

Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER November 16, 2015

- 1) L.J. Names 11 Star Libraries in Iowa
- 2) Library101 Offered in December
- 3) E-Rate Webinars This Week
- 4) AWE Literacy Station Discounts 'Til Mid-December
- 5) Meetings / Events This Week



1) **L. J. Names 11 Star Libraries in Iowa:** Congratulations to 11 Iowa libraries designated as “Star Libraries” earlier this month by Library Journal (LJ) 2015 marks the 8th year of LJ’s “Star Libraries” project, co-sponsored by Baker&Taylor’s Bibliostat. Of a total 261 “Star Libraries,” 54 are new to the list this year. And yes, 11 Stars are right here in Iowa! They are:

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| ✓ Bancroft | ✓ Hubbard |
| ✓ Boyden | ✓ Readlynn |
| ✓ Churdan | ✓ Sioux Center |
| ✓ DeSoto | ✓ Stuart |
| ✓ Dyersville | ✓ Swea City |
| ✓ Elgin | |

The **LJ Index** is a measurement tool that compares U.S. public libraries with their spending peers based on four output measures: circulation, on-site visits, programming attendance, and public Internet use. Data is culled from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for FY2013. Scores are produced by measuring the relationships between each library’s statistics and the averages for its expenditure category.

More from the **LJ** article: *“...Each year, the constellation of Star Libraries changes with the data reported (and not reported), the movement of public libraries from one spending peer group to another, the relative fortunes of libraries in the same peer group, and the actual fortunes of individual institutions...”*

Read more about LJ’s 2015 Star Libraries here <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/11/managing-libraries/lj-index/class-of-2015/americas-star-libraries-2015-top-rated-libraries/> And special congratulations to Northwest Iowa designees Boyden and Sioux Center!

2) Library101 Offered in December: New directors, staff, or trustees—take note ☺ The next **Library101** is scheduled for **December 8 (9:30-11:30AM)** Sponsored by Iowa Library Services, **LIBRARY 101** is typically offered four times each year. This 2-hour online program introduces newly hired directors to library support systems and services in Iowa. It's a friendly, helpful orientation: you'll meet the staff at Iowa Library Services—at least virtually—helping you match names with faces. We'll discuss public library service standards and provide explanations of popular statewide programs, with plenty of time to answer your questions. People new to support staff positions, as well as trustees, are encouraged to attend. Look to the c.e. catalog to register for **Library101**—<http://www.statelibraryofia.org/cgi-bin/cecat/> Doing so ensures that you will receive follow-up email with the link to the Adobe Classroom.



3) E-Rate Webinar This Month: A reminder that Iowa Library Services is offering this free online class to anyone who is looking to apply for the E-rate program at their library. Jay Peterson provides this description: "... *The E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) is a new account and application management portal for the Schools and Libraries Program (known as E-Rate) Libraries that apply for the E-Rate Program will use this tool to manage program processes and to ask questions. Library staff are encouraged to attend this introductory session to learn the basics of navigating the EPC system because applicants will need to submit their Form 470—the first form in sequence—this fall. This class will also cover any changes or updates to Form 470...*"

Worth 1 c.e. credit, this **E-Rate webinar** is offered two more times this week, choose the session most convenient for you:

- November 17 @ 2:00-3:30PM
- November 19 @ 9:00-10:30AM

While registration has closed in the c.e. catalog, you can still attend—simply email Jay Peterson (jay.peterson@lib.state.ia.us) and he'll get back to you with login instructions.



4) AWE Literacy Station Discounts 'Til Mid-December: Merri Monks, Children's Services Consultant with IaLS, writes this reminder about **AWE Literacy Stations**. There is a multi-state special discount from the AWE Company for Early Literacy Stations, as well as for the AfterSchool Edge. Merri explains these products:

"... The Early Literacy Station(tm) is a dynamic all-in-one digital learning solution for early learners, ages 2-8. It is available in English and Bilingual Spanish and features over 70 content applications. The AfterSchool Edge(tm) features content for all elementary age students (approximately 6-12 years old) The educational programs, which are correlated to Common Core and state standards, span all seven curricular areas. Each product features engaging graphics, intuitive menus, usage tracking, and administrative functions. No Internet connection is required to use either of these products..."

This special discount is valid through **December 15, 2015**. So if your thoughts are turning to holiday shopping, why not include a Christmas gift for your library?! Read more about the **AWE Literacy Station** on our website here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/discounts/awe/index> and on the company website <https://awelearning.com/>

5) Meetings / Events This Week: Lots of action this week, on-site and online. **Pocahontas County** libraries meet tomorrow **November 17** at **5:15PM**, with **Pocahontas PL** hosting; I'll join them with an EBSCO refresher.

Two remaining **E-Rate webinars** this week: choose from **Tuesday @ 2:00PM** or **Thursday @ 9:00AM**. See today's third article for more.

Big Ideas Book Discussion takes place this **Wednesday 9:30-11:00** for everyone registered; the book up for discussion this time is Contagious.

And catch an all new **Website Worktime** this week: your choice of **Wednesday 9:00-10:00AM** or **Thursday 10:00-11:00AM**.

Finally, there are a few remaining national webinars in November; find the full listing and registration instructions here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

November 17. 1:00-2:00PM. *New Youth Nonfiction for Fall and Beyond* sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

November 17. 3:00-4:00PM. *Secrets of the Remix Mash-up YouTube Generation* sponsored by School Library Journal <http://www.slj.com/category/webcasts/>

November 18. 10:00-11:00. *Inspire Your Community with an Innovation Lab* sponsored by Nebraska Library Commission <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventlist.asp?Mode=ALL>

November 18. 11:00AM-12PM. *Overcoming an Imperfect Boss* sponsored by American Management Association <http://www.amanet.org/news/events-calendar.aspx>

November 19. 10:00-11:00AM. *Strengthening Communities through Technology* sponsored by Missouri State Library
<https://attendee.gototraining.com/7f237/catalog/7150434521839046400?tz=America/Denver>



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