

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener March 21, 2022

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



March 21, 2022

### State Library Welcomes Brenda Hall



#### As LSN Program Director

The State Library is pleased to welcome Brenda Hall to our staff! She begins work this week, stepping into the Program Director position vacated by Nancy Medema, who retired in December. Brenda will lead the Library Support Network, overseeing the many programs and services provided to Iowa's public libraries, as well as overseeing the agency's federal funding.

Brenda comes to the State Library with 17 years of public library experience, most recently as branch manager of the Southside Branch of the Des Moines Public Library. In addition to the duties noted above, she joins the State Library just in time to help develop the next five-year strategic plan for the agency, so just a few things to do 😊 Emily Bainter shares the following "Getting to Know Brenda" Q&A:

**How long have you worked in libraries and what is your background?** I started in libraries as an assistant with an emphasis on teen services. My background in education and love for libraries were a perfect match to work with youth. In that role, I co-authored two Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) manuals and traveled throughout the state providing summer reading workshops. While working for the public library, I earned my MLIS and in 2012 was promoted to senior librarian where I had the opportunity to gain management experience working in a multi-branch system. In 2015, I became the supervisor of a branch library. I have seventeen years public library experience. My biggest accomplishments are cultivating a dynamic team focused on community outreach and accessibility. I love taking on projects and have experience with strategic planning, systems selection, and significant building renovation projects.

**What are three words your coworkers would use to describe you?** I just went to the workroom and asked two librarians who said: organized, thoughtful, and fun. In my reviews, I've been named a change-agent and thought-leader.

**What are you most looking forward to in your new role at the State Library?** I am happiest when I am of service and working to make an impact. I love goal setting and

leading teams. I am a people-person and look forward to making connections and providing support throughout the state.

**Do you have a favorite book or movie?** I am on a Taylor Jenkins Reid kick. I love books with a strong sense of place.

Starting March 25, you're welcome to contact Brenda at

[brenda.hall@iowa.gov](mailto:brenda.hall@iowa.gov) or call 515-281-4328.

**On behalf of all of us at the State Library—welcome, Brenda!**

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## Join OverDrive's Next Big Library Read

**April 4-18, 2022**

Sponsored by OverDrive, the **Next Big Library Read** is coming up April 4-18, 2022. And the next title in the lineup: [Music Is History](#) by Questlove. The author's name will be familiar to fans of *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon* because Questlove is the *Tonight Show's* musical director.



From OverDrive's website: "*Questlove's book includes critical inquiries about black life in America; the book is complemented by his own memories as a music fan and the way his appetite for pop culture taught him about America. A history of the last half-century and an intimate conversation with one of music's most influential and original voices, [Music Is History](#) is a singular look at contemporary America.*"

OverDrive's **Big Library Read** is literally a global eBook reading club—and your own library can easily join the club. Connect your own patrons with readers around the world as everyone reads the same book at the same time. Without wait lists or reserves, [Music is History](#) will be available for simultaneous downloads from April 4-18. When the **Big Library Read** event launches, the book will be available in the **BRIDGES** collection.

So your local book groups can go global simply by downloading OverDrive's marketing materials and promoting this program around your community. Download marketing materials to help get the word out. And readers can use **#biglibraryread** on social media for a chance to win a pair of Apple AirPods Pro.

**OverDrive's Big Library Read April 4-18**

### **Reminder: Bridges Letter of Agreement**

Speaking of eBooks prompts this reminder: it's time to complete your **BRIDGES Letter of Agreement**. Whether your library is a current member or joining for the first time, you are required to return a **Letter of Agreement** to be included in the consortium. Sign and return your **Bridges Letter of Agreement** by March 31st. At this writing, 350 libraries have done so--thank you!

Note that you will receive invoicing for your annual subscription in July. Please **DO NOT** send payment before you have your invoice in hand, then follow instructions for issuing

and mailing a check or for paying online.

## BRIDGES Letter of Agreement



[MONEYSMARTWEEK.ORG](http://MONEYSMARTWEEK.ORG)

### Promote Money Smart Week @ Your Library

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Money Smart Week**. Coordinated by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, **Money Smart Week** is a national public education program, empowering people with the knowledge and skills to make better informed financial decisions. Public libraries can be important civic partners in this effort simply by promoting this free, online programming in local communities. This year's recognition week is **April 9-16, 2022**.

**Money Smart Week** began in 2002 as a coordinated effort of more than 40 Chicago-area organizations working together to promote financial literacy. **Money Smart Week** programming focuses on supporting the needs of low-to-moderate income households to encourage greater financial well-being in our nation's communities

**Money Smart Week 2022** presentations are entirely virtual and focused on four themes displayed below. All events are free and open to the public; registration is advised. Questions for the panelists can be submitted during the registration process at the link below. This year's content will be provided by government, non-profit, and educational institutions through a combination of presentations, toolkits, and other pertinent resources.

#### 2022 Money Smart Presentation Themes

- Spend Smart, Eat Smart
- Credit: Build It and Improve It
- Buying or Refinancing a Home: Options & Tools
- Social Security: Understanding Retirement, Spouse, and Survivor Benefits

Last year's campaign reached 9,236 registrants across 47 states, 42% of whom represented low-to-moderate income communities. Join this year's programming--learn how to participate in **Money Smart Week @ Your Library**.

## This Week ...



### PopYS Conference Registration Deadline Is Today

If you're planning to attend the State Library's conference for youth services—**PopYS Con**—it's coming up **April 4-5 at the Gateway Hotel & Conference Center in Ames**. This very day is the last day to register. Click below for registration and all PopYS Conference details.

[Register for PopYS Conference](#)

### All Iowa Reads 2022: Exploring the Shortlists. March 22. 2:00-3:00PM.

This webinar introduces the 2022 All Iowa Reads shortlists. Hear booktalks and read-alike selections for the books on the adult list from Leslie Heinzler and Bethany Nelson, Co-Chairs of the Adult Selection Committee. And hear about books for kids and teens from Youth Services Consultant Tegan Beese. Look at new resources provided for the shortlist titles and use these books to develop all kinds of programming at your library. Bring your stories of book club successes to share with the group in chat.

[Register in IALearns](#)

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