

Monday Morning Eye-Opener January 4, 2021

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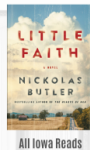
MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER



FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

Happy New Year!
January 4, 2021

2021 ALL IOWA
READS SELECTIONS
READ THE ANNOUNCEMENT



All Iowa Reads Author-Talk Webinar

All Three Authors Speaking on January 14th

In November, Iowa Public Television announced the three books chosen as the **All Iowa Reads** selections for 2021. To launch the **All Iowa Reads** program for this year, the State Library is sponsoring a webinar featuring all three authors discussing their books and answering your questions.

Make plans to join this webinar next **Thursday January 14th** (10:00AM-12:00PM) You'll hear from all three authors: Nicholas Butler, Randy Ribay, and Remy Lai. The State Library has multiple copies of all three **AIR** titles to lend for local book discussions; contact your District office to reserve copies. Here's a summary of each book in the **All Iowa Reads** line-up this year:

[Little Faith](#) by Nicholas Butler

From Good Reads *"In this moving new novel from celebrated author Nicholas Butler, a Wisconsin family grapples with the power and limitations of faith when one of their own falls under the influence of a radical church... Set over the course of one year and beautifully evoking the change of seasons, Little Faith is a powerful and deeply affecting intergenerational novel about family and community, the ways in which belief is both formed and shaken, and the lengths we go to protect our own."*

[Patron Saints of Nothing](#) by Randy Ribay

From Amazon: *"a powerful coming-of-age story about grief, guilt, and the risks a Filipino-American teenager takes to uncover the truth about his cousin's murder. [when Jay Requero] discovers that his Filipino cousin Jun was murdered as part of President Duterte's war on drugs, and no one in the family wants to talk about what happened, Jay travels to the Philippines to find out the real story. As gripping as it is lyrical, Patron Saints of Nothing is a page-turning portrayal of the struggle to reconcile faith, family, and immigrant identity..."*

[Pie in the Sky](#) by Remy Lai

Suggested ages 8-12. Chosen by *Parents Magazine* and NPR as the Best Kids Book of the Year in 2019, here's more from Amazon "...When Jingwen moves to a new country, he feels like he's landed on Mars. School is torture, making friends is impossible since he doesn't speak English, and he's often stuck looking after his (extremely irritating) little brother Yanghao. To distract himself from the loneliness, Jingwen daydreams about making all the cakes on the menu of Pie in the Sky, the bakery his father had planned to open before he unexpectedly passed away. The only problem is his mother has laid down one major rule: the brothers are not to use the oven while she's at work. As Jingwen and Yanghao bake elaborate cakes, they'll have to cook up elaborate excuses to keep the cake making a secret from Mama..."

Make plans to use all three of the **All Iowa Reads** books @ your library this year. And make plans to attend the **January 14th Author-Talk!**

Register Today !

Variety of January Classes



From Programming to The Boardroom to ILOC and More

In this first month of the new year, the State Library is offering several webinars for a variety of audiences and interests. All of these are open for registration in the **IALearns Catalog**, so look there for all details. For now,

this summary:

January 7 = An Empathy Driven Response to Covid-Related Behavior (10:00-11:00AM) **Description:** A look at ways to best support and empathize with patrons, colleagues, and ourselves through this stressful time. The past year has been challenging for everyone, patrons included, and we have to be extra mindful of how our interactions can be perceived. This session looks at how to empathetically work with patrons, especially when it comes to enforcing new COVID guidelines. Speakers have gathered tips found useful in learning to work with less emotional bandwidth.

January 12 = Winning at Winter: Outdoor Programming IS Possible! (1:30-2:30PM) **Description:** As COVID continues, winter doldrums settle in and virtual burnout happens among library staff and patrons. Maybe it's time to rethink your library programming--to think not just "outside the box," but to think OUTSIDE! This interactive webinar will help recharge your programming by getting you and your patrons moving outside this winter. With plenty of good, practical ideas, including examples from Iowa libraries, you're sure to leave this webinar with plenty of programming ideas to carry you through to spring.

January 21 = ILOC 2021: Libraries are for Everyone! Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion in Action in Iowa's Libraries (all day plus evening session) **Description:** The online conference from before online conferences were cool! Join the 14th Annual ILOC Conference: "Libraries are for Everyone! Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion in Action in Iowa's Libraries." Libraries have work to do to ensure their spaces, programs, and services are inclusive for all staff and patrons. This year, the ILOC conference will give librarians practical ideas and examples of how they can bring Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) concepts into their everyday activities in the library.

January 28 = Boardroom Series 2021: Debuting the new Iowa Library Trustees' Handbook, 2021 edition (6:00-7:30PM) **Description:** The Boardroom 2021 webinar series begins the new year by debuting the newly-revised Iowa Library Trustees' Handbook. With the new handbook front-and-center, we'll share chapter highlights and attendees will have the opportunity for breakout room discussions.. The third edition of the

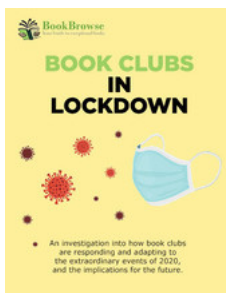
[Iowa Library Trustee's Handbook](#) c2021 is expected to be published on the State Library's website by mid-January. This reprises a similar webinar in October, but this time with the advantage of having the new publication in hand.

Summer Library Programming Work Sessions = spanning various days and time slots

Description: Revamped-for-COVID summer library programming discussions provide opportunities to talk with librarians from around the state about plans for summer 2021. There are bound to be more variables than ever in being able to provide safe & fun summer programming for your community. We've got ideas, but mostly we want to hear from you in ZOOM breakout sessions.

[Register For January '21 Classes](#)

Book Clubs in Lockdown



A New Report From BookBrowse

An October research study conducted by BookBrowse has led to a recent publication titled [Book Clubs in Lockdown](#). More than 3,000 book club members connected with BookBrowse took part in the survey. The resulting report [Book Clubs in Lockdown](#) includes stories about how book clubs adapted to the challenges of 2020. Most survey participants noted that their adaptations will impact their book discussion groups for the long term, well after a return to normalcy.

From the study: *"The pandemic has been an impetus for clubs and members to embrace technology that they had previously avoided (such as eBooks and virtual meetings) with many groups proactively helping members to master these new skills. Respondents meeting virtually greatly appreciate that technology allows them to stay connected and maintain a sense of community."*

A Few Findings

- In general, technology adoption is viewed as a positive, with Zoom described as a "lifeline." Admittedly, some clubs struggle with technical issues and virtual etiquette, and many groups are temporarily missing members who are unable or unwilling to meet virtually.
- Virtual book discussions tend to be less free-flowing. This is seen as a positive by many, who say their group's discussions are more focused and inclusive due to fewer side conversations; others miss the organic flow of an in-person discussions.
- The great majority of respondents are looking forward to meeting again in person when conditions allow, but many who are currently meeting virtually expect to retain a virtual component. 29% of respondents expect to continue using video technology to allow absent members to join in-person meetings, or to host entire meetings virtually when weather conditions are poor. In an earlier study, we found that some former or potential book club members were not in book clubs due to childcare costs, frequent travel, disabilities, and other obstacles. Virtual or hybrid clubs would likely be appealing options for many such people.
- As an added benefit to meeting online, groups have discovered how easy it is to invite authors to join them on Zoom.

[Book Clubs in Lockdown](#) marks the second research study from BookBrowse; in 2019, they published the [Inner Lives of Book Clubs](#). Anyone can download a free copy of [Book](#)

Clubs in Lockdown at the button below. You're welcome to share the national findings locally within your library, in newsletters, via social media, and certainly with your own book discussion groups.

Free Download: [Book Clubs in Lockdown](#)

This Week ...



This **Wednesday January 6** (2:00-3:00PM) Marie Harms continues instructional sessions on using the new Concrete5 PLOW websites.

[Register Inside IALearns](#)

This **Thursday January 7 = An Empathy Driven Response to Covid-Related Behavior** (10:00-11:00AM) A look at ways to best support and empathize with patrons, colleagues, and

ourselves through this stressful time. The past year has been challenging for everyone, patrons included, and we have to be extra mindful of how our interactions can be perceived. This session takes a look at how to positively and empathetically work with patrons, especially when it comes to enforcing new COVID guidelines. Presenters have gathered tips and resources found useful throughout the past year.

[Register Inside IALearns](#)



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