

Monday Morning Eye-Opener February 15, 2021

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



February 15, 2021

ISLA Spring Meeting

March 26, 2021

Next month, the **Iowa Small Library Association (ISLA)** a subdivision of the Iowa Library Association, holds its 2021 spring meeting. Scheduled for **March 26**, this spring's **ISLA** event will be held virtually, beginning with a business meeting at 9:00AM and followed by a two-hour continuing education component from 10:00AM-12:00PM.



During the C.E. portion of the day, State Library staff Angie Manfredi and Samantha Bouwers discuss what equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in action can look like @ your library. Angie is the Youth Services Consultant, Samantha is the Continuing Education Consultant.

In this session, attendees will hear more about how and why the State Library selected EDI as its continuing education theme for 2021 and what that will look like in training provided from the state. Participants will come to appreciate why no library or community is too small to benefit from EDI work. Take away tips on how to ramp up with EDI work, learn about diversity audits, the importance of spotlighting diverse titles, and overall best practices regarding EDI work. Plenty of time for Q&A.

Because this program is sponsored by **ISLA**, their program planners are handling registration via Google Docs. All staff from Iowa's small libraries are welcome to attend, whether members of **ISLA** or not. Click the button below for the registration form; you are asked to register by March 24.

[Register for ISLA Spring Meeting](#)

E-Rate Filing Windows Open

The Schools and Libraries Program, more commonly known as the **E-Rate Program**, helps make Internet access more affordable for schools and libraries. Contributions from

telecommunications companies across the country provide discounts from 50-90% off the cost of Internet access, as well as off the cost of network wiring within library and school buildings. The actual amount of the discounts are based on each community's poverty level.



Important Deadlines for Filing Year 2021-2022

February 25, 2021: Form 470 window closes (currently open) This form is required to open the bidding process.

March 25, 2021: Form 471 window closes (currently open) This form is required; libraries select the internet provider and the price charged for service to the library.

Assistance From State Library

State Library staff—namely the **Library Resource Technicians for each District**—are happy to answer questions about the E-Rate process and are able to assist libraries with completing the required paperwork. All filing is done online and in a specific sequence within allowable filing windows. Please contact your **District Library Resource Technician (LRT)** to schedule an appointment for assistance in filing the first forms in the process—Forms 470 and 471. The **LRTs** are trained to provide direct guidance as you walk through the form on your own computer.

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[Read More About The E-Rate Program](#)



Nebraska's Annual Virtual Conference

"Big Talk From Small Libraries"
February 26, 2021

Just last month, the State Library of Iowa held our annual online conference called **ILOC**. Now this month, our neighbors at the Nebraska State Library hold their annual virtual conference on **Friday February 26 (8:45AM—5:00PM)** Nebraska's online conference is called "**Big Talk From Small Libraries**" and their website actually credits Iowa with the idea "*...**Big Talk From Small Libraries** was inspired by Iowa's Innovative Libraries Online Conference; our event wouldn't exist without their advice and encouragement...*"

From their website: "*...This free one-day online conference is aimed at librarians from small libraries—the smaller the better! Each of our speakers is from a library serving fewer than 10,000 people or directly works with small libraries. Topics range from technology to programming ... this event is a great opportunity to learn about the innovative things your colleagues are doing in their small libraries.*"

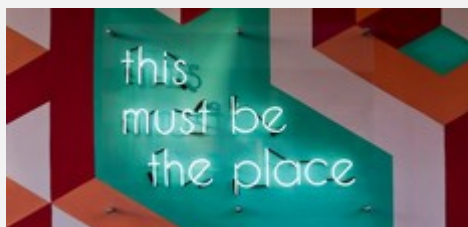
Find more on the **Big Talk From Small Libraries** site at the button below; here's a glimpse at just a few of their breakout sessions:

- The Lone Librarian: Programming Creations and Cultivating Connections
- We Might Be Small, But We Are Mighty!
- School Library Lessons for the Public Library World
- Grant Writing: Templates to Success

Big Talk From Small Libraries is broadcast online using GoToWebinar software. GoToWebinar works on Windows, Mac, Google Chrome OS, Linux, iOS and Android devices. Login instructions will be emailed to registered attendees the day before the conference. Like Iowa's **ILOC** event, Nebraska does plan on recording all **Big Talk** sessions, with recordings posted to their conference website.

[Register For "Big Talk For Small Libraries"](#)

This Week ...



PLOW Website Instruction

Wednesday February 17 (2:00-3:00PM) Marie Harms continues instructional sessions on using the new Concrete5 PLOW websites.

[Register Inside IALearn](#)s

Pop YS Live

Thursday February 18, catch **Pop YS Live (1:00-2:00PM)** "Are you looking for a way to up engagement, circulation, and spotlight books by often lesser known or marginalized authors? This session will introduce you to a variety of reading challenges designed to spotlight the work of Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) offering ideas for how to promote and share them @ your library."

[Register Inside IALearn](#)s

Big Ideas Book Discussion

Friday February 19 is the first **Big Ideas Book Discussion** for the new year (9:30-11:00AM) We'll talk about Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times by Katherine May. A fitting title in this frozen February, Wintering is decidedly a "comfort read," a book that NPR describes as "*contemplative, hopeful, and consoling.*" In **Big Ideas Book Discussions**, State Library staff facilitate discussions using books outside of library management—on leadership, presentation skills, workplace relations—and connect those ideas with public library service. We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the **Big Ideas** series for local collections

[Register Inside IALearns](#)



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