

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener August 5, 2024

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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

IOWA | State Library of Iowa

August 5, 2024

### Scholarships To ILA Conference

Iowa Small Library Association



Empowering Iowa's Small Libraries

#### October 9-11 In Des Moines

The **Iowa Small Library Association (ISLA)** is offering two scholarships to any of its **ISLA** members to help defray expenses to attend the **Iowa Library Association fall conference**. This year's conference is in **Des Moines October 9-11, 2024**. Each of these scholarships is for \$250.00

Eligible expense reimbursement includes conference registration, hotel accommodations, and mileage. Assuming there will be more than two applicants, the winners will be determined through a random drawing.

**The deadline to apply is August 14.** Organizers will contact the scholarship winners no later than August 20. Note that early bird pricing for conference ends August 30. Hotel reservations should be made by September 17.

#### About the Iowa Small Library Association

**ISLA** is a subdivision of the **Iowa Library Association**. This subdivision provides a channel for information on issues affecting small public libraries and provides a means to share problems, solutions, programs, experiences, and ideas of concern to small public libraries in Iowa. **ISLA's purpose:**

- To discover the consensus among small libraries on issues that affect them
- To act in an advocacy role to communicate the concerns and views of small public libraries to the Iowa Library Association, the State Library, community leaders, elected officials, and the general public
- To provide a channel for receiving information on issues affecting small public libraries
- To encourage active participation in other organizations relating to the library profession

Learn more about the work of the [Iowa Small Library Association](#) at their website. And if you are already a member of **ISLA**—and thinking about attending ILA's fall conference—

why not apply for one of these scholarships?! Open the application at the button below.

ISLA Scholarships To Fall Conference

## Supercharged Storytimes Cohort ...

### Beginning In September

Here's exciting news for all youth services librarians 😊  
Youth Services Consultant Janeé Jackson-Doering recently promoted this opportunity in her news bulletin and it bears repeating here. Youth services staff are encouraged to apply to join a **Supercharged Storytime Cohort**.



What is that? It's a curriculum from WebJunction designed to *"provide training in how to intentionally apply research-based practices to boost early literacy in young children attending library storytimes."*

The State Library will be leading a **cohort of 12-15 Iowa librarians** through six modules of the curriculum **from September 6 - November 15**. The training, discussions, and resources in this curriculum will supercharge your storytimes to make them even better

Janeé has more: *"Are you new to preparing Storytimes? Do you wonder if you're doing it "right?" Consider applying for the Supercharged Storytimes Cohort! At the end of the six sessions, cohort members will have the opportunity to share on a panel during the December Pop YS Live webinar. Plus: people who successfully complete the program will be awarded 15 hours of CE Credit towards their endorsement renewal."*

Complete schedule details, discussion topics and timing can be [viewed in this document](#). **Applications are due on Wednesday August 21 by 4:30PM**; selected candidates will be notified on Friday August 23. More details, plus the application form, linked below!

Supercharged Storytime Cohort—Apply Today

## Helpful WhoFi Updates

### Patron Scheduling & Registering For Events

Thanks to the development team at **WhoFi**, the company has news to share about feature enhancements. **WhoFi** Marketing Coordinator Christian Gutteridge provided this update for all of you using **WhoFi** services, from wireless tracking to meeting room reservations to patron registrations for programs.



Christian writes *“We are thrilled to announce some exciting updates to the WhoFi service provided by the State Library of Iowa, designed based on your feedback to enhance patron experiences.”*

### Introducing Timeslots for Programs

Now patrons have the flexibility to reserve specific slots of time within programs, catering to diverse needs and preferences. Whether it's securing a spot for a virtual doctor's visit for 20minutes, immersing in an escape room

session for 60 minutes, or exploring other engaging activities, **WhoFi's Timeslot** feature ensures seamless participation and optimal utilization of resources.

### Streamlined Scheduling for Recurring Events

Say goodbye to scheduling hassles! This newly revamped platform makes scheduling a series of events a breeze. Whether it's daily storytime sessions, weekly book clubs, monthly workshops, or events every other week, these enhanced scheduling options cater to libraries' diverse programming needs, ensuring consistency and convenience for both patrons and staff.

### Automated Waitlists for Hassle-free Registrations

No more manual management of waitlists! With the new automated waitlist feature, when a patron cancels their registration, the next party in the waitlist seamlessly moves up and receives automatic notification. This ensures that valuable program spots are efficiently filled, maximizing patron participation and satisfaction.

### About WhoFi For Iowa Libraries

Iowa public libraries have access to several tools from **WhoFi**, including a usage counter to track the number of devices on a wireless network, a community calendar planner and registration tool, and meeting room reservations. Data collected in **WhoFi** tools is automatically added to the Public Library Annual Survey each year. **The WhoFi tools are provided by the State Library of Iowa--at no cost to Iowa's public libraries.**

*With special thanks to Christian Gutteridge for contributing this article, be sure to tap into the many services that **WhoFi** has to offer your library! Reach out to **WhoFi** at [support@whofi.com](mailto:support@whofi.com) Learn more at the button below*

[WhoFi For Iowa Libraries](#)

## This Week

### Friending the Public Library: How Friends and Foundations Invest in the Library's Future. Online. August 7. 1:00-2:00PM

Friends Groups are an ideal way to develop a close-knit community of library advocates. But how do you get this group of potential advocates together, and what if the group proves to be less than friendly? Should your library have a Friends Group or a Foundation—or both? Learn the answers to these and other questions as the instructors provide information about how to start a

group and keep it going. We'll also answer some common legal questions about these types of groups. Lastly, we'll showcase some successful and interesting examples of how libraries have developed and maintained their own Friends and Foundations.



## Introducing Library Directors to the Public Library Compensation Toolkit. Online. August 8. 1:00-2:00PM

There's a new resource from the State Library of Iowa: **The Public Library Compensation Toolkit**. Intended for directors and boards, this toolkit is a resource to understand the value library employees provide to the community and establish a basis for determining the fair market value of staff positions. The **Toolkit** includes supporting documents, too, including a Job Analysis Questionnaire, along with job description templates. Whether you are planning to hire a new staff member or whether you're working on freshening job descriptions, **The Public Library Compensation Toolkit** offers great guidance. This webinar will explain how this new **Toolkit** came about, how to use it, and why it's sure to be a valuable go-to resource for library directors and boards.

[Register in IALearns](#)

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Editor: [Bonnie McKewon](#)



1112 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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