

Monday Morning Eye-Opener March 29, 2021

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



March 29, 2021



Renewing Participation in BRIDGES

This summary regarding the **BRIDGES** eBook service is thanks to Eunice Riesberg, Consultant with Northeast District. Recently, the State Library issued an RFP for **BRIDGES**, the downloadable eBook / audiobook service for Iowa public libraries. The existing contract with OverDrive is due to expire this June, and as a state agency, we are required to go through a bid process in order to secure a new contract. The RFP is found here <http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov>. Note that this is a separate process from the current online resources review project that is happening concurrently.

Eunice writes: "...As was true in 2015, this bidding process pushes back our normal re-enrollment procedure by a few months. We will wait until the new contract is signed to issue the **FY22 Letters of Agreement** for you to sign. We look for that to happen in early June, so we will be expecting a quick turnaround on the signed agreements. We suggest putting this item on your board agendas in May so you're ready to get the **Letters of Agreement** signed as soon as possible when they are released..."

Anticipated Timeline

The bidding process will also slow down the process for libraries joining **BRIDGES** for the first time. We anticipate new libraries will be able to enroll and be onboarded in the first quarter of FY22. Here is our estimated timeframe for current **BRIDGES** libraries and those wanting to join

- **May ==** Place the topic "**BRIDGES RENEWAL**" on your board agendas, so that boards approve renewing participation ahead of when the **Letters of Agreement** arrive in June; this way, you can secure the needed signatures quickly without waiting for another board meeting.

- **Early June** == Contract signed by State Library and selected vendor; **Letters of Agreement** issued to current **BRIDGES** member libraries
- **Mid-June** == Return your library's signed **Letter of Agreement**
- **Late September** == New libraries enroll and onboarded to **BRIDGES**

Understand that this schedule is tentative and may change; we will communicate any important updates as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact anyone from the **BRIDGES Team**. And thank you for thinking ahead and ensuring a smooth transition to the new **BRIDGES** contract for FY22!

The BRIDGES Team

[Misty Gray](#) (515-725-3371) [Becky Heil](#) (515-725-3368)

[Jay Peterson](#) (515-281-4499) [Eunice Riesberg](#) (515-725-3370)

Looking For BRIDGES Selectors



Join Our Collection Development Team!

The State Library of Iowa is looking for volunteers to serve on a collection development team to choose materials for the **BRIDGES** Consortium. Our goal is to have a group of eighteen people in place by late spring, with the new selectors taking over July 1st.

Here's How It Will Work

- Collection development responsibilities will rotate among team members, with each member responsible for choosing and ordering materials (both audiobooks and eBooks) two months of the year. This will be a three-year commitment, for a total of six months.
- There will be three people selecting each month: one for adult non-fiction, one for adult fiction and one for youth materials--both children and teens. Selectors will operate within an established monthly budget.
- Any staff member from a **BRIDGES** library is welcome to apply. We anticipate the time commitment to be 5-10 hours per month and again, only in the months when people are actually assigned the selection.
- Committee members will be provided with a collection development policy and instructions in the selection process.

If you are interested in serving on the BRIDGES Selection Team, please complete the survey at the button below by April 9; all applicants will be notified by April 23.

As noted in the article above, because the State Library is going through a bid process for a product to provide a platform for downloadable eBooks, it is possible this timeline and process may change.

You're welcome to send any questions to [Becky Heil](#), Consultant at Southeast District and member of the BRIDGES Team

BRIDGES Selection Team Application



Earth's Bounty Program April 22, 2021

The Iowa Center for the Book will be holding a virtual event for the **Earth's Bounty** program which centers on Iowa's agricultural heritage. This event is scheduled for **Thursday April 22 at 7:00PM** and will feature two guest speakers: a history professor and a farmer storyteller. Both speakers will address the state's rich history of agriculture, as well as modern challenges and triumphs of farming in Iowa. Following their presentations, the speakers will take questions from the audience submitted via chat.

Library staff, please help us spread the word about this program ... here's how

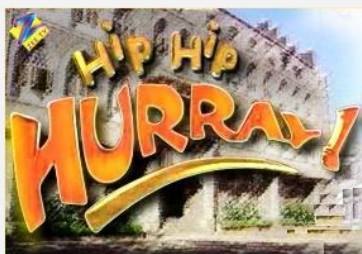
- Download and display the [event poster](#) at your library
- RSVP and share the [Facebook Event](#) on your library's Facebook page

Everyone interested should register by clicking the button below to receive the Zoom room link. Note that individuals are expected to register themselves, so share the ZOOM registration and not the webinar room link. Please register by April 22 for Earth's Bounty Program.

Earth's Bounty in Iowa, developed and organized by the Iowa Center for the Book at the State Library of Iowa, is the result of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities; this grant makes possible two-year programming on Iowa's agricultural history.

[Register For Earth's Bounty Program](#)

This Week ...



Hoorays All Around !

The State Library's new **Endorsement Program** opened last week with impressive registration numbers == 70 people registered within the first few days!

The long-standing PLM1-PLM2 certification program was entirely revamped last year. Courses leading to a **Director Endorsement** or a **Staff Endorsement** are now self-paced, all course content is accessed through **IAlearns**. Last week's **Eye-Opener** tooted the news, follow the [Endorsement Program](#) webpage, complete with an introductory tutorial and the link to enroll :-)

In ZOOM This Week ...

Bibilodiversity @ Storm Lake PL

March 31st (10:30-11:30AM) At Storm Lake Public Library, the staff and trustees have made an intentional practice of bibliodiversity, including: hosting diverse community programs, purchasing materials in multiple languages, supporting the public school's bilingual curriculum, and more. Learn how this program has developed over many years and what aspects are particularly successful at Storm Lake Public Library.

PLOW Website Instruction

Wednesday March 24th (2:00-3:00PM) Marie Harms continues instructional sessions on using the new Concrete5 PLOW websites.

Register for this week's webinars inside IALearns

[IALearns Registration](#)



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