private room for nursing mothers, with a refrigerator, is available near the ILA Help Desk. The Mothers' Room will be available throughout the conference.

Passport to Prizes

Travel through the 2025 ILA Annual Conference Exhibit Hall and meet with exhibitors who service and support Illinois libraries. To qualify for the prize drawing, you must visit and receive a stamp from each exhibitor listed in the passport. Once complete, place the passport in the drop off box located in the Exhibit Hall before the drawings. Each day will have winners. You must be present to win. Exhibitors participating in Passport to Prizes donated \$100 to the ILA Diversity Scholarship Fund.

Drawings

- 4:30 P.M. on Wednesday
- 1:00 P.M. on Thursday

Professional Headshot Studio

Need a professional photo? Complimentary head shots are available at the conference. Photos will be shared with attendees 2-3 weeks after the conference.

The photographer is made possible by the generous support of Byline Bank.



Quiet Room

Room 55 is available for attendees who need a break from the hustle and bustle of conference. Please respect others in the space and take conversations out of the room.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located throughout the convention center. ILA's Conference Program Committee provides complimentary menstrual products in all of the restrooms. A gender neutral restroom is available near room 46.

Speaker Prep Area

Prep areas are available for speakers to meet and prepare for their program.

WiFi Access

The Convention Center offers complimentary WiFi through their Boingo Hotspot network.

We thank our generous sponsor, Outsource IT Solutions Group, for their support in keeping the conference connected!



Tuesday, October 14

9:00 - 10:30 A.M.



TBS Opening General Session Featuring Dr. Terrell Strayhorn

Room 24

During the Opening General Session on October 14, respected thought-leader Dr. Terrell Strayhorn will take the stage. He is one of the most prolific and influential scholars in the fields of education, psychology, and the academic study of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB).

He is President and CEO of Do Good Work Consulting Group, a minority-owned business that partners with hundreds of colleges, universities, corporations, and agencies each year to enhance culture, build inclusive environments, and boost belonging in ways that raise morale, increase retention, improve people's journey, and help organizations hit their bottom line. He's co-host of the podcast Do Good Work on Spotify and a contributing writer for Entrepreneur, Thrive Global, AllBusiness, and Psychology Today.

Strayhorn is Professor of Education and Psychology, Director of Research in the Center for the Study of HBCUs, and Principal Investigator of The Belonging Lab at Virginia Union University, where he also serves as Associate Provost for Faculty Development.

The Opening General Session is made possible by the generous support of Today's Business Solutions (TBS). Live captions are provided during this session.



10:45 - 11:45 A.M.

The Power of Recognition: Engaging and **Retaining Your Team**

Speakers: Denise Hudec, Skokie Public Library; Leah White, Skokie Public Library

Room 21

Graphic Novels: These Babies Sell Themselves...But Why?

Speakers: Vita Miceli, Aurora Public Library District; Brandi Smits, Orland Park Public Library; Rachel Stine, Antioch Public Library District; Jessica Tarnowski, Bartlett Public Library District

Room 22

E-Resources for All: Building an Inclusive and Demand-Driven Digital Collection

Speakers: Mike Campagna, Barrington Area Library; Katie Clark, Winfield Public Library; Jennifer Drinka, Antioch Public Library District; Jennifer Norris, Antioch Public Library District; Bill Pardue, Arlington Heights Memorial Library; Maggie Thomann, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

Room 33

Peek Behind the Technical Services Curtain: Cataloging for Non-catalogers

Speakers: Mary Cornell, Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC); RK Knaur, Champaign Public Library; Lisa Schemensky, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Ted Schwitnzer, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI): Anslie Waldrep, The Urbana Free Library

Room 34

Defending Our Values: The Impact of Culture Wars in Public Libraries

Speakers: Stephanie Nissen, Rockford University; Emily Porter, **OSF** Healthcare

Fat Studies as an Example of Information Literacy for Topics of Oppression

Speakers: Paula Dempsey, University of Illinois at Chicago; Emily Gilbert, University of Illinois at Chicago

Room 43

Navigating Self-Censorship, Soft Censorship, and the Chilling Effect in Illinois Libraries

Speakers: Ben De Biasio, Dominican University; Jolie Duncan, Arlington Heights Memorial Library; Holly Eberle, Algonquin Area Public Library District; Leah Gregory, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS); Sarah Lamdan, American Library Association (ALA)

Room 46

Hope Belongs Here: Cultivating Critical Hope through Leadership

Speakers: Michelle Boule Smith, North Central College: Carolyn Ciesla, Elmhurst University

Room 47

Noon - 1:15 P.M.

Awards Luncheon

Pre-registration is required for this ticketed event.

Celebrate the achievements of your colleagues at the Awards Luncheon. The Awards Luncheon is made possible by the generous support of Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency (LIRA).

Room 26



1:30 - 2:30 P.M.

The Call is Coming From Inside the House: **How White Librarianship Protects Itself** and Hinders Belonging

Speakers: Julie Jurgens, Lake Bluff Public Library; Alea Perez, Roselle Public Library District; Becky Spratford, RA for All

Room 21

It Never Hurts to Ask: Making the **Impossible Projects Happen**

Speaker: Leander Spearman, Belleville Public Library

Room 22

The Accidental Health Services Librarian

Speakers: Stephanie Nissen, Rockford University: Emily Porter. OSF Healthcare

Room 33

Your Next Chapter: Redefining Library Skills and Belonging

Speakers: Suzy Antell, Oak Park Public Library; Jennifer Hovanec, La Grange Public Library; Kara Kohn, Clarivate; Joy Matteson, Benedictine University Library; Laurie Papadourakis, Des Plaines Public Library; Sarah van der Heyden, Addison Public Library

Room 34

Youth Services IGNITE

Speakers: Jenny Berry, Naperville Public Library; Kara DeCarlo, Orland Park Public Library; Christy Dyer, Frankfort Public Library District; Gabriella Gaffney, Glenview Public Library; Abigail Lindeman, Frankfort Public Library District; Aimee Marx, Batavia Public Library District; Elizabeth Sanderson, Lincolnwood Public Library District; Frani Sherman, Glenview Public Library; Brandi Smits, Orland Park Public Library; Rachel Weiss-Binder, Wheaton Public Library

Room 40

You Belong Here: Fostering Inclusive Library Collections through Diversity Audits

Speaker: McKenna Jacquemet, Illinois College

Room 43

Creating a Public Library Spanish **Literacy Program**

Speakers: Beatriz Gomez-Acuña, Elmhurst University; Sara Lock, Addison Public Library

Tuesday, October 14

1:30 - 2:30 P.M. [Continued]

Fostering Student Belonging in Research: A Workshop on Positionality

Speaker: Francis Brady, National Louis University

Room 47

Resources and Technical Services Unconference

Host: Joy Anhalt, Tinley Park Public Library

Room 59

Presented by the Resources and Technical Services Forum (RTSF)

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Inclusive by Design: Centering LGBTQ+ Perspectives in Library Catalog Research

Speakers: Rachel Fischer, Cooperative Computer Services (CCS); Karen Snow, Dominican University

Room 21

Pathways to Success: Helping Our Immigrant Population Succeed

Speakers: Ana Beltran, Addison Public Library; Matt Williams, Addison Public Library

Room 22

The Heart of Leadership: Managing through **Accessible Communication**

Speakers: Elizabeth Boden, Hinsdale Public Library; Sue Eckhardt, Midlothian Public Library; Jennifer Hovanec, La Grange Public Library; Lisa Moe, Three Rivers Public Library District; Dawn Ritter, Messenger Public Library; Christina Stoll, Indian Trails Public Library District; Heather Sturm, Aurora Public Library District

Room 33

Responding to New Expectations with College Students: Implementing a Nonpunitive Approach to Library Student **Employee Policies and Procedures**

Speakers: Meaghan Fischer, Lewis University Library; Hope Kennedy, Lewis University Library

Room 34

How to Banish Imposter Syndrome and Stop Kicking Your Own Ass

Speakers: Carolyn Ciesla, Elmhurst University; Monica Dombrowski, Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District; Sara Murray, Algonquin Area Public Library District

Room 40

Ready for Anything: Responding to First Amendment Audits

Speakers: Erin Monforti, Ancel Glink; Dustin Smaby, Vernon Area **Public Library District**

Room 43

How Not to Panic: Media Training for Library Staff

Speaker: Amanda McKay, Effingham Public Library

Room 46

iREAD Showcase 2025

Speakers: Becca Boland, Illinois Library Association (ILA); Nikki Camp, Arlington Heights Memorial Library; Kara DeCarlo, Orland Park Public Library; Ellen Fitzgerald, Naperville Public Library; Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library; Kaitlin Mathers, Palatine Public Library District; Emily Patti, Palatine Public Library District; Jennie Stevens, Thomas Ford Memorial Library

4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Heritage or Hierarchy: Removing Barriers to Access in Genealogy and Local History

Speaker: Edward Kristan, Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Room 21

Capital Campaign Fundraising Without a Donor Base

Speakers: Jeanne Hamilton, Bloomington Public Library; Rhonda Massie, Bloomington Public Library

Room 22

Analyzing Belonging: How Surveys and Interviews Help You Redefine **Your Safe Space**

Speaker: Bryan Clark, Illinois Central College

Room 33

Part-Time Position, Full-Time Responsibility: Directing a Library on a Part-Time Schedule

Speakers: Julie McNamara, Toluca Public Library District; Donald Pippin, Philo Public Library District; Valerie Simmons. Four Star Public Library District; Sherry Waldrep, Allerton Public Library District; Courtney Young, Village of Avon Public Library

Room 34

Presented by the Small and Rural Libraries Forum (SARL)

Fields of Change: New MARC Fields, **Part Two**

Speakers: Jennifer Baugh, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS); Pamela Thomas, Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC)

Room 40

Unexpected Bridges: Connecting Academia, a Public Library, and ... a Daycare?

Speakers: Liesl Cottrell, Concordia University Chicago; Jessica Silva, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

Room 43

Culture, Collaboration, and Community: Addressing the Loneliness Epidemic

Speakers: Marni Balint, Skokie Public Library: Amy Budzicz. Skokie Public Library; Brenna Murphy, Skokie Public Library

Room 46

Period Positive: Free Period Products in Library Bathrooms

Speaker: Morgan Rondinelli, Normal Public Library

Room 47

Youth Services Forum (YSF) Introductory Meeting

Host: Alissa Janchenko, New Lenox Public Library District

Room 52

6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

ILA Silent Auction

Room 26

Hosted by the Fundraising Committee

The silent auction is online so everyone can bid whether you're able to join us in-person or not. The silent auction will open Sunday. October 12th at noon CST and run until Tuesday, October 14th at 8:20 PM. Our silent auction will include many handmade crafts, gift baskets, and library-themed gifts. Each item up for bid has been generously donated by our supporters, partners, staff, and sponsors, with all proceeds directly benefiting ILA continuing education, events, awards, and grants for the Illinois Library Community.

7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Ms. Quiz Presents: A Trivia Night For Library Folks!

We share a professional field blessed with brainiacs, nurtured by nerds, and swimming with smartypants...the perfect crowd for a challenging, high-energy, totally rad quiz night!

Doors open at 6:15 P.M., with trivia starting promptly at 7:00. We'll play several multi-format rounds of both general and libraryland-oriented questions. Prizes will be awarded to the top-scoring teams and for best team name. Walk-in participation is absolutely welcome!

Your hostess, cheerleader, and question-setter is Ms. Quiz (Rory Parilac, Children's Services Supervisor at the Bourbonnais Public Library). She's thrilled to present a hand-crafted guiz just for Illinois librarylanders!

Visit www.ila.org/events/annual-conference/events-activities to preregister and for more information.

Wednesday, October 15

8:00 - 9:00 A.M.

We Do Belong: Candid Conversation on the **Future of Libraries**

Speakers: Leslie Bednar, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS); Amy Byers, Chatham Area Public Library District; Monica Caldicott, Vernon Hills High School; Monica Harris, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS): Rene Levya, Fossil Ridge Public Library District: Stephanie Nissen, Rockford University; Ashley Stewart, EveryLibrary

Room 27

Made possible by the generous support of EveryLibrary and TBS.



8:00 - 10:00 A.M.



Youth Services Forum Breakfast featuring Wendy Xu

Pre-registration is required for this ticketed event.

Brooklyn-based illustrator and comics artist, Wendy Xu, will be the keynote speaker at the ILA Youth Services Forum Breakfast on October 15. She is the creator of Infinity Particle, Tidesong, and co-creator of *Mooncakes*, a young adult fantasy graphic novel. Her work has been featured on *The Today Show* and Book Riot. Xu is a 2026 iREAD featured artist for the theme Plant A Seed, Read.

Wendy Xu's appearance is presented by the Youth Services Forum (YSF) and made possible by the generous support of iREAD and Wintrust Government Funds.





IACRL Unconference

Host: Joshua Newport, Illinois State University

Room 47

Presented by the Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries Forum (IACRL)

9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Designing for Disability: How We Reframed Our Perspectives and Our Services

Speakers: Joanna Bertucci, Park Ridge Public Library; Rachael Bild, Skokie Public Library; Staci Greenwald, Park Ridge Public Library; Lexy Rodriguez, Geneva Public Library District;

Room 21

ChatGPT: A Libr-Al-rian's Sidekick

Speaker: Monica Cameron, Shelbyville Public Library

Room 22

Grant Writing Basics for Libraries

Speaker: Anne Craig, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)

Room 33

Creating a Culture of Professional Belonging: Peer Connector Programs in Libraries

Speakers: Robin Hofstetter, Roosevelt University; Stella Murray, Roosevelt University; Barb Thees, Open Education Network

Room 34

A Million Illinoisans Without Libraries? **Let's Change That!**

Speakers: Joe Filapek, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Monica Harris, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Michelle Roubal, Joliet Junior College; Catherine Yanikoski, Engineering Systems Inc.

Room 40

Fandom Fests for All–Even on a Budget

Speakers: Danielle Golding, Barrington Area Library; Whitney Martin, Barrington Area Library; Kathleen Mills, Barrington Area Library; Ashley Brooke Sero, Barrington Area Library

A Book for Every Reader: A Reader's Advisory Toolkit for Ages 10-18

Speakers: Andrea Johnson, Mount Prospect Public Library; Kylie Peters, Geneva Public Library District

Room 46

Resources and Technical Services Forum (RTSF) Meeting

Hosts: Joy Anhalt, Tinley Park Public Library; Nanette Donohue, Champaign Public Library

Room 59

10:30 A.M.- Noon



Membership Meeting & President's Program Featuring Dilla

Learn more about your association's initiatives and successes in the past year and what we're looking forward to in the coming year. Non-members are invited to attend the Membership Meeting. A presentation by Dilla will follow the Membership Meeting.

ILA President, Carolyn Ciesla, is excited to welcome Chicago historian Shermann Thomas—affectionately known as Dilla—as the President's Program speaker. A fascinating blend of modern historian, cultural worker, and content creator, Dilla is passionate about and well-versed in Chicago's history, architecture, and overall culture. He brings the city to life through captivating storytelling and insider knowledge. Featured in The Chicago Emmy Awards' award-winning programming, this self-taught historian was awarded the City of Chicago's Tourism Ambassador of the Year by *Choose Chicago*. The Chicago Public Library has awarded Dilla the prestigious 21st Century Award for his recent achievements in promoting Chicago to the world.

Room 24

The President's Program is made possible by the generous support of Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS). Live captions are provided during this session.





You're a public library trustee! Now what?

The iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal is an interactive guide for the Illinois public library board member, covering legal and fiscal responsibility, strategic planning, policy building, trustee role and duties, & more.

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Funding for this project was awarded to Illinois
Heartland Library System by the Illinois State Library, a
Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using
funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and
Library Services, under the provisions of the Library
Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

Wednesday, October 15

Noon - 1:30 P.M.

Exhibits Opening Lunch

Exhibit Hall

Kick off the opening of the Exhibits Hall! Browse the booths, start stamping your Passport to Prizes, network with our amazing exhibitors, and return to your library with leading industry-adjacent contacts that can help make your library even better! Don't forget the swag! Boxed lunches will be served in the Exhibits Hall.

The Exhibits Opening Lunch is made possible by the generous support of Meristem Advisors and Virco Furniture.





12:15 - 1:30 P.M.



IACRL Luncheon featuring April Anderson Zorn

Pre-registration is required for this ticketed event.

Join your academic library colleagues for a luncheon with April Anderson-Zorn. April Anderson-Zorn is an associate professor and University Archivist at Illinois State University. She holds advanced degrees in history and library science, along with certifications in digital and professional archiving. Active in professional organizations like SAA and MAC, her work advocates for mental health awareness in the field and focuses on women's history and innovative outreach for hard-to-access archives.

Room 26

The IACRL Luncheon is presented by the Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

In the Feels: Social Emotional Storytimes, **Collections, and Programming with Empathy**

Speakers: Kelsey Cole-Burns, Vernon Area Public Library District; Sophie Kenney, Skokie Public Library; Wendy Roe-Chapman, Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District; Regina Townsend, South Holland Public Library

Room 21

Patrons with Dementia Belong Here

Speakers: Lavana Hawkins, Catlin Public Library District; Mary Beth Riedner, Library Services for Dementia/Alzheimer's (LSDA); Cindy Wright, Peoria Public Library

Room 22

HR Documentation: Best Practices

Speaker: Sonal Shah, HR Source

Room 33

Utilizing Outcome Measurement to Improve Library Service

Speakers: Katina Jones, Public Library Association (PLA); Devan Parkison, Skokie Public Library

Room 34

Courageous Belonging: Navigating Public Backlash and the First Amendment with Care

Speakers: Holly Bartecki, Jasculca Terman Strategic Communications; Kelly Durov, Northbrook Public Library; Kate Hall, Northbrook Public Library; Stacy Oliver, Northbrook Public Library; Elizabeth Rupert, Joffe Emergency Services; Julie Tappendorf, Ancel Glink; Linda Vering, Northbrook Public Library

Room 40

iCAMP Meet-Up: Building Connections and Growth

Speakers: Jennifer Baugh, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS); Nincy George, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Pamela Thomas, Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC); Melissa Zilic, DePaul University

WCAG What? Untangling the Web of Digital Accessibility

Speakers: Jennifer Drinka, Antioch Public Library District; Michele Niermann, Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, LTD; Jennifer Norris, Antioch Public Library District; Dennis Walsh, Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, LTD.

Room 46

Get Outside! Steps to Creating an Outdoor Master Plan

Speakers: David Frigo, Hitchcock Design Group; Jennifer Lucas, Barrington Area Library; Jason Pinshower, Barrington Area Library

Room 47

Young Adult Services Forum (YASF) **Open Meeting**

Hosts: Mary Black, Evergreen Park Public Library; Sonya Hill, Ela Area Public Library District; Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library;

Room 59

3:00-4:00 P.M.

Supporting Neurodiverse Adults and Staff in the Library: Inclusive Programming and **Best Practices**

Speakers: Kelly Durov, Northbrook Public Library; Amy Henkels, Ela Area Public Library District; Emily Raming, TotalLink2 Community

Room 21

Outreach and Makerspace Unite! Extending Makerspace Access through Library Outreach

Speakers: Liz Kristan, Ela Area Public Library District; Jessica Phan, Ela Area Public Library District; Yolanda Prado, Ela Area Public Library District

Room 22

Open Education Network and CARLI Community Meetup

Hosts: Elizabeth Clarage, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI): Nicole Swanson, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI); Barb Thees, Open Education Network

Room 27

Collaboration, Ethnography, and Resources

Speakers: April Andry Rah'man, Chicago State University; Charlene Snelling, Chicago State University

Room 33

Creating Visually Appealing Catalog **Records for Your Library of Things**

Speakers: Rebecca Bartlett, La Grange Public Library: Jeanine Clinton, Indian Prairie Public Library District; Jenny Cuevas, Addison Public Library; Lucas McKeever, SWAN Library Services; Jennifer Williams, Normal Public Library; Wendy Xie, Orland Park **Public Library**

Room 34

Never Fear, Your Horror Librarians are Here! Incorporating the Macabre into **Your Library**

Speakers: Maria Fonseca-Gonzalez, NoveList; Joshua O'Shea, Glen Ellyn Public Library; Michael Allen Rose, Oak Park Public Library; J9 Vaughn, Broadview Public Library District

Room 40

Partnering in Prevention: Addressing Domestic Violence in Our Communities

Speakers: Celeste Angulo, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Ryiah Barnes, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Raphaelle Cappos, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Amy Gess, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Ruben Gonzalez, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Bartholomew Hauptly, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse; Susan Soda, Anew: Building Beyond Violence and Abuse

Room 43

Teen-Driven: Teen-Lead Programs and Leadership in Action

Speakers: Lisa Barefield, Wheaton Public Library; Sonya Hill, Ela Area Public Library District; Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library; Britta Schwager, Wheaton Public Library

Wednesday, October 15

3:00 - 4:00 P.M. [Continued]

Exploring Effective and Innovative Volunteer Program Models

Speakers: Dominique Mendez, Northlake Public Library District; Marion Olea, Northlake Public Library District

Room 47

Retired Member Forum Open Meeting

Host: Dianne Hollister, Bloomington Public Library

Room 52

4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Exhibits Snack Break

Absorb everything you've learned today with a quick snack, and while you're at it, check out some booths you haven't visited yet! Passport to Prizes drawing at 4:30 P.M.

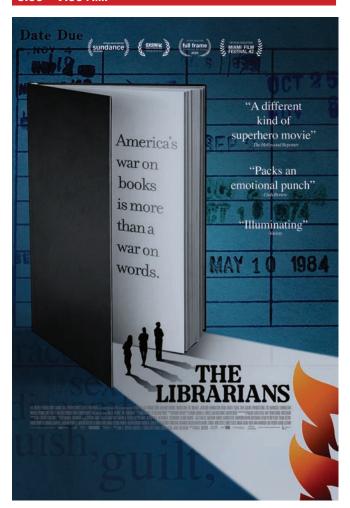
Exhibit Hall

The Exhibits Snack Break is made possible by the generous support of Dominican University.





5:00 - 7:00 P.M.



The Librarians Documentary

Join us for an exclusive screening of *The Librarians*, a powerful new documentary from Oscar-nominated and Peabody Award-winning director/producer Kim A. Snyder. The film follows librarians on the front lines of the fight for democracy, truth, and free access to information. A panel conversation with filmmakers and special guests will follow the screening. There will be a cash bar and light refreshments in addition to a Door Prize!





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Thursday, October 16

8:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Youth and YA Unconference

Hosts: Sonya Hill, Ela Area Public Library District; Alissa Janchenko, New Lenox Public Library District; Brandi Smits, Orland Park **Public Library**

Room 47

Presented by the Youth Services Forum (YSF) and made possible by the generous support of PMTA Financial Solutions.



Human Resources and Administration Unconference

Host: Suzanne Yazel, Mount Prospect Public Library

Presented by the ILA Human Resources and Administration Forum (HRAF)

8:00 - 9:00 A.M.

Past Presidents' Breakfast

By Invitation

Room 52

Trustee Day Breakfast

Trustee Day registration is required to attend the Trustee Day meals. A full day of conference programming is planned for Illinois library trustees. Enjoy breakfast and lunch with fellow trustees from around the state.

Room 26

Presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF) and made possible by the generous support of Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins.



9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Accessibility Beyond the Building

Speakers: Suzanna Jones, Illinois State Library; John Kirchner, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS); Brian Smith, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Leslie Starasta, Illinois State Library

Room 21

In-House Residencies Turn Libraries into **Learning Laboratories**

Speakers: Ashley Johnson, Vernon Area Public Library District; Liz Poppenhouse, Indian Trails Public Library District; Roz Topolski, Vernon Area Public Library District

Room 22

Be the BEST Trustee You Can Be

Speaker: Leanne Furby, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)

Room 33

A Mock Board Meeting—Learn the Basics While Having Fun!

Speakers: Mary Adamowski, Orland Park Public Library; Sarah Cottonaro, Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District; Jenny Cutshall, North Riverside Public Library; Jim Deiters, Joliet Public Library; Megan Millen, Joliet Public Library; Jamie Paicely, Flossmoor Public Library; Christyn Rayford, South Holland Public Library; Roberta Richter, Green Hills Public Library District; Alex Todd, Deiters & Todd Library Consulting

Room 34

We Belong Out There: Connecting the **Library to the Early Childhood Community**

Speakers: Julia Beavis, Vernon Area Public Library District; Kary Henry, Deerfield Public Library; Katy Schaper, Glen Ellyn **Public Library**

Room 40

Spice Up Your Passive Programming

Speakers: Amy Budzicz, Skokie Public Library; Kandice Krettler, Poplar Creek Public Library District; Matt Matkowski, Palos Heights Public Library; Melanie Weigel, Forsyth Public Library

Room 43

10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

Coffee Break in the Exhibits Hall

Join our library partners for some free midmorning coffee. Browse the booths, stamp your Passport to Prizes, network with our amazing exhibitors, and return to your library with leading industry-adjacent contacts that can help make your library even better! Don't forget the swag!

Exhibit Hall

The Coffee Break is made possible by the generous support of Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and Streamline.





11:00 A.M. - Noon

Supporting Immigrant Communities through Digital Literacy Initiatives

Speaker: Shannon Distel, Trellus

Room 21

The Forgotten Frontier: Investing in Library **Staff Spaces**

Speakers: Isela Catania, Engberg Anderson; Melissa Gardner, Palatine Public Library District; Kristin Richardson, Engberg Anderson

Room 22

Feeling Like You Belong When Others Don't Like Who You Are

Speakers: Darin Freeburg, University of South Carolina; Katie Klein, University of South Carolina

Room 29

Book Bans and Intellectual Freedom for Trustees

Speakers: Sheri Doniger, Lincolnwood Public Library District; Becky Keane, Niles-Maine District Library; Elizabeth Lynch, Addison Public Library; Erin Monforti, Ancel Glink

Room 33

Presented by the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC)

Illinois Public Library Standards

Speakers: Betsy Adamowski, Wheaton Public Library; Jennifer Cottrill, Midlothian Public Library; Veronica De Fazio, Peoria Public Library; Jim Deiters, Joliet Public Library

Room 34

Resumania: Incorporating Job Skills and Programs for Teens at Your Library

Speakers: Lindsay Harmon, North Central College; Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library; Rachel Kaiser, Addison Public Library; Matt Williams, Addison Public Library

Room 40

No Longer Stuck in Between! Helping Tweens Find a Place to Belong

Speakers: Darnetta Bolton, Orland Park Public Library; Vanessa Fernandez, Orland Park Public Library; Angela Messaglia, Homewood Public Library

Room 43

Hello from the Outside: Renovating for Inclusion

Speakers: David Vinjamuri, New York University

Room 46

Management Lessons from Michael Scott

Speaker: Samantha Chiappone, Algonquin Area Public Library District

Room 47

Noon - 1:30 P.M.

Exhibits Closing Lunch

Last chance to visit your favorite booths, and don't forget to network with some new exhibitors, you never know what goods and services you could be missing! Passports to Prizes drawing at 1:00 P.M. Boxed lunches will be served in the Exhibits Hall.

Exhibit Hall

Trustee Day Luncheon

Trustee Day registration is required to attend the Trustee Day meals. Library Trustee Forum Meeting

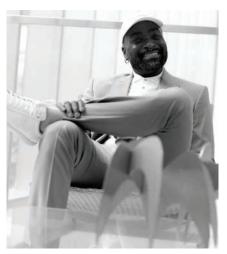
Room 26

The Trustee Luncheon is presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF) and made possible by the generous support of Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and the iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal.



Thursday, October 16

1:45 - 2:45 P.M.



DiversiTEA Closing Keynote Featuring Roy Kinsey

Room 24

The DiversiTEA Closing Session, hosted by the ILA Diversity Committee, will be on the big stage and open to all conference attendees. This Annual Conference event showcases experts within and outside the library sector who share their insights, expertise, and exemplary approaches to foster a more diverse and inclusive world.

This year ILA welcomes Roy Kinsey, a Chicago-based rapper, librarian, and the founder of Rapbrary and his keynote: "From Banned to Boundless: Literacy, Hip-Hop, and the Power of Knowing Thyself." As both an artist and an educator, Roy seamlessly weaves storytelling, identity, and cultural preservation into his work, making him a powerful voice at the intersection of hip-hop and literature.

A 2025 recipient of the Arts & Public Life Residency at the University of Chicago, Roy has been featured in Billboard, The New York Times, The Chicago Tribune, WBEZ, and NPR, among others. His album Blackie: A Story by Roy Kinsey was named one of the best albums of 2018 by the *Chicago Tribune* and continues to resonate as a defining piece of his catalog.

Hosted by the ILA Diversity Committee. Live captions are provided during this session.

3:00-4:00 P.M.

A Beginner's Guide to OCLC's Streamlined **Holdings Update**

Speakers: Ted Schwitzner, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI); Annie Serrano, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)

Room 21

Tips and Tricks You Can Use to Advocate for Your Library

Speakers: Amelia Aldred, American Library Association (ALA); Amanda McKay, Effingham Public Library; Sara Murray, Algonquin Area Public Library District

Room 22

Presented by the ILA Advocacy Committee & Public Policy Committee

Keeping it Legal on Social Media

Speaker: Julie Tappendorf, Ancel Glink

Room 33

Presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF)

You Truly Belong at Our Library: **How Embedding Belonging in Your** Planning and Policies Creates a Better **Library Experience for Staff and Patrons**

Speakers: Sam Daly, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Joe Filapek, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Sandra Hill, Villa Park Public Library; Jennifer Hovanec, La Grange Public Library; Becky Spratford, RA for All

Room 34

Community Voices: Empowering **Communities through Storytelling**

Speaker: Cailín Cullen, Aurora Public Library District

Helping Students Thrive: De-stressing Programming for Finals Week

Speakers: Melissa Merlos, Harper College Library; Ailyn Trujillo, Harper College Library

Room 43

Programming for Grief: Death Cafes and Journaling for Healing

Speakers: Michelle Springer, Oak Park Public Library; J9 Vaughn, Broadview Public Library District

Room 46

Involving Teens in Library Discussions

Speakers: Trish Andrew, Glenview Public Library; Abbey Pignatari, Schaumburg Township District Library

Room 47



Public Library Staff:

Interested in FREE advance copies of top adult titles for pre-pub promotion? Want to join library workers across the country create the monthly Top Ten list of recommended adult reads?

LibraryReads is a monthly "staff picks" list for adult titles. Our goal is to connect readers to books, drawing upon the power that library staff have in building word-of-mouth for new books and a variety of authors.

> Learn more about us at: www.LibraryReads.org



Poster Sessions

Poster Sessions are a popular means for sharing current research or the mechanisms of recent projects. Visit the Exhibit Hall to chat with the presenters.

Wednesday, October 15

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Throwing a Fairy Tale Ball

Presenters: Lauren Chambers, The Urbana Free Library; Gretchen Webb, The Urbana Free Library

Heirloom Seeds for Fall Gardening

Presenters: John Bradford, Villa Park Public Library; Dalton Lass, Villa Park Public Library

Handling a Cyberattack

Presenter: Linda Zaleski, Our Digital World

Thinking Together: New Resources from a Community of Practice

Presenter: Michelle Reed, Tolono Public Library

Implementation of the e-Textbook Program at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU): Offering Equitable Access to Required Course Materials for All Students

Presenter: Jacqueline Zook, Northeastern Illinois University

How to Create a Community Mural

Presenter: Catherine Barnett, Chillicothe Public Library District

A Different Perspective: Maslow's Hierarchy and Information Literacy

Presenters: Brian Keith, Eastern Illinois University; Amy Odwarka, Eastern Illinois University

The Importance of Inclusive Literature for Trans, Nonbinary, and Gender Diverse Youth in the Library

Presenter: Noel Huntley, East Moline Public Library

Growing Community Roots at Your Earth Fair

Presenters: Jill Ganeshan, Frankfort Public Library District; Melissa Rice, Frankfort Public Library District

3:30 - 5:00 P.M.

Self-Sacrifice in Academic Library Leadership

Presenters: Sue Franzen, Illinois State University; Kate Tallman, Illinois State University

Engaging with English Language Learners: Strategies for Effective Communication with Positive Outcomes

Presenter: Tracy Karim, Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Strategic Directions for Library Makerspaces: Findings from a National Forum

Presenters: Emilie Butt, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Kyungwon Koh, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Rebecca Teasdale, University of Illinois at Chicago

Climbing the Stacks: Career Growth without the MLS

Presenter: Stacy Palmisano, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

Getting Your Bear-ings with Fat Bear Week: Outreach and Engagement for Early Career Librarians

Presenters: Emily Benton, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Sarah Wallenfelsz, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Who Let the Dogs In? Hosting a Therapy Dog Event at Your Library

Presenters: Janice Derr, Eastern Illinois University; Bradley Tolppanen, Eastern Illinois University

Bringing a Toy Swap to Your Library

Presenter: Rachel Weiss-Binder, Wheaton Public Library

Family-Friendly Library Spaces: Supporting Student Parents' Success

Presenter: Victoria Antwi, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Thursday, October 16

9:30 - 11:00 A.M.

Inclusivity and Belonging for Older Adult Library Patrons and Staff

Presenter: Janet Lorch, Oak Park Public Library

Bridging the Gap: How Teams Transformed Communication at Our Library

Presenters: Rebekah Raleigh, Warren-Newport Public Library; Smruti Savarkar, Warren-Newport Public Library

Talking Tech: The Role of the Public Library in Technology Instruction

Presenter: Jeanni Floyd, Bellwood Public Library

Click, Connect, Community: Getting the Most from L2

Presenters: Dan Bostrom, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Mary Kate Murray, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Brian Smith, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Nicole Zimmermann, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

Unlocking the Data Treasure Trove: Creating a Dynamic Data Dashboard at the Northbrook Public Library

Presenters: Kelly Durov, Northbrook Public Library; Mallory Edgar, Fifth Star Collective; Kim Hegelund, Northbrook Public Library; Susan Wolf, Northbrook Public Library

Using Social Media to Book Author Interviews

Presenter: Misty Jump, Batavia Public Library

Building Accessibility into Online Professional Development for Librarians

Presenters: Carmen Howard, University of Illinois at Chicago; Catherine Lantz, University of Illinois at Chicago; Deborah Lauseng, University of Illinois at Chicago; Cynthia Reynolds, University of Illinois at Chicago

Reflections from the Inaugural ILA DEI Retreat

Presenters: Rae-Anne Montague, Chicago State University; Anjelica Rufus, Prospect Heights Public Library District

Speaker Programming Made Easy with Illinois Libraries Presents

Presenters: Lauren Chambers, The Urbana Free Library; Jennifer Czajka, Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Noon - 1:30 P.M.

Day in the Life of a Library Social Worker

Presenters: Natalie Krichbaum, Eisenhower Public Library District; Dixie Williams, Eisenhower Public Library District

FAZE: Fear Aware Zine Education: Our Zine Chapter in Critical Information Literacies

Presenter: Jennifer Stubbs, Bradley University

The Magic of Monthly Books: How Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Inspires Young Readers

Presenters: Andi Drileck; Tom Bartenfelder, Glenside Public Library District; Emily Faulkner, DeKalb Public Library

Have You Checked Out the IDHH?

Presenter: Megan Pearson, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)

Lego with Leadership: Finding Feedback Fun

Presenter: Melissa Gardner, Palatine Public Library District

Making of a Mural: The Practical Side of Facilitating a Largescale Community Art Project in the Library

Presenters: Lucy Rose Till-Campbell, Berwyn Public Library; Marissa Walentschik, River Forest Public Library

Preparing for America's 250th Birthday–Ideas for Programming for All Ages

Presenters: Laura Keyes; Heather-Marie Montilla, Bellwood Public Library

A Place for Everyone: Building Belonging through a Library Open House

Presenters: Yi Han, Illinois Institute of Technology; Kylie Riordan, Illinois Institute of Technology

Intellectual Freedom in Public Libraries

Presenter: Marie Green, Dominican University

Trustee Day Schedule

Thursday, October 16

8:00 - 9:00 A.M.

Trustee Day Breakfast

Trustee Day registration is required to attend the Trustee Day meals.

A full day of conference programming is planned for Illinois library trustees. Enjoy breakfast and lunch with fellow trustees from around the state.

Room 26

Presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF) and made possible by the generous support of Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins.



9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

A Mock Board Meeting-Learn the Basics While Having Fun!

Speakers: Mary Adamowski, Orland Park Public Library; Sarah Cottonaro, Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District; Jenny Cutshall, North Riverside Public Library; Jim Deiters, Joliet Public Library; Megan Millen, Joliet Public Library; Jamie Paicely, Flossmoor Public Library; Christyn Rayford, South Holland Public Library; Roberta Richter, Green Hills Public Library District; Alex Todd, **Deiters & Todd Library Consulting**

Room 34

Be the BEST Trustee You Can Be

Speaker: Leanne Furby, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)

Room 33

10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

Coffee Break in the Exhibits Hall

Visit our library partners with free coffee and a chance to win prizes by participating in Passport to Prizes.

Exhibit Hall

The Coffee Break is made possible by the generous support of Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and Streamline.



11:00 A.M. - Noon

Illinois Public Library Standards

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Speakers: Sheri Doniger, Lincolnwood Public Library District; Becky Keane, Niles-Maine District Library; Elizabeth Lynch, Addison Public Library; Erin Monforti, Ancel Glink

Room 33

Presented by the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC)

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Trustee Day Luncheon

Trustee Day registration is required for this ticketed event.

Library Trustee Forum Meeting

This is a great break to meet fellow trustees and share what you've learned. Library Trustee Forum President, Tom Stagg will provide an update on the activities of the forum.

Room 26

The Trustee Luncheon is presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF) and made possible by the generous support of Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and the iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal.



1:45 - 2:45 p.m.



DiversiTEA Closing Keynote Featuring Roy Kinsey

Room 24

Roy Kinsey, a Chicago-based rapper, librarian, and the founder of Rapbrary presents "From Banned to Boundless: Literacy, Hip-Hop, and the Power of Knowing Thyself." As both an artist and an educator, Roy seamlessly weaves storytelling, identity, and cultural preservation into his work, making him a powerful voice at the intersection of hip-hop and literature.

Presented by the ILA Diversity Committee. Live captions are provided during this session.

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Room 34

Presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF)

Keeping it Legal on Social Media

Speaker: Julie Tappendorf, Ancel Glink

Room 33

Presented by the Library Trustee Forum (LTF)

Tips and Tricks You Can Use to Advocate for Your Library

Speakers: Amelia Aldred, American Library Association (ALA); Amanda McKay, Effingham Public Library; Sara Murray, Algonquin Area Public Library District

Room 22

Presented by the ILA Advocacy Committee & Public Policy Committee





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Illinois Library Luminaries 2025



Carol Vaughan Kissane

It is hard not to think of Carol Vaughan Kissane when one thinks of Brookfield, as she has served as a Trustee in our town since 1981. Carol is currently in her 44th and final year—having decided not to run for re-election—as a Trustee of the Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield Library. Carol has been a constant advocate for her library as well as for the Illinois Library Association (ILA).

Carol's dedication to her library and fellow library trustees across the state is evident from her years serving on the ILA Library Trustee Forum as president, secretary, and member. In 2012, Carol was named the ILA Trustee of the Year by her fellow trustees. She has both helped plan and attended several in-person and virtual Library Trustee Forum Workshops. These workshops, now held virtually, are offered each spring and are on topics relevant to library trustees both long-serving or newly elected. Carol served on the 2015 and 2018 ILA Conference Program Committees, which helps select the programs for the ILA Annual Conference, including Trustee Day-a day full of sessions and networking for library trustees across the state.

Carol has served in various positions of leadership in local, regional, state, and national library associations, and provided support to those who govern and advocate. Carol served on the ILA Advocacy Committee and knows the importance of reaching out and connecting with your representatives. She has represented her library at several ILA Legislative Meetups which offer library trustees and directors a chance to mingle with their elected officials or their staff and talk to them about the important work libraries are doing for their communities.

Carol has served as a role model for library trustees at all levels of governance and has been a valuable member of each board on which she has served. She is a tireless volunteer in the library community, always ready to lend a helping hand, welcoming new trustees, and sharing her knowledge with others.

Inducted February 27, 2025



Diane McNulty

Diane McNulty served as the Executive Director of Cary Area Public Library District (CAPLD) for 29 years, retiring in 2023. McNulty embodies the spirit of the ILA Library Luminaries, having led CAPLD through nearly three decades of population, demographic, and technology changes.

Throughout her tenure as Executive Director, McNulty continued to meet the needs of the changing community and technology. In 1995 she spearheaded the referendum that created the CAPLD, by expanding library services to unincorporated Cary and parts of unincorporated Crystal Lake, which were previously unserved. She coordinated the new library building from donation of land in 1999, through funding and construction for which she was awarded the 1999 Public Library Staff Member award from the North Suburban Library System. In 2017, McNulty oversaw a major renovation to the CAPLD main branch, with the addition of a drive-up window, study rooms, makerspace, additional program space, a new automated return system, and more. The addition of the drive-up window was crucial to continuing service to patrons during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. And, in 2023, she purchased the user-friendly Service Center and Tech Desk; the height-adjustable options led to improved staff productivity, comfort, and service to patrons, including children and patrons in wheelchairs.

McNulty's dedication to her library is evident in her accomplishments and how she was always looking for ways to make the library better for all.

Inducted January 16, 2025



Anne Craig

Anne Craig is the Senior Director of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI), and was the Director of the Illinois State Library for 11 years prior to her current position.

Craig began at the Illinois State Library as a Reference Librarian in 1989, and served in various roles until 2005, when then-Secretary of State Jesse White appointed her as director. Under her leadership, the state library secured numerous competitive grants for Illinois libraries, which continue to uplift the profession in our state and beyond. She has led the ILEAD USA Program, a leadership and technology skills continuing education program, adopted by 12 other state libraries. Also under her coordination, Illinois was selected as a Service Hub for the Digital Public Library of America. Craig worked with the state's three library systems to establish landmark projects including the Patron Driven Acquisitions Project, the eRead Illinois Program, and the Dream Grant. The Veteran's History Project, the Talking Book and Braille Service, and the Illinois Center for the Book have all been recognized by the Library of Congress as exemplary. Craig also instituted an outreach program that included mobile librarians and "Little Libraries" distributed throughout the state capital. Earlier in her career, Craig worked at Northern Illinois University's Founders Memorial Library.

Since 2016, Craig has served in her current role as Senior Director of CARLI, where she has overseen a restructuring of the I-Share database, which included the addition of over 38 million physical items, enabling students, faculty, and staff to borrow materials from consortium members. Additionally, under Craig's jurisdiction, CARLI was awarded the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) from the US Department of Education in 2021, which has funded initiatives to relieve students of textbook costs and promote the expansion of open educational resources.

Inducted September 18, 2025

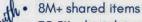




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of libraries' local authors, history, genealogy, & special collections



WHAT IS A SPECIAL COLLECTION?

Any subcollection the library dedicates special attention & resources to, such as world languages, sheet music, cookbooks, realia, large print, & more!

Available statewide through funding from the Illinois State Library

A Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds
provided by IMLS under the Library Services & Technology Act

2025 Award Winners

Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award for Interlibrary Cooperation

Matt Hammermeister, Pinnacle Library Cooperative Sponsored by ILA and the ILA Awards Committee

Crosman Memorial Award for New Library Workers

Yesenia Benavidez, Addison Public Library
Sponsored by ILA and Dominican University School
of Information Studies

Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award

Western Illinois University Librarian Faculty Sponsored by IACRL and Library Juice Academy

Innovative Programs and Services Award

Ashley Johnson and Roz Topolski, Vernon Area Public Library District Sponsored by the ILA Awards Committee and Deiters & Todd Library Consulting

Intellectual Freedom Award

Unite Against Book Bans Regional Response Volunteers Sponsored by the ILA Intellectual Freedom Committee

Librarian of the Year Award

Julie Milavec, Downers Grove Public Library
Sponsored by ILA and Today's Business Solutions, Inc. (TBS)

Deborah Dowley Preiser Marketing Award

Melissa Bradley, Fountaindale Public Library District Sponsored by ILA and Oak Park Public Library

Readers' Advisory Service Award

Skokie Public Library Advisory Services Team Sponsored by the ILA Awards Committee and the Adult Reading Round Table

Robert R. McClarren Legislative Development Award

Braden Hajer

Sponsored by ILA and the ILA Public Policy Committee

Alexander J. Skrzypek Award for Exceptional Service to People with Disabilities

Geneva Public Library District Outreach Team
Sponsored by the ILA Awards Committee and the Illinois State Library

TBS, Inc. Technical Services Award

Dr. Pamela Thomas, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)
Sponsored by the ILA Resources and Technical Services Forum and Today's Business Solutions, Inc. (TBS)

Trustee of the Year Award

Charles Stump, Crystal Lake Public Library
Sponsored by the ILA Library Trustee Forum and the Law Offices
of Peregrine, Stime, Newman, Ritzman & Bruckner, Ltd.

Young Adult Library Professional of the Year Award

Jade Parks, Downers Grove Public Library
Sponsored by ILA Young Adult Services Forum and Sourcebooks

Youth Services Achievement Award

Kendra Van Kempen, La Grange Public Library Sponsored by ILA Youth Services Forum and Brainfuse

Youth Services Librarian of the Year Award

Jessica Smith, Woodridge Public Library Sponsored by ILA Youth Services Forum and Libraria

2025 Scholarship & Grant Recipients

Annual Conference Grants for Small and Rural Libraries

Lacey Mesarchik, Lebanon Public Library Amy Runkle, Franklin Grove Public Library Sponsored by ILA Small and Rural Libraries Forum and Fast Forward Libraries

Robert P. Doyle ILA Annual Conference Grant for Support Staff

Annamarie Magnelli, Eisenhower Public Library District Sponsored by ILA and the ILA Reaching Forward North Committee

Oberman and Rich Reaching Forward Conference Grant

Kate Kresek, Indian Prairie Public Library Sponsored by ILA and the ILA Reaching Forward North Committee

Resources and Technical Services Forum Scholarship

Kassy Trejo, Evanston Public Library Sponsored by the ILA Resources and Technical Services Forum

Valerie J. Wilford Scholarship Grant for Library Education

Carol Ng-He, Boxer Library at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science

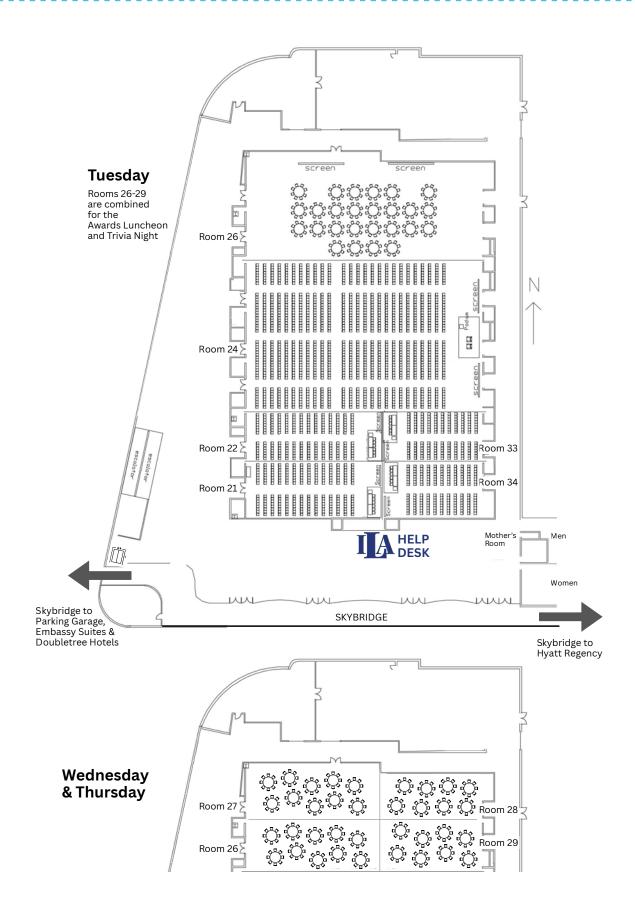
Sponsored by the ILA Awards Committee and the Valerie J. Wilford Memorial Fund

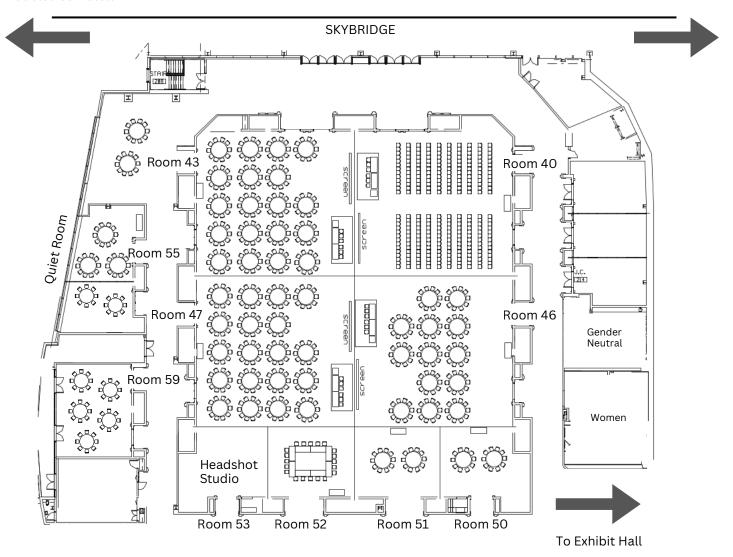
Sylvia Murphy Williams Award/Spectrum Scholars

Camille Rose, Chicago State University Mariana Guerrero, University of Illinois Lazerric Hartzog, Dominican University Jaclyn Hernandez, University of Illinois Hope Houston, Dominican University Megan Ariel Johnson, Dominican University Ysanne Johnson, University of Illinois Shaheen Kapambwe, Simmons University Summer Matthes, Indiana University Fátima Ortega Barb, University of Alabama Zeel Parikh, University of Illinois



Floor Plans





American Library Association (ALA) 1014

www.ala.org

The American Library Association (ALA) is the oldest and largest library association in the world, providing association information. news, events, and advocacy resources for members, librarians, and library users. Meet change-makers, idea-builders, and library leaders at the ALA 2026 Annual Conference & Exhibition as we mark ALA's 150th Anniversary and look boldly to the future.

Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) 836

www.aisled.org

AISLE, the Association of Illinois School Library Educators, works to empower the school library information profession by fostering leadership, education, and collaboration with other educators. AISLE provides professional development, advocacy, intellectual freedom assistance, information literacy information, grants, and scholarships to librarians throughout Illinois. AISLE works closely with other organizations to promote reading and literacies to all students.

AWE Learning 725

https://awelearning.com

AWE Learning has nearly 30 years of experience providing comprehensive digital learning and early literacy solutions for children ages 2-12 in public libraries and other community-based organizations across North America. Our mission is to inspire an enthusiasm for learning by supporting school readiness and literacy in the community. Through our dedication to high-quality, STREAM-aligned content that is easy to use, we collaborate with libraries and other education institutions to highlight their role as community leaders in the pursuit of learning.

Baker & Taylor 827

Baker & Taylor is the leading supplier of library content, software and services to public and academic libraries in the U.S. We also provide sales, manufacturing, warehousing and distribution support to small and mid-sized publishers through our Publisher Services business. Our mission is to help our library partners inspire and serve their communities through literacy and learning. By providing libraries with access to a multitude of formats and titles, we help our library partners meet their patrons where they are at in their lives. Founded in 1828, Baker & Taylor began by binding and publishing books and later expanded into distributing books, originally by horse-drawn carriage. Since then, we've grown our focus and efforts to harness the power of technology and digitization to develop progressive and innovative services that promote the progress and success of your library. Based in Charlotte, N.C., Baker & Taylor is an independent, privately held company. We feel privileged to partner with more than 5,000 libraries and to support our library and publishing partners as they advance literacy in communities worldwide.

Bibliotheca 1012

www.bibliotheca.com

For over 50 years, Bibliotheca has partnered with libraries to meet the needs of their communities worldwide. Things are changing at lightning speed. It's time to imagine what a library can do—what a library can be—today and tomorrow. Libraries are competing with the best in consumer technologies and can't afford to stick with the status quo. At Bibliotheca, we aren't just keeping up with the times, we're inventing the future. Through integrated technology we reimagine how libraries function, to inspire and delight all kinds of people, wherever they are.

Bound to Stay Bound Books 823



We provide prebound juvenile library books with full processing and automation support available. We also carry a wide array of paperback titles, Merry Makers and Playaway audio books.

Brainfuse 619 🔊



With over 25 years of experience, Brainfuse connects your community members with expert support when they need it most. Services include HelpNow (K-Adult Learners)—on-demand tutoring, writing help, resources for students/adult learners; JobNow—job coaching, resume and interview assistance; VetNow —veteran benefits support, and CollegeNow—college/trade school prep tools such as application guidance, FAFSA guidance, and prep for your interview.

Brodart Co. 919

www.brodart.com

Since Brodart pioneered the book jacket cover in 1939, we have concentrated exclusively on helping libraries better serve their patrons. Today, no other provider can match Brodart's comprehensive range of book processing/cataloging services, supplies, and furnishings—all tailored to the unique needs and perspectives of libraries. Our singular focus and specialized expertise enable us to solve problems that others cannot. In short, Brodart knows libraries.

Building Technology Consultants 635 🛊



BTC is an employee-owned consulting firm specializing in forensic evaluation and repair of building enclosure components, structural systems, and architectural elements. We provide reserve studies, capital asset planning, and a full range of solutions to support the long-term performance and value of your property.

Byline Bank 1026 🔊 🌐



www.bylinebank.com/municipal-banking

We help publicly funded entities of all sizes manage their finances and run more efficiently so they can allocate resources to better serve their communities. We have a team of bankers dedicated to the sector and we serve a variety of clients—from school districts to transit authorities to cities and counties across the Chicagoland area.

CCS International 918



www.ccsdifference.com

CCS is a capital project management and cost management services firm, exceeding expectations since 1979. We are trusted lifelong partners and advisors who embrace our client's values to personally represent their interests and ensure their success. When you engage CCS, a good project becomes an exceptionally better one.

Champaign-Urbana Community Fab Lab 736

cucfablab.web.illinois.edu

The Champaign-Urbana (CU) Community Fab Lab is a makerspace on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus, open to both the university and the broader community. We provide access to tools, technology, and expertise through open hours, university courses, community programs, professional development, summer camps, research initiatives, and design and fabrication support. We are committed to creating an open, community-oriented, and capacity-building makerspace, fostering an experiential learning environment, and sparking interdisciplinary groundbreaking discoveries.

Chicago Chapter of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (CCBCALA) and REFORMA Midwest Chapter 1018

The Chicago Chapter of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (CCBCALA) is organized to develop an educational, professional, and social organization to improve and develop library service and librarianship in the Chicago Metropolitan area.

Communico LLC 1020

communico.us

Communico is a comprehensive library engagement platform designed to streamline operations and enhance the customer experience. With integrated tools for event and room management, digital signage, website CMS, mobile apps, and more, Communico helps libraries save staff time, improve accessibility, and deliver seamless, branded interactions across every touchpoint. Trusted by leading libraries, Communico empowers teams to connect with their communities more effectively.

Cook and Kocher Insurance Group, Inc. 618



More than 70 Libraries in Illinois rely on Cook and Kocher Insurance Group, Inc. (CKIG) for all of their insurance needs.

CPS HR Consulting 833

www.cpshr.us

Established in 1985 as a self-supporting public agency, CPS HR Consulting provides a full range of integrated HR solutions to federal, state and local governments, public safety, special districts and nonprofit organizations.

Creativebug 616

Creativebug promotes wellness and lifelong learning through the proven benefits of creativity. Available in more than 1,100 libraries worldwide, this easy-to-use, high-quality online art and craft resource offers unlimited access to thousands of classes for all skill levels—helping patrons and library staff reduce stress, improve mood, enhance mindfulness, and develop new skills

Demco 727



www.demco.com

Demco helps educators spark curiosity and ignite learning by equipping schools and libraries with inspired furnishings and space design, innovative learning tools, and top-quality supplies and equipment. Learn more at demco.com/about-us.

Dewberry 731



www.dewberry.com

For more than 60 years, Dewberry has helped our clients design new facilities and renovate, rehabilitate, retrofit, and modernize existing buildings and infrastructure. We work closely with clients and community leaders to create civic structures that reflect community values and priorities. Our experienced team understands the value these facilities bring to the community, and we create high-engagement spaces that are warm, welcoming, and non-intimidating. Established in 1956, Dewberry is headquartered in Fairfax, Virginia, with more than 40 locations and 2,000 professionals nationwide.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library 925

imaginationlibrary.com/usa

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a monthly book gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income.

EBSCO Information Services 915



www.ebsco.com

EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO) is a leading provider of online research content and cutting-edge search technologies serving libraries, healthcare and medical institutions, corporations, and government agencies worldwide. As an Al-enabled services leader, EBSCO offers comprehensive solutions from research, acquisition management, subscription services and discovery services to clinical decision support and patient care, learning, and research and development. EBSCO provides institutions with access to content and resources to serve the information and workflow needs of their users and organizations. Our commitment to Al-driven innovation positions EBSCO at the forefront of the industry, enabling us to meet the evolving needs of the information services landscape.

Engberg Anderson 824



engberganderson.com

Founded in 1987, Engberg Anderson is a team of creatives: architects, interior designers, planners, travelers, and artists, driven to create a design that serves a higher purpose. Collaboration with our clients leads us to understand user needs and community identity better and inspires our best work. Building neighborhoods, not just buildings, improves people's lives through impactful projects that are intensely local, detail-obsessed, and reflective of their use and users.

FE Technologies 826

www.fetechgroup.com

FE Technologies is a global leader when it comes to Self-Service Solutions for libraries. Specializing in RFID solutions, FE Technologies has been leading the way throughout the world since 2007. From our Intelligent Returns to our Self-Checks, Lockers and Live Scanning Wands, and more, FE Technologies provides the very best in both Patron and Staff Experience.

Featherstone, Inc. 931



featherstoneinc.com

Featherstone, Inc. is an independent project and construction management firm focused exclusively on representing owners through the entire lifecycle of a project.

FEH Design 732



fehdesign.com

FEH Design has worked with more than 200 libraries in six states providing services ranging from space needs programming through design and construction administration, furnishings and signage procurement and fundraising campaign support. Our team of experts help to shepherd our library clients from the very early stages of establishing goals and vision, engaging public stakeholders through a completed renovation, expansion, or new building project of anv size.

FGM Architects 932



www.fgmarchitects.com

We provide architecture, planning and interior design services to a diverse clientele by assembling an integrated professional team who develops strong relationships and works collaboratively with the client to meet present and future needs. FGMA serves seven primary practice areas: PK-12 education, higher education, municipal (civic/public safety/recreation), faith-based, federal, corporate and multifamily/mixed-use. Our projects touch all aspects of life: reading, learning, worshipping, working, protecting, playing and living.

Frederick Quinn Corporation 820



Frederick Quinn Corporation (FQC) provides comprehensive construction management services, specializing in library and public sector facilities. Partnering through the preconstruction phase and construction phase of the project, FQC's clients benefit from an unmatched attention to detail and a company culture that delivers Best Value solutions.

Gale 1024

www.gale.com

Gale partners with educators and librarians to connect learners and researchers to essential content through accessible technology. In collaboration with academic institutions, schools, and public libraries, Gale helps learners push past traditional research boundaries, excel in their careers, and unlock the power and joy of learning.

Hallett Movers 726



www.hallettmovers.com

Experienced staff, efficient solutions, and exceptional service: Hallett Movers is the premier nationwide library relocation company with global experience. Family run for more than 70 years—now managed by third generation and woman owned—Hallett combines unique systems of planning, packing, and relocating materials with nimble problem solving to safely move collections, shelving and all FF&E for new buildings, renovations, re-carpeting, and other refresh projects. Please visit our booth to discuss!

Holland Construction Services 625



www.hollandcs.com

For nearly four decades, Holland Construction Services has partnered with communities across Illinois and the greater St. Louis region to build facilities that inspire learning and connection. Specializing in General Contracting, Construction Management, and Design-Build, Holland provides expertise in the construction of K-12 schools, higher education campuses as well as municipal and cultural projects, bringing library and community spaces to life. Our team utilizes collaboration, cost certainty, and quality from the preconstruction stage through project completion. Recognized among the region's top contractors and one of St. Louis' "Best Places to Work," Holland is proud to help create spaces where people gather, learn, and grow.

hoopla Digital 928

www.hoopladigital.com

With a mission to serve public libraries and their patrons, Hoopla Digital is the only all-in-one app that provides online and mobile access to millions of eBooks, audiobooks, comics and manga, music, movies, TV, and more with BingePass. Available in 115+ world languages, content on Hoopla is accessible for free with a valid library card. Hoopla is the pioneer of the pay-per-use model that allows library patrons to borrow content immediately, no waits or holds required. Headquartered in Holland, Ohio, Hoopla is a service of Midwest Tape, a trusted partner to public libraries since 1989.

HR Source 825

www.hrsource.org

We are an association that serves more than 250 libraries in their role as employers. We like to think of ourselves as "the HR department in your back pocket," offering our library members the ability to connect directly with an experienced professional to help with their immediate needs, or to address their strategic goals. We can help you to accomplish a task, train you to do it yourself, or do it for you. Our HR advice and solutions are clear, accurate, up-to-date, and delivered to you by someone who works hard to know you and your library. That's what makes us different and better. We have your back, not just today, but for the long-term.

Illinois Department of Human Rights 927

dhr.illinois.gov

The Department of Human Rights administers the Illinois Human Rights Act. The Illinois Human Rights Act ("Act") prohibits discrimination in Illinois with respect to employment, financial credit, public accommodations and real estate transactions on the bases of race, color, religion, sex (including sexual harassment), national origin, ancestry, military status, age (40 and over), order of protection status, marital status, sexual orientation (which includes gender-related identity), unfavorable military discharge and physical and mental disability. The Act also prohibits sexual harassment in education, discrimination because of citizenship status and arrest record in employment, and discrimination based on familial status in real estate transactions.

Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) 811





www.illinoisheartland.org

Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) is a dedicated partner to public, school, academic, and special libraries across southern and parts of central Illinois. As one of the state's two multi-type library systems, IHLS supports libraries with efficient interlibrary loan delivery services, seamless automated lending, robust e-resources, and consulting and continuing education in librarianship. By connecting diverse library communities across the region, IHLS empowers its members to provide their patrons with access to the information and services they need, when they need them. IHLS oversees the Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC), SHARE Consortium, and the iLEAD Library Trustee Learning Portal.

Illinois State Library 917



www.ilsos.gov/departments/library/home.html

The Illinois State Library supports the development and improvement of library services across the state, serves as the main reference and research library for state government, and works to ensure all Illinoisans have equal access to library services. In addition to maintaining millions of books, maps, and historical items belonging to the State of Illinois, the State Library awards more than \$50 million in grants annually to public, school, academic, and special libraries.

Illinois State Treasurer's Office 734 😵 🕥 🌐







www.illinoistreasurer.gov

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office provides treasury management services for local governments and agencies, like libraries, looking to conduct business safely and efficiently. The Illinois Funds is a \$20 billion local government investment pool servicing 1,500 local and state participants. ePAY offers competitively priced payment processing options. The office also offers free cybersecurity training and encryption technologies to our participants.

Image Systems & Business Solutions 617



www.isbscorp.com

Leading Authorized Provider of Ricoh Copiers & Printers specializing in reducing expenses associated with Document Output Devices, Production Printing, Managed I.T. Services and Strategic Management Document Solutions.

Ingram Content 920

www.ingramcontent.com

Ingram Library Services is your "need-it-now" solution delivering millions of titles, innovative systems, expertise, and assistance in developing and maintaining your library's print collection.

Innovative, Part of Clarivate 627

www iii com

Connect your library to the world with Innovative solutions. Our products deliver intuitive, dynamic library experiences consistent with modern media and technology.

iREAD 632 🚳 🔊





www.ireadprogram.org

iREAD is a flexible, nonprofit reading program designed by librarians featuring appealing incentives, compelling and adaptable themes, and a comprehensive resource guide chock full of ideas and reproducibles.

KI Furniture 812



www.ki.com

KI specializes in design & manufacturing furniture & architectural walls for libraries and human-centered learning environments. We provide a wide range of solutions, including lounge seating, tables, chairs, storage, privacy pods, and architectural walls tailored to various spaces such as media centers, offices, children's areas, technology centers, and more. Our services extend beyond just furnishing; we support you through every step, from design and space planning to installation, ensuring that each area meets the unique needs of its users, whether for collaborative public spaces or private meeting rooms.

Knobbles 626

knobbles.io

Knobbles is a Richmond-based maker of interactive light walls that bring creativity, color, and joy to any space. Designed for libraries, children's areas, and community spaces, Knobbles provides memorable, screen-free experiences for kids and families. Each wall invites guests to twist and turn knobs that illuminate vibrant light patterns, sparking imagination and engagement. Built with durable materials and designed for high-traffic spaces, Knobbles helps libraries enhance visitor experience, encourage STEM-style exploration, and create memorable, hands-on learning moments.

Knowledge Exchange 733



kexchange.info

Knowledge Exchange partners with libraries and organizations across Illinois to rescue, redistribute, and rehome books that are no longer needed. Our mission is simple: extend the life of every book. We make it easy for libraries of all sizes to pass along retired materials and donations. No sorting or stress. Just a smarter, sustainable way to keep books in circulation and out of landfills.

Latitude Signage + Design 623

www.latitudesignage.com

Latitude Signage + Design is a creative architectural signage company that collaborates with businesses, contractors and architects to plan, design and build high quality products.

Lauterbach & Amen. LLP 818

www.lauterbachamen.com

L&A's team of dedicated professionals work closely with clients to troubleshoot and execute the gamut of accounting, financial reporting, IT, and other responsibilities. We have helped clients control costs while increasing their efficiencies by customizing our diverse and talented professionals to meet their specific needs.

Libraria 735 🔊



www.libraria.com

Welcome to Libraria, the next chapter in bookselling. Formerly known as Children's Plus, Inc., Libraria provides the greatest choices for building a high-quality collection. By partnering with major educational and trade publishers, as well as independent presses, we offer the most options and highest fill rates. Our new name signifies our commitment to being the ultimate destination for all your library needs.

Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency (LIRA) 717







Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency (LIRA) serves its Illinois member libraries through a unified cooperative that offers relevant value-added services; proven leadership and management; and exceptional insurance providers who offer comprehensive, fiscally responsible property, casualty, and workers compensation insurance.

Library Furniture International 718

libraryfurnitureinternational.com

Library Furniture International (LFI) is a premier provider of furniture and shelving solutions for public libraries, K-12 schools, and universities. We offer both standard and fully custom pieces that engage your community. Our services include design, planning, project management, installation, and post-install support. Whether working with an architecture firm or our in-house team, you can trust us to bring your vision to life and ensure project satisfaction.

LIMRICC 816

www.limricc.org

The Library Insurance Management and Risk Control Combination (LIMRiCC) was established to provide insurance coverage. Libraries are pooled together as one organization in order to provide lower premiums for both health and unemployment insurance.

LocalHop 831

getlocalhop.com

LocalHop empowers libraries with a polished, cohesive event management platform that brings communities together through ease, engagement, and innovation. Whether you're scheduling storytimes, managing meeting rooms, issuing passes, or hosting workshops, LocalHop simplifies the process so you can focus on what really matters—people.

LOTE4Kids (by Storytime PODs) 923

lote4kids.com

LOTE4Kids is the leading digital library of children's audio-picture books, created for libraries and schools to support English and bilingual language learning through storytelling. The platform offers over 7,500+ titles in more than 95 world languages, from widely spoken languages like Spanish, Mandarin, and Hindi to highly sought-after options such as Ukrainian, Tagalog and American Sign Language (ASL). Each book is read aloud by native speakers (not AI) for an authentic storytelling experience, and features English translations, leveled texts, multiple reading formats, and built-in comprehension guizzes. With over 250 new books added each month, along with a growing selection of learning activities, LOTE4Kids is the fastest-growing children's database available today.

Lyngsoe Systems 934

www.lyngsoesystems.com/library

We are a worldwide company providing the automated handling systems and self-service equipment needed to make your library create a better experience for staff as well as patrons.

Lyrasis 614

lyrasis.org

Lyrasis empowers libraries, archives and museums through content services, open technologies and community-based solutions that expand access to information, preserve cultural heritage, and advance the shared goals of our members and the communities we serve. Collaboratively, we build a future that is inclusive, equitable, accessible and sustainable

Meristem Advisors 715 🔊 🔊 🌐







www.meristemadvisors.com

Meristem Advisors was founded on the principle that clients want and deserve to have deeper conversations with their municipal advisors. Meristem provides traditional bond financing services, but also is available on a consulting basis for financial planning, capital planning, budgeting and revenue forecasting. We can also help you evaluate and select different strategies for achieving your capital investment objectives. The hallmark of Meristem Advisors is clear, understandable, and actionable communication with clients and their governing boards. Choose Meristem Advisors to assist with: Financial Strategy, Budget and Forecasting, Debt Issuance and Capital Planning, Cash Management, Internal Controls, Feasibility Studies Referendum, Policy and Board Education. Meristem Advisors is registered as a Municipal Advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB").

Murphy Security Solutions 832

www.murphysecuritysolutions.com

Murphy Security Solutions is a trusted nationwide provider of D-Tech USA Library RFID and automated device kiosk solutions. With two decades of dedicated experience in the library sector, we possess the expertise to handle any library's RFID initiative, as well as their automated vending and lending solution requirements.

NewsBank inc 914

www.newsbank.com

NewsBank, inc. has been a premiere provider of the world's largest repository of reliable information for more than 50 years. Since October 4, 1972, NewsBank's comprehensive resources have met the diverse research needs of public libraries, colleges and universities, schools, military and government libraries, and professionals around the world.

OneDigital 926

www.onedigital.com

From benefits and workforce strategies to wealth management and insurance, we bring everything together in one place. Wherever you are in the journey, we've got you covered.

Outsource IT Solutions Group 612 😵 🕤 🌐





www.osgusa.com

Outsource IT Solutions Group is proud to be the trusted IT partner to over 30 libraries in the Chicagoland area. As a strategic IT partner, we specialize in solving libraries' problems through technology. OSG understands the unique challenges that libraries face, from securing IT infrastructure against cybersecurity threats to budgeting and hardware lifecycle management. We recognize the important rold technology plays in providing a great experience for library staff and patrons alike. Our professionals are committed to customer satisfaction and take pride in providing custom solutions that meet the specific needs of libraries. Let OSG help you meet your technology challenges and create a safer, more secure computing environment for your staff and patrons!

Penworthy Company 913

www.penworthy.com

The Penworthy Company distributes children's books and hands-on learning kits. We feature high-quality prebound books, library bind books and board books. Our kits include Early Start, STEAM, and Stay Sharp. All books and kits are in stock and ship free the next day. Penworthy offers free cataloging and processing.

Product Architecture + Design 728



www.product-architects.com

Product Architecture + Design is a firm solely dedicated to the design of public libraries. We provide design services for any sized project; masterplan, interior renovation, or the design of a new building. We pride ourselves in our ability to provide functional plans that transform spaces as well as provide designs that inspire patrons and reflect the communities in which they reside.

PTMA Financial Solutions 1032 🗞 🔊





ptma.com

PTMA Financial Solutions is the result of the recent merger between the PMA Companies and Public Trust Advisors, LLC. This enhanced, added brand provides a comprehensive platform of treasury, cash, and liquidity management solutions, in addition to municipal advisory and other financial products and services to public entities and financial institutions nationwide.

Public Library Association 1016

www.ala.org/pla

The Public Library Association (PLA) is the largest association dedicated to supporting the unique and evolving needs of public library workers. Serving 8,000 members, PLA offers continuing education opportunities, unique public library initiatives, and a conference that welcomes public library staff into meaningful partnership. In collaboration with its parent organization, the American Library Association, PLA strives to help its members shape the essential institution of public libraries by serving as an indispensable ally for public library workers. The next PLA Conference will be April 1–3, 2026, in Minneapolis, MN. Registration and scholarships open in October. Learn more at placonference.org and visit Booth #1016 for a chance to win a free PLA 2026 registration!

Quill 834

www.quill.com

Quill delivers office supplies. That may seem humble, but it matters to us because those supplies help you do work that's meaningful—work that positively impacts your coworkers, clients, and customers in big and small ways. When you need us, we're here to deliver for you.

Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) 711



railslibraries.org

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www.wrighttolearn.com

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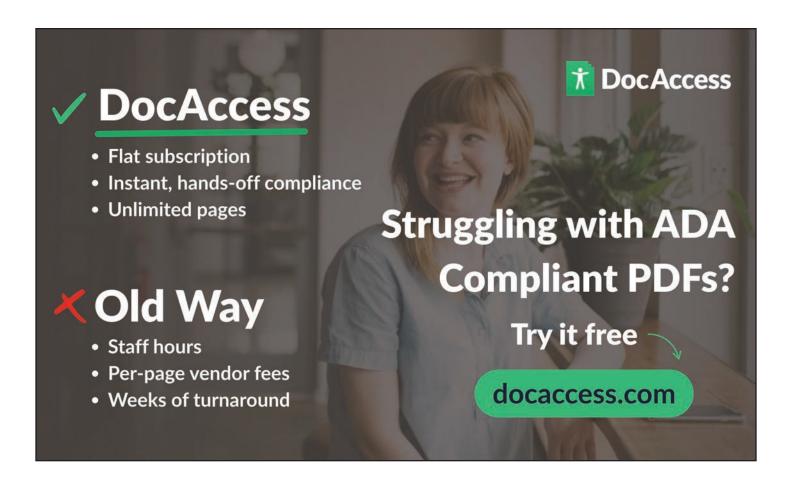
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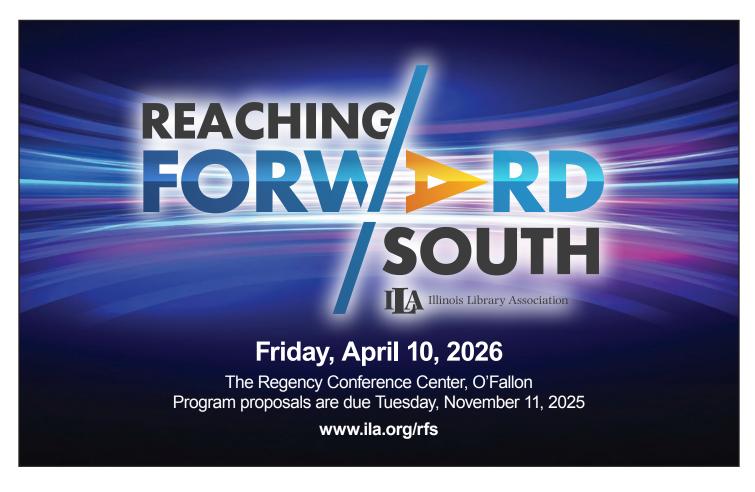
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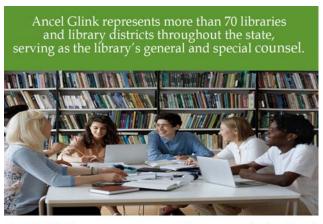


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