



Receive Updates



Monday Morning Eye-Opener September 28, 2020

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October is Health Literacy Month

2020 Theme: Be a Health Literacy Hero

October is designated as **Health Literacy Month**. And there could not be a more fitting year than a global pandemic year for libraries to promote and support health literacy.

This annual awareness-raising event began in 1999. Since then, health care organizations, community services, government agencies, colleges, and many others have hosted a wide range of **Health Literacy Month** events. Assisting in the cause is the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and the American Library Association (ALA): these two agencies have partnered to create a free toolkit for raising awareness of how libraries support health literacy in their communities. This toolkit is part of the **Libraries Transform** campaign.

The theme for **Health Literacy Month** is “**Be a Health Literacy Hero.**” It’s about taking action and finding ways to improve health communication. **Health Literacy Heroes** are individuals, teams, or organizations who not only identify health literacy problems, but also act to solve them. And this year of all years, there’s no shortage of Health Heroes!

Library policies prevent staff from answering specific patron questions regarding medical conditions or treatment options. But staff can certainly guide library users to reliable, authoritative information, allowing patrons to make more educated health-



related decisions. Visit the [Health Literacy Month](#) website for more. And look to the **Libraries Transform Health Literacy Toolkit** to use throughout October.

Health Literacy Toolkit From Libraries Transform

IA LEARNS

ENDORSEMENT ACADEMY &
CONTINUING EDUCATION



FROM THE
STATE LIBRARY
OF IOWA

New C.E. Catalog and Learning Management System Debuts

Last week's *Eye-Opener* touted a new and improved learning management system—**IALearns**. This new online tool combines the current continuing education catalog and Moodle into one space—a central location for all things related to continuing education. The new system went live on September 24.

Continuing Education Consultant Samantha Bowers has more: *“The emails inviting folks to confirm their **IALearns** accounts have gone out. If you were certified with the State Library of Iowa, you should have received a communication (at the email address you use for certification activities) inviting you to confirm your account. If you do not see such an email, have no fear! It's a quick and easy process to create an account. Just visit the main login page for **IALearns** by clicking the button below.”*

Using **IALearns**, librarians, staff, and trustees can:

- Register for live courses (in-person or online)
- View a collection of courses from the webinar archive
- Count hours towards your endorsement renewal (from live courses, archived courses, and outside education providers)
- Receive reminders when your endorsement renewal (recertification) comes due

Samantha has started an FAQ page which she'll keep updating as new information becomes available. For instance, she'll soon have instructions on how to import c.e. credits earned prior to the launch of **IALearns**. Here are two common questions that have been top-of-mind, refer back to Sam's **September Continuing Education Newsletter** of 9/17/20 **OR** contact Sam if you don't see your question in the mix

(800-248-4483 /
samantha.bouwers@iowa.gov)

What classes will I find in IALearns?

We've taken the two locations we currently store CE courses (the self-paced courses accessed through Moodle and the chronological listing of archived webinars) and merged them into one location—IALearns. This is now where you'll find all recorded content in one place, arranged by topic. You'll also find links to register for any classes that are happening live in-person or online.

What about certification for newly hired directors and staff?

The State Library's Education Team continues to transition from the former certification program—well known for decades as the PLM and PLS courses—to a new program we're calling the **Endorsement Academy**. So while that transition work continues, you won't find (just YET) the endorsement courses. Team members are still recording the content and are still committed to having the new **Endorsement Academy** ready-to-roll in 2021.

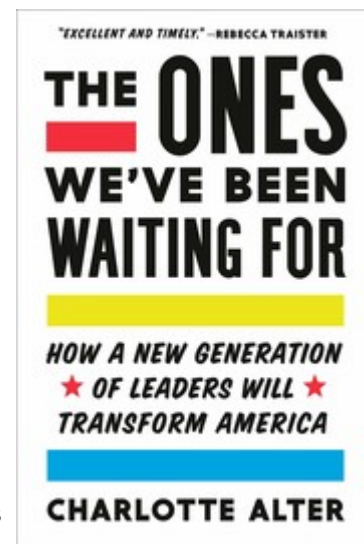
Visit IALearns Today!

Next Big Ideas Book Discussion

November 6 [The Ones We've Been Waiting For](#)

It's time to acquire the next title in the **Big Ideas Book Discussion** series. On **November 6th** (9:30-11:00AM) we'll take up the last book in the line-up for 2020: [The Ones We've Been Waiting For: How a New Generation of Leaders of Leaders Will Transform America](#) (c2020) by Charlotte Alter.

This book is an in-depth look at the millennial generation, showing how young people are stepping into public service, challenging and changing the status quo. Here's more from Amazon "...A new generation is stepping up. There are now twenty-six millennials in Congress--a fivefold increase gained in the 2018 midterms alone. They are governing Midwestern cities and college towns, running for city councils, and serving in state legislatures. They are acting urgently on climate change because they will live it. They care deeply about student debt because they have it. They are utilizing big tech because they understand it. In [The Ones We've Been Waiting For](#), TIME correspondent Charlotte Alter defines the class of young leaders who are remaking the nation ... and who will govern the future..."



About Big Ideas Book Discussions

State Library staff and guest stars facilitate discussions using books outside of library management, but with plenty of application to library management. Choosing books on leadership, civic engagement, presentation skills, etc. we'll connect those ideas with public library service. In addition to a great assortment of non-fiction titles there are other spin-off benefits of **Big Ideas**:

- titles help with collection development for participating libraries
- titles are good choices for local book discussion groups
- this program serves as another model for how to facilitate local book discussions

We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the **Big Ideas** series for your own collections. And join us for the next good read: [The Ones We've Been Waiting For](#) -- registration is open in the new C.E. Catalog!

[Register for Big Ideas Book Discussion](#)

This Week's Reminders ...



This is Banned Books Week September 27-October 3

Promote ALA's notable public awareness campaign. **Banned Books Week** celebrates the freedom to read by promoting the value of equal access to information for all ages. The 2020 theme is "***Censorship is a Dead End: Find Your Freedom to Read.***" Find promos on the [BBW website](#)

More PPE Masks Are Coming

An additional box of disposable masks are headed to Iowa public libraries, completing the **Protect & Disinfect Kits** provided by the State Library thanks to CARES Act funds. These masks were mistakenly left out of the original kits, but the vendor agreed to rectify the mistake and provide another box of masks for every public library. Boxes are being sent via IAShared delivery and should reach your library in the next few weeks. If you have not received the box of masks by mid-October or have additional questions, please contact Tom Keyser at tom.keyser@iowa.gov or 515-242-6542.

The CARES Act program is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as

administered by State Library of Iowa.

Short Survey, Please

Last Tuesday, the State Library sent out a survey to public library directors regarding the federally funded programs we offer. We will use your feedback in required reports to IMLS, as well as to guide our strategic planning process. This won't take long, here's the link

[State Library's Federally Funded Programs Survey](#)

**We'll appreciate your response by October 16.
If you've already answered it—thank you!**

Monday Morning Eye-Opener

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