

Monday Morning Eye-Opener October 4, 2021

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



October 4, 2021

New Youth Services Consultant



State Library Welcomes Tegan Beese

The State Library is pleased to welcome Tegan Beese as our agency's new Youth Services Consultant. She is filling the position vacated by Angie Manfredi, who resigned this summer. Tegan has worked in libraries since 2014, starting at Lake Villa District Library in Illinois and most recently at Ankeny Public Library. She has worked in every department of the library, giving her a well-rounded experience, but youth services is where her heart lies.

Tegan graduated with her Masters of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2018 and is currently obtaining her Masters of Fine Arts in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts (set to graduate January 2022). She loves suggesting books and is happy to give recommendations for all ages. When not reading or writing she can be found spending time with her husband, playing with her pets, or unsuccessfully (thus far) trying not to kill her plants.

Iowa's youth services staff are encouraged to reach out to Tegan with questions—or with invitations to youth-related events! **Email** tegan.beese@iowa.gov **Phone** 1-800-248-4483

Welcome, Tegan!



HEALTH LITERACY MONTH

Building Awareness Through Action

October is Health Literacy Month

October is designated as **Health Literacy Month**. Following a grim pandemic year and with COVID issues still worrisome, this is an opportune time for libraries to promote and support health literacy.

This annual, worldwide, awareness-raising event began in 1999. Since then, health care organizations, community services, government agencies, colleges, and many others have hosted a wide range of **Health Literacy Month** activities. Assisting in the cause is the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and the American Library Association (ALA): these two agencies have partnered to create [a free toolkit](#) for raising awareness of how libraries support health literacy in their communities and is part of the **Libraries Transform** campaign.

The theme for **Health Literacy Month** is **“Building Awareness Through Action.”** From the **Health Literacy Month** website *“This month, we will work together to shift from health literacy awareness to health literacy action by building a world where all individuals have access to quality health outcomes.”* To help public libraries move from health awareness to health action, the program website also provides a toolkit--linked at the button below--which includes social media graphics, video clips, print posters and flyers, even ZOOM room backgrounds.

Library policies prevent staff from answering specific patron questions regarding medical conditions or treatment options. But staff can certainly guide library users to reliable and authoritative health information, allowing patrons to make more educated health-related decisions. Promote **October as Health Literacy Month @ Your Library**.

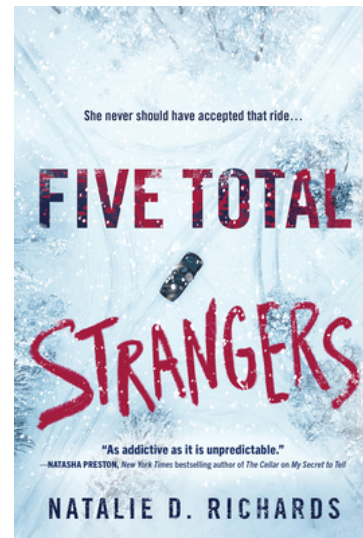
[Read More About Health Literacy Month](#)

OverDrive's Next Big Library Read

Five Total Strangers by Natalie Richards

Big Library Read is literally a global reading program--a worldwide digital version of a book discussion club. Sponsored by OverDrive, this program represents an opportunity to connect your local readers with book lovers around the world as they read and discuss the same book at the same time without wait lists or holds.

Held three times each year, the next **Big Library Read** starts on November 1st with the title [Five Total Strangers](#) by Natalie Richards. The eBook and audiobook formats will be available for simultaneous download from November 1-15. Find them through BRIDGES beginning November 1st; discussion guides will be uploaded soon on the **Big Library Read** website at the button below.



A definite thriller, here's a quick description of [Five Total Strangers](#) from GoodReads *“A hitched ride home in a snow storm turns sinister when one of the passengers is plotting for the ride to end in disaster. Soon, it's not just dealing with heavy snowfall and ice-slick roads, but the fact that somebody will stop at nothing to ensure this trip ends in a deadly disaster...”*

Public and school libraries can download promotional materials on the **Big Library Read** site. Find press releases and marketing materials, including social media graphics, promos, and print posters. Plan to connect your readers with others around the world during **OverDrive's next Big Library Read** coming up on November 1st.

This Week ...



The Iowa Library Association Annual Conference

This week is the **annual conference** of the **Iowa Library Association, October 6-8 in Des Moines**. This year's conference theme is **"And Other Duties As Assigned."**

Because several State Library staff will be attending, thanks in advance for your patience as those of us out-of-the-office may be a little tardy in returning emails and phone calls later this week. Be sure to visit the State Library booth in the exhibit hall ... and safe travels to everyone headed to the **ILA Conference** in Des Moines.

Thanks to all who attended the **State Library Learning Circuit** last Thursday. About 145 people registered for the all-day virtual workshop on trauma-informed care, customer service, and journey mapping. It was a full day of fresh perspectives, we appreciate your participation!



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