

Monday Morning Eye-Opener March 25, 2024

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



March 25, 2024

Iowa Small Libraries Spring Workshop

Iowa Small Library Association



Empowering Iowa's Small Libraries

April 19 ... Onsite and Online

Save this date on your calendar: **Friday April 12** is **ISLA's Annual Spring Workshop** (10:30AM-12:00noon) The program is titled ***Building Support One Story At A Time*** with author and storyteller Tina Bakehouse.

Tina will be speaking at Harlan Public Library, but there are three other satellite locations for people to gather: at the public libraries in Cherokee, Grundy Center, and Fairfield. If you can't travel that day, you can still watch via ZOOM at home, a direct ZOOM link will be provided upon registering.

Building Support, One Story At A Time

From ILSA workshop planners: *"Who doesn't love a good story? The challenge becomes sharing your strong story in a quick, effective way that lands in the hearts of your audience to gain funding and support. Join us for an engaging workshop to boost your confidence and connect with your audience."*

Tina Bakehouse has spent over 20 years teaching public speaking and education, including coaching university students and faculty in Creighton University's Communication Center and coaching TEDx speakers. She is committed to creating her own story by helping others share their stories with confidence and communicate more effectively, both in business and interpersonally. She has published one book *Discovering Our Magnetic Speaker Within*.

About ISLA

The **Iowa Small Library Association (ISLA)** is a subdivision of the Iowa Library Association. ISLA's purpose is to provide a channel for receiving information on issues

affecting small public libraries and to provide a means of sharing problems, solutions, programs, and experiences among small public libraries.

Make plans to attend **ISLA's Building Support One Story At A Time**; registration is open at the button below. The cost is free for ISLA members, thanks to sponsorships from Biblionix and Library Furniture International. For attendees who are not ISLA members, the workshop fee is \$10.00

[Register For ISLA's Spring Meeting](#)

National Library Week Is ...

April 7-13 @ Libraries Everywhere!

With April around the corner, so too is **National Library Week**, this year **April 7-13**. Sponsored by the American Library Association, the theme for **National Library Week 2024** is **“Ready, Set, Library!”**



More about this year's theme from ALA's website: **“Ready, Set, Library promotes the idea that in our always-online world, libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most. Find your crew at your library's author talks, workshops, and book clubs. No matter where you find yourself on the roadmap through life's journey—preparing for a new career, launching a business, or raising a family—your library provides an inclusive and supportive community where everyone belongs.”**

NLW Action

What are your **National Library Week** plans? Holding Open Houses, distributing bookmarks and treats throughout the week, offering give-aways and prizes are all great ways to acknowledge **National Library Week**. In addition, ALA has designated these days for special recognition, perfect for programming, displays, social media posts, and all kinds of promos 😊

- **Monday April 8: Right to Read Day** is a National Day of Action in support of the right to read. *The State of America's Libraries Report* is released this day as well, an annual publication that includes the Top Ten Most Challenged Books in the country in the previous year.
- **Tuesday April 9: [National Library Workers Day](#)**, a great opportunity to celebrate your library staff by publicly acknowledging their contributions to your library service

- **Thursday April 11:** [Take Action for Libraries Day](#), urging library advocates to in turn urge members of Congress to protect the freedom to read for free citizens in a free society.

NLW Honorary Chairperson

Meg Medina is the 2024 Honorary Chairperson for **NLW**. She won the Newbery Award in 2019 for [Merci Suarez Changes Gears](#); that title became the first in a trilogy. A Cuban American author, Meg Medina writes for readers of all ages, having received many distinguished awards including the New York Times Notable Children's Book of the Year, the Charlotte Zolotow Award, the Ezra Jack Keats Writer Award, among many others. Her most recent picture book, [Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away](#), received the 2020 Jumpstart Read for the Record selection, reaching 2.24 million readers.

About National Library Week

This special week in our business celebrates the valuable role that libraries play in transforming lives and strengthening communities. In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more time with radio and television. Concerned that Americans were reading less, ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a study committee in 1957 to develop a plan for a national week devoted to the importance of libraries. The premise: once people were motivated to read more, they would support and use libraries more. With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first **National Library Week** was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read."

Click the button below to find this year's **NLW** graphics, posters, bookmarks, social media messages, t-shirts and more. And be sure to share your plans for **NLW 2024** with each other on **Library Talk** 😊

[National Library Week Promo Materials](#)

Director Roundtables Coming In May



At 17 Sites Across The State

Our annual spring fling for library directors is coming around again in May. This spring, **Director Roundtables** will follow our overall education theme for 2024—**Libraries Are Forever**. With that theme in mind, **Director Roundtables 2024** will look at how “basic” library services have evolved over the years.

We'll talk about how library staff, boards, and supporters have shown that libraries are here to stay: as partners in

education and the arts, as valuable players in civic life, as trusted sources of information, and by designing great public places in cities large and small. Join your fellow library directors to share your experiences surrounding

- Sustainability: going green, improvements to buildings and grounds, etc
- Library programming / collaborations within the community, within the county
- Positive interactions with other city services or departments
- Programs that are making a noticeable impact in your community

Come ready to share your own success stories demonstrating how “*Libraries Are Forever.*” With that as the main focus, there will also be time for open-ended conversation on other topics that attendees would like to discuss.

This year, **Director Roundtables** will be held at 17 locations across the state, with one or more sessions planned in each District. The most convenient way to register for the location nearest you is via the page linked below, which shows all dates and locations in all 6 Districts.

To gain the most CE credits, these programs are formatted as facilitated discussions, but with open-ended conversation time as well. From the link below, scan the sites nearest you, then make plans to join us for **Director Roundtables 2024!**

[Click and Choose Location Best For You](#)

This Week ...



Buy (Better) Books: A Collection Development Primer. Part 4: Practitioner Panel. March 26. Online. 11:00AM-12:30PM

Tuesday March 26 is the fourth and final **installment** of this series, this time with a panel of librarians who have “Collection Development” in their job title. For so many library staff, collection development is one of many hats to wear. These specialists will show you how they save time and money purchasing books everyday for their libraries. They know the ins and outs of finding the best books and will share their secrets with you.

Buy (Better) Books is a four-part series from the State Library designed to help you improve your collection development skills. We’ll dig into best practices for purchasing for all parts of the adult collection and then promoting your awesome finds. We’ll also hear tips and tricks from front-line, in-practice collection development professionals. Come to

one part or all parts ... each session will be recorded.

[Register For The Above In IA Learns](#)

Bridges Renewal Due This Friday

One last reminder from the Bridges Team: your library's **Bridges Letter of Agreement for FY2025** is due this **Friday March 29**. Agreements for both **renewing** members and for **new members** are found on the [Bridges for Libraries](#) webpage, along with your fee for next year and other consortia information.

If you don't remember sending in your agreement, it's easy to doublecheck by looking at the **running list** of agreements already received. If you don't intend to renew, please notify your [District Consultant](#).



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