

Today in EYE-OPENER February 8, 2016

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Happy
Valentine's
Day



1) February Display Ideas: Thanks to a question asked on IOWALIB by Tiffany Lynn with Victor PL, many of you shared ideas for February displays. Starting with "Blind Date with a Book," which has really caught hold in recent years. Temporarily cover books in pink or valentine wrapping paper, leaving only the bar code exposed, and encourage patrons to take a chance on a book by checking one out sight-unseen. More February display ideas from IOWALIB readers—sorry I can't attribute names to ideas, but you know who you are 😊

- *We did a display last year that was split down the middle—"In Love With Love" on one half, featuring romance / love stories and decorated with pink and red hearts. The other half of the display was "Not Feeling the Love" featuring break-up stories and draped in black with a black rose. People really liked it!*
- *February is the month of love, so our library set up a display of wedding photos. We used wedding photos contributed by community members—teachers, ministers, city workers, library staff joined in also. People enjoyed guessing the many brides and grooms.*
- *Our library once cut out a bunch of hearts and asked people to write thoughts about why they love the library. Those heart testimonials became the basis of our valentine display.*
- *Leading to the Oscars broadcast, we've often displayed books that are the basis of academy award winning movies. Always a popular display!*



2) Nebraska's Online Conference February 26: Nebraska State Library holds its annual online conference on **Friday February 26**. It's totally free, registration is open nationwide, and there are still plenty of seats still available—register here <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/>

Nebraska's Online Conference is titled **"Big Talk From Small Libraries."** Running from **8:45AM to 5:00PM**, here are just a few of the topics on tap:

- Transforming Your Library From Lovely to Lively
- Leveraging the Power of Little
- To the Big Stage on a Small Budget
- Learn More, Pay Less
- Flip the Script: Changing the Direction of the Library

Big Talk From Small Libraries will be broadcast using GoToWebinar online meeting software. Login instructions will be e-mailed to registered attendees the day before the conference. Please see the [NLC Online Sessions webpage](#) for detailed information about GoToWebinar, including system requirements and firewall configuration.

If several staff from the same library want to attend the conference, organizers ask that you register in one person's name, then indicate the size of your viewing party. On the registration page, simply list "Additional Attendees" on the one registration submitted for your library. And yes, Nebraska's **Big Talk From Small Libraries** is worth c.e. credits for Iowa's staff. You'll just need to submit a **Learning Activity Written Summary** found on our website here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/learning-activity-written-summary>

3) STEM Scale-Up Programs: Sue Gruber shares this news is from the Governor's STEM Advisory Council. Eleven programs have been announced for the **2016-17 Scale-Up Initiative**. These **Scale-Up Programs** are not cash grants; rather they are packaged programs that can be replicated in schools and libraries elsewhere in the state. But to be considered, there is an application process. Applicants from educators, schools, community groups, and public libraries are welcome to complete a **Scale-Up** application to be considered.



Note that applicants who propose their own cost-sharing by absorbing some expenses (supplies, travel, administration, etc.) or by bringing additional funding to the project (private sector donations, etc.) will be considered favorably during the review process. Some **STEM Scale-Up Programs** actually require cost sharing, as noted in their descriptions.

Programs like "*Engineering is Elementary*" for grades 1-6 and "*Making STEM Connections*" for grades K-6 would make great after-school library programs. More information about each of the programs is available at <http://www.iowastem.gov/scale-up/2016-17-menu>.

The application is available at <http://www.iowastem.gov/2016-17-Scale-Up> **The deadline is March 1st**. A review panel will select recipients in March for implementation July 1st.

To learn more, join one of two online information sessions to learn more about a new **2016-17 Scale Up offering -- Making STEM Connections** -- a makerspace program provided by the Science Center of Iowa that encourages STEM learners to explore materials and creativity. It is for formal and informal program use. Here is the choice of webinars:

- Wednesday February 10 from 3:30-4:30PM
- Friday February 12 from 10:30-11:30AM

Join these sessions using Zoom from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device. Click this link to join <https://uni.zoom.us/j/9912313680> (Meeting ID: 991 231 3680).



4) One Book, One Siouland 2016. This is the 11th year for the popular tri-city reading venture known as **One Book, One Siouland**. And for 2016, the title chosen is One Summer: America 1927 by Iowa author Bill Bryson. You probably know an earlier Bryson book, A Walk in the Woods, the basis of last year's movie starring Robert Redford and Nick Nolte.

1927 was an epic year in American history, the **One Book** website (<http://www.onebookonesiouland.org/>) explains: "... *The summer of 1927 began with one of the signature events of the 20th century: Charles Lindbergh's nonstop flight across the Atlantic. Meanwhile, Babe Ruth began his assault on the home run record, which would culminate in September with his sixtieth blast, one of the most resonant and durable records in sports history. In between those dates...unprecedented rain clobbered the American south, Al Capone tightened his grip on the illegal booze business, and the first true 'talking picture' starring Al Jolson in the Jazz Singer forever changed the motion picture industry. Moreover, the four most powerful central bankers on earth met in secret on Long Island and made a fateful decision that virtually guaranteed the future stock market crash and the Great Depression of the 1930's...*"

Even more happened that summer of 1927 and this book has it all. *"...Bill Bryson captures its outsized personalities, exciting events, and occasional just plain weirdness with his trademark vividness, eye for telling detail, and delicious humor. In 1927 America stepped onto the world stage as the main event and One Summer transforms it all into narrative nonfiction of the highest order."*

The mission of **One Book One Siouxland** is *"to foster a sense of community through the shared experience of one great book."* **One Book One Siouxland** is a collaboration among the public libraries in Sioux City (IA) South Sioux City (NE) North Sioux City (SD) as well as Morningside College and Western Iowa Tech. On the **One Book** website above, you'll find a full listing of community events this winter. And should your library choose to use One Summer: America 1927 in your own book groups, you'll also find discussion questions there. One Summer is sure to be a fun choice for **One Book One Siouxland**—and a good choice for your book groups, too!

5) Meetings / Events This Week: Odebolt PL board meets with me online this evening for an overview of *Planning For Results*. Hospers and Sloan boards do likewise next Monday—online meetings like this are a great option, especially in frozen February!

Maryann Mori with Central District leads a fun webinar tomorrow **Feb9** titled *"Chocolate and the Art of Programming"* (9:30-11:00AM)

Note that Wednesday **Feb10** is our monthly **staff meeting** in **Des Moines**. District offices will be closed, but the Des Moines office will be open...we're back on Thursday.

Finally, plenty of choices remain for national webinars in February. A few show below, find the full listing and registration details here <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

February 10. 2:00-3:00PM. *New Spring Nonfiction for the Library, Classroom and Home* sponsored by School Library Journal <http://www.slj.com/category/webcasts/>

February 11. 1:00-2:00PM. *Build Staff Buy-In for Volunteer Engagement* sponsored by VolunteerMatch.org <http://learn.volunteermatch.org/training-topics>

February 11. 1:00-2:00PM. *Books Build Better Brains: How Promoting Literacy Is Key to Early Brain & Child Development* sponsored by Demco <http://ideas.demco.com/webinars/>

February 11. 2:00-3:00PM. *Why Books Are Still A Good Library Brand* sponsored by Library Journal <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/category/webcasts/>



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