

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener June 24, 2024

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

IOWA | State Library of Iowa

June 24, 2024



### Congratulations To ARSL Conference Grant Winners!

Last week, four Iowa public library directors learned that they were chosen to receive grants from the State Library of Iowa to attend the **Association For Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Conference** this fall. This year's **ARSL Conference** is scheduled for **September 11-14** in **Springfield, MA**. Each grant awarded by the State Library provides funding up to \$1,500.00 to be used for travel, registration, hotel, and transportation costs.

#### So our congratulations go out to these four librarians:

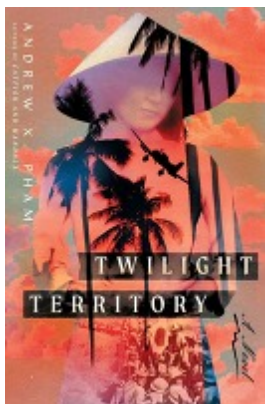
- Dallas Carey: Marcus Public Library Director
- Lisa Formhals: Malvern Public Library Director
- Joan Grothoff: Eldora Public Library Director
- Kayleigh Septer: Mount Pleasant Public Library Director

All four scholarship winners submitted an application form that included a brief statement about how they expect the **ARSL Conference** to boost their professional development. All four have also agreed to take part in a webinar panel in late October to share their conference experience and their favorite sessions with an Iowa audience. This follow-up webinar is in the planning stages, we'll have more information on that later this summer. For now, learn more about **ARSL** and its **2024 Annual Conference** at the link below.

*ARSL Conference Grants are supported by the  
Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the  
Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of Iowa.*

**ARSL Conference 2024**

## OverDrive's Next Big Library Read



### July 11-15 [Twilight Territory](#)

OverDrive has announced their next **Big Library Reads** title: [Twilight Territory](#) by Andrew X. Pham. **Big Library Read** is a global reading program, 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.

[Twilight Territory](#) will be available on Bridges for simultaneous downloads—in both eBook and eAudiobook formats—from **July 11-25**. Here's more about the book from OverDrive: "A sweeping first novel of love, war, and resistance in post-World War II Vietnam. A lushly panoramic novel, by turns gritty and profoundly moving, [Twilight Territory](#) is at once a war story and a love story that offers a fascinating perspective on Vietnam's struggles to break free of its French colonial past. At its heart is one woman's struggle for independence and her country's liberation."

Point your patrons to **Bridges** on **July 11** to download the book and to **The Big Library Read** website has a marketing kit for social media graphics, marketing materials, and a press release to help with local promotion.

### Promotion Ideas

Here are some fun ways to get your readers excited about this *really big* book discussion opportunity:

- Download the **Big Library Read Marketing Kit** linked on the button below. Use **#BigLibraryRead** on your social media
- Readers also have a chance to win a BLR prize pack including a JBL Bluetooth speaker, a copy of [Twilight Territory](#), a Vietnamese coffee brew kit, a travel journal, and a tote bag. Use **#biglibraryread** on social media from July 11-25 to enter, winners will be selected on July 26

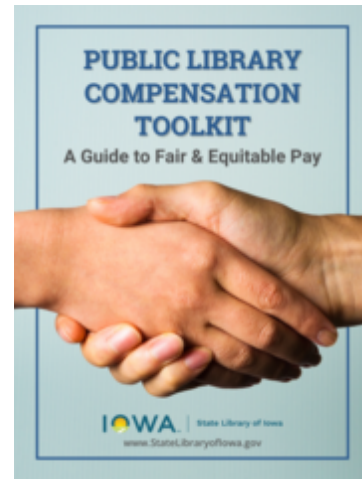
[More About Big Library Read](#)

## Public Library Compensation Toolkit

### New Resource From The State Library

A new resource just made its way to the State Library website: **The Public Library Compensation Toolkit**. Intended for library managers and library boards, this **Toolkit** provides guidelines for evaluating, planning, and arriving at equitable pay for library employees in Iowa.

**The Public Library Compensation Toolkit** provides library boards, directors, and staff a resource to understand the value that library employees provide to the local community and establish a basis for determining the fair market value of library staff positions. The need for such a toolkit addressing library compensation was developed as part of the State Library's 5-year strategic plan. Project goals are to help reduce staff turnover in libraries, encourage fair and competitive compensation, and provide a go-to resource for directors and library boards when evaluating staff positions.



**The Public Library Compensation Toolkit** is available on the State Library website linked below, where you'll find the main document, as well as supporting documents including a **Job Analysis Questionnaire** and **Job Description** templates. Our webpage also includes links to library management books on personnel topics available from the State Library Science Collection; those books can be borrowed via interlibrary loan. Additional resources from the State Library, other Iowa agencies, and the federal government, are also included on the **Toolkit** page.

The **Toolkit** was developed in partnership with Segal, a benefits and HR consulting firm. Paula Segal prepared the toolkit documents and also provided orientation for State Library District Consultants on presenting the components and ideas in the **Toolkit** to library directors and library trustees. Our District Consultants are now developing webinars targeted for August to help raise awareness of library pay equity issues, further explain the pieces of this **Toolkit**, and encourage library management and boards to take advantage of this new resource.

Development of **The Public Library Compensation Toolkit** was paid for by federal funding that the State Library receives from the **Institute of Museum and Library Services**. Access the **Toolkit** at the link below.

[Explore the Public Library Compensation Toolkit](#)

## This Week ...



### Foundation Directory Sign-Up

**This Friday June 28** will be the last opportunity for libraries that have not yet signed up for access to the **Foundation Directory** to do so, the last chance to provide this valuable product to your patrons. **The Foundation Directory (FD)** is provided to all Iowa public libraries from the State Library at no cost.

Again, if your library has not yet signed up, then **June 28** is the last opportunity. While the State Library will continue our contract with **FD**, the difference is **we will no longer add new libraries to the group after June 28**. It's pretty easy to enroll: submit your library's IP information on a

form linked on our webpage at the button below. Once you've done that, **FD** will contact library managers to provide further instructions on setting up access. **FD** authenticates through the library's IP address and because of that, it's available for in-library use only.

[Foundation Directory SignUp](#)

### Check it Out! Online. June 25. 11:00AM-12:00PM

Check it Out! is a monthly webinar series from the State Library of Iowa spotlighting the best new books for ages 0-18. Youth Services Consultant Janeé Jackson-Doering shares collection development tips, programming ideas, the best books to use for storytimes, and new titles galore for kids and teens.

### FinTech?! Today's Best Practices to Help Older Patrons Stay Safe. Online. June 26. 1:00-2:30PM

FinTech (Financial Technology) may leave even the techiest among us with spinning heads as it changes almost daily. Your patrons are likely experiencing this as well, especially older patrons. Presented by financial educator Joanne Kuster, she'll cover three areas of interest to older adults: (1) financial activities that are safe to do on a public computer or public wifi (2) how to simplify and declutter your financial life and (3) staying safe when AI-generated scams are more clever than ever. Time allowed for Q&A.

### Lunch with the State Library. Get Support and Stay Connected. Online. June 27. 12:15-12:45PM

This last "Lunch & Learn" with State Library staff wraps up a one-year series. This time, we'll feature the work of our outstanding **Library Resource Technicians**. These staff work hard, and often behind the scenes, making sure the technology resources the State Library offers run as smoothly as possible. You'll hear about the work they do and how they can help you best use these statewide resources. We'll close with a message from Communications Specialist Emily Bainter about how to stay connected to the State Library and well-informed about all of our goings-on.

[Register For The Above In IALearns](#)

## Monday Morning Eye-Opener

Editor: [Bonnie McKewon](#)



1112 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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