

Monday Morning Eye-Opener April 25, 2022

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



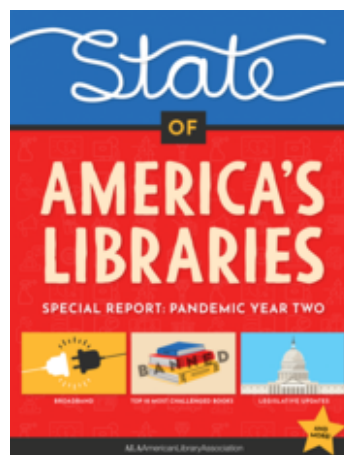
April 25, 2022

State of America's Libraries Report

Each year during National Library Week, ALA releases a publication titled The State of America's Libraries Report. With each report, ALA editors look back on the year past with stories about library funding, programming, advocacy efforts, and more. The look back at 2021 is a retelling of how library staff across the country moved through “pandemic year two,” an upswing in book challenges across the country, and creative ways in which libraries met community needs.

ALA president Patricia Wong writes *“As a I write this, we have persevered through the initial pandemic and remained resolute in the face of Delta and Omicron.*

Throughout the pandemic, library professionals served their communities in person, online, via phone, bookmobile, and even drone. When demand for the vaccine outstripped supply last year, libraries set up “vaccine hunter” hotlines. Later when jabs were more plentiful, some libraries operated as vaccination sites. It’s been such a privilege to be a part of this profession at a time of such great resolve.”



Facts from the Full Report

Here are some statistics that impacted Americans and their libraries in the past year:

- 93% of public libraries provided or planned to provide free Wi-Fi access on their grounds even when their buildings were closed to the public, while 44% of public libraries moved routers outdoors to improve public access and 23% of libraries provided WiFi hotspots for patrons to check out and use at home
- Hundreds of Iowa’s public libraries received individual, non-competitive grants of \$5,000 each through ARPA—the American Rescue Plan Act.
- When Americans sat down to read a book in 2021, one-in-three people opted to read an eBook on their tablets and mobile phones; according to OverDrive, readers worldwide downloaded out ½ billion eBooks and e-audiobooks in 2021, marking a new record.
- More than 88% of all public libraries offer formal or informal digital literacy programming; one-in-five libraries provide classes (formal or informal) related to

coding, computer programming, robotics, and 3D printing.

Book Challenges in 2021

The [State of America's Libraries Report](#) also includes ALA's tradition of including the **Top 10 Most Challenged Books** of the past year. Among the titles that made the 2021 list are [The Hate You Give](#) by Angie Thomas and [The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian](#) by Sherman Alexie. ALA found that between September 1 through November 30, 2021 more than 330 unique cases of challenged books were reported, doubling the number of reports from 2020, which saw 156 challenges.

The full ALA report is a free PDF download. Read more about the nation's libraries, financial conditions, and advocacy efforts, as well as the **Top Ten Most Challenged Books of 2021**. Alongside the full [State of America's Libraries Report](#), find social media graphics and messages at the button below

State of America's Libraries Report 2022

New Library Science Titles



A Library Collection for Library Staff

This is a needed reminder from time to time, courtesy of Continuing Education Consultant Samantha Bowers. And it's this: the State Library maintains a library science collection at our headquarters in Des Moines. Library science titles can be expensive additions to local collections. So this is a valuable niche that the State Library can fill by providing a professional development collection for Iowa librarians to borrow from our agency.

There are actually two collections to browse. The State Library's physical collection in Des Moines contains over 4,000 titles; 63 items were added so far this fiscal year. Here are just a few:

- [209 Big Programming Ideas for Small Budgets](#)—notably by Iowa librarian Chelsea Price
- [Crucial Conversations](#) (3rd edition)
- [Libraries & Sustainability: Programs and Practices for Community Impact](#)

- [Counting: How to Use Numbers to Decide What Matters](#)
- [Exhibits & Displays: A Practical Guide for Librarians](#)

In addition to the Des Moines collection, the [BRIDGES](#) collection contains over 100 digital library science titles, including

- [Great Library Events: From Planning to Promotion to Evaluation](#)
- [Before the Ballot: Building Political Support for Library Funding](#)
- [Power Up Your Read-Alouds: Building Reading Excitement Through Technology](#)
- [Tech Savvy Reading Promotion: A Toolbox for Librarians and Other Educators](#)
- [Library Volunteers: A Practical Guide for Librarians](#)

And Sam shares a snappy new feature on the main page of the State Library's online catalog. Added by Amy Rollinger, the new feature is a carousel of books newly added to the Des Moines professional collection. Click the button to browse our online catalog and see how to borrow books through Interlibrary Loan. Thanks to Sam for this needed reminder and to Amy for the carousel display of new library science titles!

[Library Science Titles in State Library Collection](#)

Iowa Small Libraries Spring Meeting

Iowa Small Library Association



Empowering Iowa's Small Libraries

Online May 6th

Look ahead to May 6—that's the **Iowa Small Library Association (ISLA) Spring Business Meeting and Continuing Education Program**. And it all happens online via ZOOM, The day starts at 9:00Am with the business meeting, followed by two C.E. programs running from 10:00AM-12:00PM.

ISLA is a division of the Iowa Library Association. Its purpose is to offer a channel for receiving information on issues affecting small public libraries and to provide a means for sharing problems, solutions, programs, experiences, and ideas of concern to small public libraries.

Continuing Education Portion

10:00AM. Relighting Your Programming Fire: Combating Job-Related Burnout and Guilt to Make Programming Fun Again Presented by Chelsea Price, Meservey Public Library Director. *"If you're running on empty, it can be difficult to do your job with a smile on your face. This presentation will focus on the positive; attendees will leave with plenty of new resources and will feel excited about their job."*

11:00AM. The Value of Mentorship and Resource Sharing Program for Small and Rural Libraries Presented by Misty VonBehren, Perry Public Library Deputy Director; Library Science Graduate Student at University of Nebraska at Omaha. *"Follow the research that illustrates the importance of mentorship and resource sharing within the library community. Then learn how mentorship can be implemented in Iowa libraries."*

Reminders ...



Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement

A reminder to renew your library's participation in the **Enrich Iowa Program**. Remember that **Enrich Iowa** is made up of three distinct programs: **Open Access**, **ILL Reimbursement**, and **Direct State Aid** which is the funding awarded for meeting public library standards. The agreements for FY 2023 are ready to go, find it by clicking the button below.

Every April, this annual sign-up period is needed to renew your library's participation in **Enrich Iowa**. So to be part of **Enrich Iowa** in fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023) your [Enrich Iowa Letter of Agreement](#) is due at the State Library on or before **April 30, 2022**. Note that **El Agreement** is available as a digital form only, we no longer accept faxed copies. This is an opt-in proposition, thanks for doing so! Scott Dermont will begin posting the **El Agreements** as they are received at the State Library, so you can track your library's status. Contact Scott with questions scott.dermont@iowa.gov

Contracting Cities Questionnaire

The "**Contracting Cities Questionnaire for FY23**" is also due by **April 30**. By way of background: a contracting city is one that does not have its own municipal library but instead pays an annual contractual fee to a nearby established library to allow its citizens access to library services.

Scott Dermont writes: *"Please report all incorporated cities in Iowa that will contract with your library for service in FY23 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) Do not include your own city or other governmental agencies like counties or townships. The contract should be written and include a monetary obligation. If your library does not contract with other cities, you do not need to fill out the questionnaire. However, if you have contracted in the past, but will not be contracting in FY23, it would be helpful if you can fill out your library name and answer "No." The **Contracting Cities Questionnaire** is linked at the button below. You do not need a username or password. The questionnaire should take less than 5 minutes to complete depending on the number of cities reported. Once you have completed the questionnaire, you will need to click the "Submit" button located on the bottom right portion of the page.*

Please complete the **Contracting Cities Questionnaire** by **April 30, 2022**. Contact Scott Dermont with questions (scott.dermont@iowa.gov)

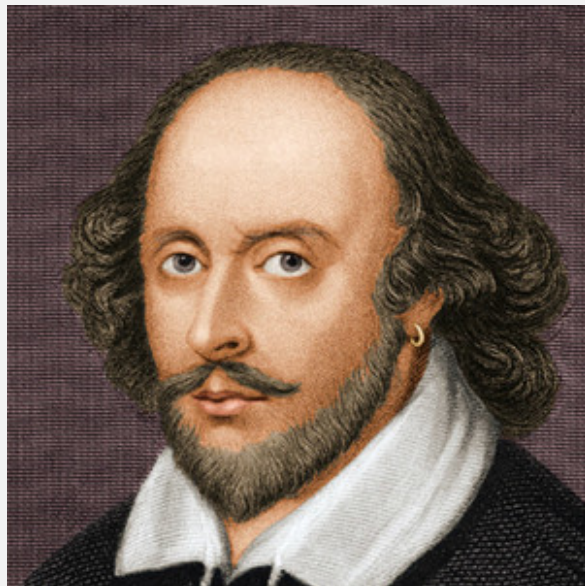
[Fill Out Contracting Cities Questionnaire](#)

ARPA Grant Correction

All libraries that received an ARPA grant last summer, take note: a final project evaluation is part of the process. We had originally published an evaluation due date of April 29 in correspondence and on our website, but that date was incorrect. A link to the final project evaluation will be emailed directly to all ARPA recipient libraries on Monday May 2, **with a due date of June 30, 2022**. Emily Bainter has updated our website with this information, all corrected dates are there.

So there's some nice relax time! Find ARPA grant information at the button below

[ARPA Grant Information](#)



It's Shakespeare's Birthday Week

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