

Good Morning! Today in EYE-OPENER February 23, 2015

- 1) Iowa Library Association “Lobby From Home Days”
- 2) Children’s Book Festival
- 3) Nebraska’s Online Conference Feb27
- 4) Teen Tech Week March 6-14
- 5) Meetings / Events This Week



1) **Iowa Library Association “Lobby From Home Days:”** Calling all library boosters! The Iowa Library Association is sponsoring “**Lobby From Home Days**” on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday** this week. For several years, ILA has promoted “**Lobby From Home**” as an advocacy effort, calling on ILA members and non-members alike to contact area legislators and urge their support of increased library funding.

“**Lobby From Home Days**” in February is followed by **ILA Legislative Day** in March, this year on **March 18**. **ILA Legislative Day** is held in Des Moines and typically begins with a legislative briefing at the State Library, followed by a reception with Iowa legislators at the Capitol.

For both advocacy efforts, we need your help! Library directors and staff, trustees, Friends and Foundation members, and library patrons—all voices are needed, all voices are critical in communicating the importance of library service throughout Iowa: in schools, colleges, and communities large and small.

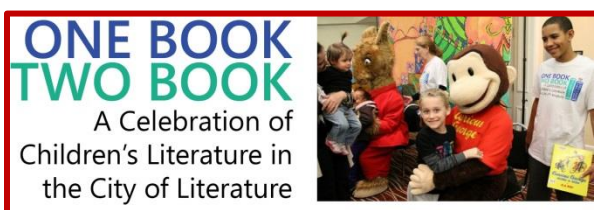
From **ILA’s 2015 Legislative Agenda**: *“...Libraries enrich Iowa. Iowans are turning to their libraries in increasing numbers: more than 51,000 Iowans use a library each day...for Internet access, early literacy programming, homework help, health care information, career development, and much more...”*

The ILA Legislative Agenda includes these goals:

- Continue to rebuild the support system for Iowa libraries by returning funding for Iowa Library Services to the pre-merger (2009) level...
- Include an increase of at least \$86,000.00 to allow Iowa Library Services to purchase new materials
- Continue to increase funding for Enrich Iowa to support the vital role of Iowa libraries
- Recognize and stipulate in all official documents that teacher-librarians are instructional staff as defined by the Dept. of Education and that teacher-librarians play a vital role in the educational team in each Iowa school district
- Preserve hometown governance in Iowa’s public libraries by maintaining autonomy for local public library boards

Today, ILA members can expect to receive an email from ILA's Governmental Affairs Committee with more. From Duncan Stewart, 2015 ILA President "... *Our lobbyists Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell do a great job in Des Moines, but they consistently tell us that it is your calls, emails, and conversations about Iowa libraries are the most effective way to inform legislators about the importance of funding for Iowa Library Services, Enrich Iowa, and the ongoing need for teacher librarians in Iowa schools. I hope you will take time tomorrow or Wednesday to look at the GAC email, contact your legislators, and celebrate ILA's 125 years of service to Iowa with your personal advocacy...*"

Visit ILA's website for a copy of the Legislative Agenda, talking points, library issues and financial forecasts, and more [www.iowalibraryassociation.org](http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org) Contact information for Iowa's house and senate can be found here <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/> Thank you for letting your voice be heard—**Lobby From Home** this week!



**2) Children's Book Festival:** This news comes courtesy of Susan Craig, Director of Iowa City Public Library. It concerns the **2015 Children's Book Festival** in Iowa City. Susan writes: "*One Book, Two Book*" is back this year, but it has moved from February to

*March, so hopefully a little more weather friendly. The big programming day is Saturday, March 7. The keynote author is year is David LaRoche, author of Moo! and The Best Pet of All. A Storytime Skills session at 1:00PM has been approved for continuing education credit. All programs take place at the Sheraton Hotel in Iowa City..."*

From the "**One Book, Two Book**" website: "...Like traditional book festivals, this offers the chance for attendees—in this case children and their families—to hear from published authors about their work. But more important is its second role: to champion writing by children. More than 800 of them, to be exact, all students in the Corridor who submitted one page of original writing. The best of these student writers will be recognized in two major events over the course of our festival, March 6-8, 2015..."

Also on tap during the festival next month:

- New programming this year will give parents some tools for introducing and encouraging reading
- a workshop about building storytime skills
- a workshop about how to use toys to promote reading
- an author panel that will give aspiring children's book authors the chance to ask questions of the pros.

Full information about the **Children's Book Festival** found here <http://www.onebooktwobook.org/saturday-schedule/>



**3) Nebraska's Online Conference Feb 27:** Nebraska State Library holds its annual online conference on **Friday February 27**. It's totally free and **registration is still open until Feb25**. Registration is open nationwide and to date, 416 people have signed up, with plenty of seats still available.

Nebraska's Online Conference is titled **"Big Talk From Small Libraries."**

<http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/> Running from **8:45AM to 5:00PM**, here are just a few of the topics on tap:

- Kickstart Community Caring
- Youth Programming: Art Against Bullying
- Using Zopim: Live Chat For Business and Reference
- The Library's Open: Meeting Community Needs By Giving Up Control
- Helping Technology Make Sense to Seniors

**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>



**4) Teen Tech Week March 8-14:** Special week-long opportunity for YA programming is coming up **March 8-14**—it's **Teen Tech Week**. This is a national initiative sponsored by the

**Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)** to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of technology, especially those that are offered through libraries. **Teen Tech Week** encourages teens to use libraries' non-print resources for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology.

This year's theme is **"Libraries Are For Making..."** The focus is on makerspaces, leading libraries to provide teens with spaces to extend learning beyond the classroom, spaces where kids can explore, create, and share their own content. **Teen Tech Week** is an opportunity to promote the library's digital resources and services to help teens succeed in school and prepare for college and 21st century careers.

Visit the ALA Online store [www.alastore.ala.org](http://www.alastore.ala.org) to find promotional products. Read more by visiting the **Teen Tech Week** website <http://teentechweek.ning.com>. And as you ramp up plans for **Teen Tech Week @ Your Library**, we'd love to hear what you'll be doing!

**5) Meetings / Events This Week:** On **Thursday** this week, Becky Heil and Bonnie McKewon lead a webinar for boards titled **"Jumpstart Your Trusteeship."** (6:00-7:30PM) This Thursday's webinar—**Toward Better Meetings**—concludes part 3 of a 3-part series.

On **Friday Feb27**, Eunice Riesberg leads **"Friday Tech Focus"** online (9:30-10:30AM) This time, the focus is on tools for generating graphics for flyers, posters, etc. Perfect for busy library staff ☺ Spend 30 minutes learning about new tools, then stay for informal discussion if you have time. Register by Wednesday in the c.e. catalog <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed>

A few more national webinars finish out February. Full descriptions and registration information here <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed>

**February 23.** 2:00-3:00PM. *Proposal Budgeting Basics* sponsored by GrantSpace <http://grantspace.org/classroom/training-calendar/online>

**February 24.** 1:00-2:00PM. *YA Announcements—Fresh Titles for Teens* sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

**February 24.** 2:00-3:00PM. Teen Learning Labs sponsored by Infopeople <http://infopeople.org/training/view/webinar>

**February 25.** 10:00-11:00AM. *Tech Talk with Michael Sauers* sponsored by Nebraska Library Commission <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventlist.asp?Mode=ALL>

**February 26.** 12:00-1:00PM. *The Golden Age of Gaming: Board Games for Grown-Ups* sponsored by WebJunction <http://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction.html>



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