

# Monday Morning Eye-Opener March 10, 2025

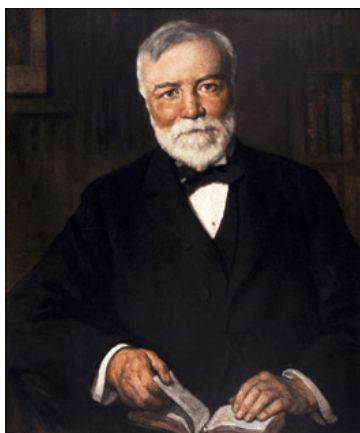
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## MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

IOWA | State Library of Iowa

March 10, 2025

### Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project



#### Programming, Digitizing, Archiving

This information is thanks for Dr. Shanna Stuart with the **Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project (CLIP)** Starting with a “*Did You Know*” fact: 2025 marks the 190 birthday of business leader and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

To celebrate that milestone and to offer educational programs around Iowa’s Carnegie libraries, **CLIP Project Director Stuart** is available to provide presentations tailored to those communities that were gifted with a Carnegie library in the early 1900’s. Making this a great opportunity for adult programming 😊

A central goal of **CLIP** is to digitize any remaining documentation held by communities regarding the establishment and operation of their Carnegie buildings. Dr. Stuart writes: *“At this point, 75 of the 99 Iowa communities are represented; we look forward to including documentation from the remaining cities. CLIP is now affiliated with Cornell College and has received funding for student workers from the State Historical Society, Inc. for the past nine years. Currently, there are over 11,400 items in the CLIP database, including original blueprints, accession books, dedication programs, and many other records of these library buildings between 1900 and 1920.”*

#### About the Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project

**CLIP** works to preserve Andrew Carnegie’s impact on the 99 communities that received funding for public libraries, as well as the 7 small colleges that received funding for academic libraries and the 23 additional towns that received funding for church pipe organs. Dr. Shanna Stuart invites everyone to visit the **CLIP** website and to contact her regarding your town’s Carnegie library materials or to request a presentation this year to celebrate Mr. Carnegie’s 190<sup>th</sup> birthday 😊

*In 1935, the portrait of Andrew Carnegie above was sent out by the Carnegie Corporation to the libraries to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth. A very high percentage of Iowa’s Carnegie libraries still have this image*

hanging in their libraries today.

Visit Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project



## Bridges Enrollment Reminder

For current Bridges member libraries and those not yet members, this month marks the annual enrollment period. Current members will need to complete a **Bridges Letter of Agreement**; libraries wishing to join Bridges for the first time this year will need to sign a **Bridges New Member Enrollment Form**. Both forms are now accessible on our website, both are **due on March 31, 2025**--access at the button below.

Note: In the first year of membership, there is a \$400.00 start-up fee for first-time libraries, in addition to the annual subscription. Service will be activated for first-time libraries on July 1, 2025. Whether a current member or a soon-to-be member of the Bridges group, find your Bridges fees for FY2026 [at this webpage](#)

## Bridges Quick Facts

There are currently 496 member libraries. At the end of FY 2024 the consortia collection held 102,625 eBook copies / 49,379 audiobook copies / 5,436 magazines. Circulation numbers: 1,293,626 eBooks / 1,462,016 audiobooks / 283,628 magazines with over 601,000 unique users across the state.

## About Bridges

This is an eBook and audiobook buying consortium for Iowa public libraries. The State Library facilitates this program and manages the contract on behalf of all participating libraries. OverDrive is the vendor; OverDrive is a leading digital distributor of eBooks, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines. Libraries that participate in Bridges pay an annual formula-based fee to the State Library that covers the materials budget, the purchase of MARC records, and a small packet of promotional materials for new members.

If you're ready to roll—as a continuing Bridges member or as brand new member—then access the **Letters of Agreement** on our website at the button below. Again, the **sign-up deadline is March 31, 2025**. You can double check your enrollment status in the [Iowa Library Directory](#). *Note: this action does not update automatically; wait at least one business day after you submit the LOA before looking for your status.* Questions? [Contact your District Consultant](#).

Read More: Your Bridges E-Library

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## All-Star Community Awards



### Sponsored by League of Cities

Public libraries are proven civic partners, so *Eye-Opener* readers, consider getting in on this action: nominate your city for an **All-Star Community Award**! Sponsored by the Iowa League of Cities, the **All-Star Community Awards** acknowledge excellence in local government and provides recognition to city officials and city workers for their innovative efforts.

From the League's website: *"additionally, this program provides a means for sharing Iowa's best public service ideas and demonstrates that those involved with local government are progressive, caring, and committed to their communities."*

**All-Star Community** applications are due on **April 7**, using an online form linked at the button below. Entries must describe programs or projects successfully operating or completed between in calendar year 2024. Projects eligible for an **All-Star Community Award** include, but are not limited to: city service improvements, quality of life enrichment, and local government partnerships. Potential entries could include urban renewal, neighborhood or business development, historic preservation, sharing of services or facilities, or improving the quality, quantity, or efficiency of city services.

Entries are divided into three population categories: cities less than 3,000; cities between 3,000-9,999, and cities larger than 10,000. Independent judges knowledgeable in local government will evaluate each project. One winner will be chosen from each populationcategory.

Judges will look for each project's impact on the community, including how it met community needs, its value to residents, how many people it affected, and the project's longevity. Projects will also be judged based on originality, cost-effectiveness, use of inter-government collaboration, and innovation. The League encourages communities of all sizes to apply.

Find many more details at the button below, including a link to the application form and a listing of past **All-Star Community Award Winners**

[Nominate Your City for an All-Star Award](#)

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## This Week

**Happy March!**  
**We're Rolling With**  
**STEM Fairs & Summer Reading Summits**



Sponsored by the State Library, the **2025 STEM Fairs** and **Summer Reading Summits** began last week and continue this week. Here's a look at the remaining schedule in case you haven't yet registered for these events nearest you

### REMAINING Dates & Locations

District	Location	STEM Fair Date	SR Summit Date
Southwest	Green Hills AEA, Avoca	Monday, Mar. 10	Tuesday, Mar. 11
Northeast	Oelwein Public Library	Monday, Mar. 24	Tuesday, Mar. 25
North Central	Algona Public Library	Thursday, Mar. 27	Friday, Mar. 28
Northwest	Rockwell City Public Library	Monday, Mar. 31	Tuesday, Apr. 1

You'll need to register for each workshop separately; the link below takes you to our webpage for more details on each event and direct registration links to each one.

[Info: STEM Fairs & Summer Reading Summits](#)

### Summer Library Programming 2025: Adult Programming & Materials. March 12. Online 10:00-11:30AM

Why should kids have all the fun ? 😊 Include your adult patrons in a summer reading program, too. "Level Up" with adults and learn lots of great ideas for programming you can use any time, but especially with this year's summer reading theme. Discussion will include programs for adults, families, and teens, with a focus on reaching adults ages 20-30. Plus promotions, prizes, and more.

[Register in WorkDay Learning](#)

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