

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener May 1, 2023

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



May 1, 2023

## Earth's Bounty in Iowa Project



### Gathering Oral Histories

This spring, the State Library launched a new oral history project titled **“Earth’s Bounty in Iowa: Then and Now.”** This project enables Iowans to tell their own stories about growing up on an Iowa farm. Their recorded narratives will focus on the firsthand experiences of Iowa farm families. The interviews will be posted on The Iowa Heritage Digital Collection website, along with verbatim transcripts of the interviews.

If you would like to listen to two sample recordings, and to read the verbatim transcripts, please just click on the button below. Coordinated by Helen Dagley, Reference Librarian with the State Library, here are some considerations to share with your patrons in promoting this oral history opportunity:

### Commonalities For “Earth’s Bounty” Interviews

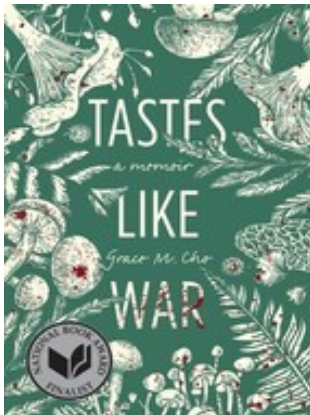
- Library staff at participating libraries will schedule the interviews and provide a staff member to ask the questions and record the interview
- Participants will be asked to sign a written release, allowing the State Library to record and put their recorded words on the IHDC web site, and to allow researchers and the public to use the content of their interviews
- Interviews will also be transcribed through a commercial service (Rev.com) and posted on the IHDC web site
- Each interview will be recorded on the same kind of portable recording device (Zoom H5) Devices will be sent from the State Library and returned to the State Library via IA Shares
- Each mailing will include a packet of information, instructions, and forms

- State Library staff will transfer each interview to the IHDC web site
- Interviewees will be asked the same set of eight questions (whether currently farming or no longer living on a farm)
- Each interview should last up to 45 minutes
- We encourage interviewees to send us their photographs so that we can include them on the IHDC website alongside their interviews
- Library staff and the public will be invited to fill out a short, written evaluation of the process

If you have questions or if you're ready to get started by booking an interview, contact Helen Dagley by phone or email: 515-281-3063 or [helen.dagley@iowa.gov](mailto:helen.dagley@iowa.gov)

Listen To An "Earth's Bounty" Recording

## Next Big Library Read ...



### [Tastes Like War: May 3-17](#)

The next **Big Library Read** starts this very week on May 3rd with the book [Tastes Like War](#) by Grace M. Cho. Part food memoir, part sociological investigation, [Tastes Like War](#) is about a daughter's search, through intimate and global history, for the roots of her mother's schizophrenia. This book is the winner of the 2022 Asian / Pacific American Award in Literature and the finalist for the 2021 National Book Award for Nonfiction

Point your patrons to Bridges on May 3rd to download the book and to the **Big Library Read** website for the discussion guide and discussion forum. [Tastes Like War](#) will be available for simultaneous use in eBook and audiobook formats between **May 3-17**.

### About The Book

From GoodReads: "Grace M. Cho grew up as the daughter of a white American merchant marine and the Korean bar hostess he met abroad. They were one of few immigrants in a xenophobic small town during the Cold War, where identity was politicized by everyday details—language, cultural references, memories, and food. When Grace was fifteen, her dynamic mother experienced the onset of schizophrenia, a condition that would continue and evolve for the rest of her life.

*In her mother's final years, Grace learned to cook dishes from her parent's childhood in order to invite the past into the present, and to hold space for her mother's multiple voices at the table. And through careful listening over these shared meals, Grace discovered not*

*only the things that broke the brilliant, complicated woman who raised her—but also the things that kept her alive.”*

## About Big Library Read

Typically held three times each year, **Big Library Read** is literally a global reading program. It's a worldwide digital version of a local 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.

Marketing materials and a press release template are available to promote **Big Library Read** to your community. Be sure to check out all the promos available to help get the word out. And plan to connect your library with others around the world during OverDrive's next **Big Library Read**, coming up on **May 3rd**

Promote OverDrive's Big Library Read

## Director Roundtables ...

### Throughout the Month of May

Turning the calendar to May means May Day, Mother's Day, Memorial Day—and **Director Roundtables** sponsored by the State Library. **Roundtables** will follow our overall education theme for 2023: ***“Productive Partnerships.”*** In a guided discussion format, library directors have a chance to connect with peers and learn from each other in applying and adapting ideas—this year, it's partnership ideas.



These programs will look at the benefits of finding partners in a common cause, discuss the characteristics of sustainable partnerships, and offer examples of how productive partnerships help to advance mutual missions for community betterment. Among likely partners to consider:

- Teachers or school librarians
- Other city departments
- County or nearby libraries
- Businesses, arts, culture

Come ready to share success stories about the productive partnerships your library enjoys. With that as the main focus, there will also be time for open-ended conversation on other topics that attendees would like to discuss.

Emily Bainter designed a webpage that displays all of the **Director Roundtables** happening across the state in May. This helpful at-a-glance page shows all the dates and locations so you can match them against your calendar and choose the one that's most convenient. Ample opportunities, so make plans to join your colleagues and State Library Staff at **Director Roundtables in the merry month of May** 😊

## Roundtables May'23 Schedule



### Get That Grant: Best Practices to Wow Funders and Bring Money to Your Library. May 2 @ 1:00PM

Step 1: Find the grant. Step 2: Get the grant. If only it were that simple! Well, maybe it is. The State Library has a couple webinars aiming to help demystify the process.

First, check out our webinar with **Foundation Directory** on how to use that resource to find potential grant funders. Next up in this webinar on the tips and tricks to write great grant proposals to increase your likelihood of getting funding.

We'll explore what makes an effective grant and focus on the four main rules for writing a great grant proposal: **Know Your Funder, Follow the Rules, Do Your Homework, and Focus on People's Needs.**

### Beyond "UNPLUG IT, STAT": Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan Workshop. May 3 @ 10:00AM.

When faced with a cybersecurity incident, our first response is probably to unplug the computer and never plug it back in, but there's so much more to it than that. In this session presented by Ryan Mulhall, Chief Information Officer of the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) learn about cybersecurity, the risks, and some common attacks. Walk through the steps needed to prepare a cybersecurity incident response plan. In that planning process, learn how to

- Develop procedures for incident handling and reporting
- Set guidelines for communications with outside parties
- Establish relationships between internal and external groups

Understand what rules to follow, how to respond, and who to call for assistance. After the session, you'll have a working document to present to your team or administration. Plus time at the end for Q&A.

Register For The Above In IAlearns

## Digital Services Town Hall Meetings This Week. Click below for specific street addresses, 6:00PM at each location

**NOTE:** These meetings are not eligible for continuing education credit from the State Library of Iowa.

**May 2 @** Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge

**May 3 @** Charles City Public Library

**May 4 @** North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City

Town Hall Meetings on Digital Services

With some vacation days on the horizon, look for the next *Monday Morning Eye-Opener* on May 15<sup>th</sup> 😊



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