

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener July 12, 2021

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



July 12, 2021

## State Library Offering Grants ...



### To ARSL Fall Conference in October

Last week, library directors should have received exciting news that bears repeating today. The State Library is offering five grants to five Iowa libraries to allow a librarian to attend the **Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) Fall Conference**. The conference is scheduled from **October 20-23, 2021** in **Sparks, Nevada, a suburb of Reno**.

The grants will be awarded in the form of a reimbursement up to **\$1,000.00** toward the cost of conference registration, hotel, and travel. The grants will be issued to the winning public libraries, not to the staff persons attending. First time attendees to an **ARSL** conference are strongly encouraged to apply.

The purpose of the grants is to help Iowa libraries improve service to their communities through continuing education and training for library personnel. Because **ARSL** works expressly with small and rural libraries, this annual conference is especially relevant to the majority of Iowa libraries serving populations under 2,500.

The winning libraries that send a staff person to attend will need to pay the conference costs upfront. The State Library will then reimburse those libraries up to \$1,000.00 which includes these expenses only:

- Registration (scholarship recipients are eligible for the Early Bird member rate of \$275)
- Hotel (conference rate lodging is \$99 + tax for single/double occupancy per night)
- Travel to/from conference (air, train, etc.) and ground transportation to and from the airport/train station to the conference site. Parking at and ground transportation to and from the home airport/train station may also be included. **Note:** Due to the travel distance from Iowa to Nevada, the State Library will be unable to pay mileage to drive to the conference.

Other incidentals such as meals will need to be covered by the library or the attendee. Find all details, along with the grant application form, at the link below. All entries will be entered into a drawing. Applications must be submitted by **Wednesday July 28 at 4:30PM**; winners will be notified by Friday July 30.

[Apply For An ARSL Conference Grant](#)

## Next Big Ideas Book Discussion



### [Reimagining Collaboration](#) August 20th

The third title in **Big Ideas Book Discussions** this year is [Reimagining Collaboration: Slack, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, and the Post-Covid World of Work](#) (c2020) by Phil Simon. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> book from collaboration expert Phil Simon, wherein he urges readers to fully adapt to a new way of working in teams, believing that the year of pandemic has shown us the way. **This program is scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup> (9:30-11:00AM)**

From Amazon: *“Every day, people use these über-popular collaboration tools, but only in decidedly limited ways. Because most people are merely scratching the surface of what these robust collaboration hubs can do, they fail to realize the massive benefits. With rare exception, organizations, executives, and rank-and-file employees have historically worked in piecemeal fashion, lacking a holistic framework to fully understand the remarkable power of these applications ... until now.”*

In **Big Ideas Book Discussions**, State Library staff and partners 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 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**:

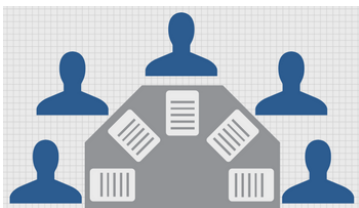
- titles help with collection development for participating libraries
- titles are good choices for local book discussion groups
- this program serves as another model for how to facilitate local book discussions

We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the **Big Ideas** series for your own collections. And join us for the next good read: [Reimagining Collaboration](#)

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## The Boardroom Series Continues

["It's Great to Collaborate"](#)  
August 24th



The third installment in **The Boardroom 2021** series—***It's Great to Collaborate***—is scheduled for **August 24**. (6:00-7:30PM) This year's **Boardroom** webinars bring in concepts from a variety of books, as we connect the books' ideas to the business of library boards.

***It's Great to Collaborate!*** points to the success that comes from fostering partnerships to advance projects. Considering logical partners within easy reach—like Friends Groups, other city departments, other libraries—this session looks at how library boards can help accomplish library goals—and even larger community goals—through collaboration.

This program is based on the book [Reimagining Collaboration](#) (c2020) by Phil Simon. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> book from collaboration expert Phil Simon, wherein he urges readers to “*fully adapt to a new way of working in teams, believing that the year of pandemic has shown us the way.*”

**There is no obligation to read the book prior to the program.** Attendance at this webinar helps satisfy standard #8 “*...all members of the library board of trustees participate in a variety of board development training each year...*”

<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/a-b/accr-and-standards/6thed.pdf>

[Register in IALearn](#)s

## Looking Ahead ...



Use your IALearn account to register for these upcoming July webinars

### **Acting on Input: Focus Groups. July 21. 10:00-11:00AM**

There is so much to say “yes” to—from tech trends to popular programming—that it’s easy for libraries to act on impulse. But the most responsive library services are developed around community input.

"Acting on Input" is a three-part series. This first installment looks at gathering community opinion through focus groups, an effective and certainly conversational way to hear people's thoughts about their community and their library. State Library consultants Becky Heil and Bonnie McKewon will share their insight into effectively using local focus groups, including who to invite and how to frame the conversation for best results.

### **Check It Out. July 27. 11:00AM-12:00PM**

Check It Out! is a webinar series spotlighting the best new books for ages 0-18. Angie Manfredi leads booktalks on the latest youth titles, offering collection development ideas and a glimpse at publishing trends.

[Register Today Inside IALearn](#)s



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