

Monday Morning Eye-Opener February 7, 2022

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Press Release Available

Libraries that received an ARPA Grant last summer received a press release last month. Thanks to Emily Bainter, State Library Communications Specialist, grant recipients can download a Word document, customize it with local library information, and send it off to local media outlets.

Last summer, the State Library awarded Iowa public libraries up to \$5,000 from a portion of its of funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant funds are being used for materials and technology to support digital inclusion efforts. Grant projects are enabling libraries to be community partners in supporting education, health, and workforce development needs, responding to pandemic needs, or promoting public health protocols.

"We were excited to offer these ARPA grants to public libraries and now we anticipate the positive outcomes that will result, especially because we believe the ones who will benefit most are library patrons." said Michael Scott, State Librarian of Iowa.

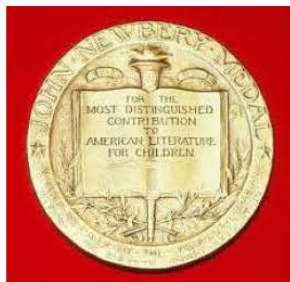
And grant winners, one more reminder: if you haven't already done so, **claims for reimbursement are due by April 29**. After the items, goods, or services have been received, request the grant funds in the form of a reimbursement. The reimbursement form will be sent via e-mail to the library through DocuSign. Note there will also be a final grant report due from all recipients. That particular report form is not ready yet, but stay tuned...

So if your library received an ARPA grant, be sure to tout this award and the value it brings to your community. The sample press release provided by Emily helps tell the story, plus being a welcome time-saver!

[ARPA Grant Press Release](#)

ALA Announces Award-Winning Books

**Newbery and Caldecott Medals
Among Them**



Last month, the American Library Association announced its 2022 literary award winners in youth and children's literature. Including books, digital media, eBooks, and audiobooks, these anticipated award winners lead to ideal purchases for library collections, promotions, and programming. Here are just a few of the 2022 winners:

The John Newbery Medal, given for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature = [The Last Cuentista](#) by Donna Barba Higuera

The Randolph Caldecott Medal, given for the most distinguished American picture book for children = [Watercress](#) illustrated by Jason Chin, written by Andrea Wang

The Coretta Scott King Book Award, recognizing an African American author and illustrator of outstanding books for children and young adults = [Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre](#) written by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Floyd Cooper

The William C. Morris Award, given for a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens = [The Firekeeper's Daughter](#) by Angeline Boulley

YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults = [Ambushed: The Assassination Plot Against President Andrew Garfield](#) by Gail Jarrow

Find the full listing of ALA's 2022 Award Winners for Youth and Children's Literature at ALA's website.

ALA Award Winning Books 2022

Paint Iowa Beautiful Grants

From the Keep Iowa Beautiful Project

Through a partnership with Diamond Vogel Paint of Orange City, Iowa civic groups can receive a grant for community enhancement projects and parks.

From the project website: *"Keeping up the appearance of buildings, facilities, and parks is an important component of viable communities. Well-maintained and painted buildings reflect pride in communities. This program provides free paint to a wide variety of public service projects throughout Iowa."*

From Doug Vogel, Vice President of Marketing for Diamond Vogel: *"This partnership with Keep Iowa Beautiful allows Diamond Vogel to assist and work with many local volunteers that help build communities, making Iowa a great place to live. This is a great opportunity for Iowans to improve the attractiveness of their communities."*

Kevin Techau, Executive Director of Keep Iowa Beautiful adds *"The Paint Iowa Beautiful program helps us increase our assistance to neighborhoods and communities in improving the attractiveness and beauty of where we live. These projects definitely improve the beauty of Iowa, its countryside, and its communities."*

In the 19-year partnership with **Keep Iowa Beautiful**, Diamond Vogel has awarded over 11,860 gallons of paint for 1,132 community projects in Iowa. **The online grant application is open, but note the deadline is coming up soon—February 14, 2022.**



Paint Iowa Beautiful Grant Application

Lobby From Home Day + February Webinars



Tomorrow February 8th is ILA's **"Lobby From Home Day."**

Each year, the Iowa Library Association sponsors this advocacy effort that urges library trustees, Friends Groups, and patrons to contact their area legislators, impressing upon them how necessary libraries are in community life.

From ILA's website "...Contact your state legislator to say "Thank You" and to remind them how important your library is to your community. They love hearing from local constituents even more than from librarians. And find a way to get your patrons involved."

As you plan your upcoming conversations with local legislators, you'll benefit from [ILA's Legislative Agenda](#)

Universal Design and Libraries. February 10. 1:00-2:00PM

The State Library's partnership with the Iowa Dept for the Blind continues with more webinars. February's topic is all about Universal Design in Learning (UDL) and how it can be used by libraries to ensure accessibility. UDL is a way of using a variety of strategies to create resources and setting up physical spaces to reach all individuals. The webinar will go over the basics of UDL as well as some real-world examples of how you can use UDL in your libraries.

[Register in IALeams](#)

Program From the Iowa State Bar Association. February 21st. 3:30-5:30

Iowa public libraries are encouraged to promote this free webinar via ZOOM on February 21st. Sponsored by the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa National Bar Association, the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys, and the Polk County Bar Association, this event is titled **"Brown v. Board of Education 1954"** and centers on the U.S. Supreme Court decision that ruled separate schools for black and white students are inherently unequal. The presentation will be followed by a discussion with panelists who attended segregated schools.

This is intended as community programming, making an ideal opportunity for a ready-made program bringing generations together. Join in the promotion and hold a watch party @ your library! State Law Librarian Mandy Easter has posted this news and more program details on Library Talk, contact Mandy with questions (mandy.easter@iowa.gov)

[Click To Register](#)

Libraries and Social Workers. February 23rd. 2:00-3:00PM

The State Library is sponsoring a webinar on February 23rd titled **"Libraries and Social Workers: What a Collaboration Could Look Like in Your Library."** Social workers have been working in collaboration with libraries for over a decade. They address patron psychosocial needs such as resources for poverty, mental health problems, substance abuse, or health problems. This successful collaboration is found across the country in urban and rural libraries.

Dr. Beth Wahler, the Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, is a key researcher on these collaborative efforts with a specific focus on smaller library systems. In this webinar, she will present several models of what addressing patron psychosocial needs could look like in your library. Dr. Wahler will also explain her collaboration with the State Library of Iowa and how you can get involved.

[Register Inside IALeams](#)

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