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## Monday Morning Eye-Opener October 14, 2024

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# MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

IOWA | State Library of Iowa

October 14, 2024

## Great Reads Author Presentations



### Appearing at Ames PL and via ZOOM

**Great Reads From Great Places** is a program sponsored by the **Iowa Center for the Book**, now housed at Ames Public Library. This month and next, Ames PL is hosting both of the **Great Reads** authors from 2024: Chris Jones, author of the adult selection [The Swine Republic](#) and Molly Beth Griffin, author of the children's selection [Ten Beautiful Things](#).

**Chris Jones** is scheduled at **Ames PL** on **October 30**

**(7:00PM) Molly Griffin** on **November 13 (10:00AM)** Both author talks will also be available via ZOOM, making this Iowa author event a great opportunity for book groups at your library to watch the presentations online. ZOOM links will be provided one week before each event. You can find full-color flyers at the project website linked below to help promote this program to your patrons.

From the **Great Reads** project website: *"The Swine Republic has been an unexpected hit across Iowa. Jones, a retired University of Iowa researcher, writes for a popular audience about how politics and economics have influenced changes in Iowa's water quality. His ability to simplify the complex relationship between agriculture and water makes his science writing uniquely accessible. Jones is passionate about getting the truth about the water we consume out to everyday Iowans, farmers, and scientists alike."*

Here's more about Ten Beautiful Things: *"Lily and her grandmother search for ten beautiful things as they take a long car ride to Iowa and Lily's new home with Gran. A heartfelt story of changing perspectives, Ten Beautiful Things gently explores loss, a new home, and finding beauty wherever you are."* For those able to attend in person, Griffin's books will be available to purchase at the event.



## About Great Reads From Great Places

Every year, a list of books representing the literary heritage of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands is distributed by the Library of Congress Center for the Book during the National Book Festival. Each **Great Reads From Great Places** affiliate makes its choice from the list provided by the Library of Congress. This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

## About the Center for the Book

**The Center for the Book** in the Library of Congress is a community of 56 affiliated centers, that promote reading, libraries and literacy through the Library of Congress and its affiliated centers across the country. Ames Public Library is the designated affiliate for the Iowa Center for the Book, promoting Iowa's literary heritage.

[Learn More: Iowa Center for the Book](#)

## Performers Showcase 2024



### Happening in Ames November 7th

Another event taking place in Ames is the **2024 Performers Showcase**. This is a nice opportunity for youth services staff to see performers in action and also book them to appear in person for summer library programs.

And if attending in-person in Ames, this event also sets up a great way to connect with colleagues and work together in booking performers and possibly securing discounted

rates. This year's **Performers Showcase** is scheduled for **November 7th at Ames Public Library, 9:00AM-4:00PM.**

Now sponsored by **ILA's Youth Services Subdivision**, coordinators invite various performers recommended by fellow librarians to perform a 15-minute preview of their shows. Performers can also apply to be a part of the show, but only the best and vetted performers are selected. From the YSS webpage: *"the Showcase is emceed by Rick Brammer, who arranged the show prior to YSS and still imparts advice and words of wisdom from his many years involved with the library performer business."*

Registration is currently open to YS Subdivision members. Coordinators will post the registration link on Library Talk for all others who want to attend. In addition to the in-person event in Ames, there is also a virtual option. Find registration info at the button below. And to get a feel for the **Performers Showcase** if you've not attended before, [watch this video from 2022](#)

[Register For Performers Showcase 2024](#)

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## Annual Survey Software Ready To Roll



### With Software Updates

In September, Scott Dermont sent a bulletin to Iowa library directors with the news that the **Public Library Annual Survey** software is ready to roll. The software Bibliostat Collect underwent an upgrade this summer; it's ready for you to log in and continue—or get started—working on your library's annual survey. A reminder that the **Public**

**Library Annual Survey** is due on **October 31, 2024**.

Scott explains: *"When you are ready to log in, you still use the same URL, username, and password that you've used in the past. [if you need help locating that info, let us know] All major web browsers are supported, including Chrome, Edge, Firefox, and Safari (on a Mac) Chrome and Edge are the preferred browsers. Your session will time out after 90 minutes of inactivity. Any information entered before the time out will be saved."*

Scott notes that one nice improvement is something you'll notice right away: when you log into a survey for the first time, it will prompt you to enter your name, phone, and email address. Adding this information allows the software to send out an email notice when you submit your survey. There are many other changes and improvements as well. Because space doesn't allow for that level of detailing here, suffice to say that Bibliostat has created a new **Help Document** explaining all of the new features of the software.

Library directors and staff who will work on the annual survey will find it useful to review a [Help Doc](#) from Bibliostat before logging in; use it as a guide as you move along. For the most part, the software works the way it always has, the majority of the changes are cosmetic. However, if you have any questions about the annual survey or the software, don't hesitate to contact [Scott Dermont](#) directly.

Again, the deadline is approaching—the **FY24 Public Library Annual Survey** is due on **October 31, 2024**.

[Public Library Annual Survey FY24](#)

# This Week ...



Following the **ILA Conference** in Des Moines last week and ahead of our **Space Planning Workshops** next week, all other C.E. programs are on hiatus for awhile. But for those who can't rest from learning 😊 there are lots of choices from other education providers. Find those at the page linked below, alongside many of our own recorded webinars and Kernels.

[C.E. Opportunities](#)

## Monday Morning Eye-Opener

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