

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
August 17, 2026

State Library Updates

New Jersey State Library Hosts National Forum on Reimagining Information Literacy

The New Jersey State Library brought together librarians, educators, state leaders, and community members from across the country in July for the National Forum on Reimagining Information Literacy, a two-day virtual event focused on the evolving role of information literacy in an increasingly complex digital environment. The forum drew more than 300 attendees each day from across the United States. [Click here to read more about the key themes and the conversations that took place.](#)

NJ250 August Exhibits

Real World 1776: Your Daily Look at the Continental Congress

The New Jersey Gazette was New Jersey's first newspaper, created in 1777, but if you visit our NJ250 digital exhibit, you'll find a newer version. Introducing *Our Troubled Times*, a replica of the original NJ newspaper based on a delegate's daily recordings of Continental Congress meetings full of juicy tidbits. Our first edition details the hottest happenings in Congress. [Check it out here.](#)

How Did Illegal Oyster Harvesting in Delaware Bay Lead to Fundamental Rights in the US Constitution?

Boating for clams off the Jersey shore this summer? Well, in 1820 that was against the law! An act was passed prohibiting clam and oyster harvesting between May and September, and limited harvesting to NJ residents only. When two Delaware men got caught harvesting out of the bay in Cumberland County, suddenly a simple court case was laying the groundwork for fundamental rights in the U.S. Constitution many years later. [Find out how in our latest NJ250 exhibit.](#)

Last Call to Visit the NJ State Library to Tour the NJ250 Exhibit on August 19th

Don't miss the opportunity to step into our state's constitutional past by visiting the NJ State Library's in-person NJ250 exhibit on **August 19th from 1:30 - 2:30 pm**. Through historical documents, fascinating stories, and little-known facts, visitors will gain a deeper understanding of how New Jersey helped shape the rights and freedoms we know today. The exhibit is currently on display on the Library's 4th floor. [Learn more.](#)

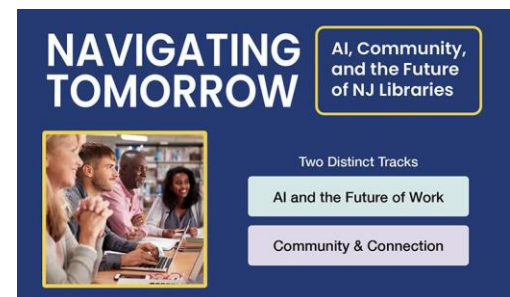


News From Around The State

Call for Proposals - Navigating Tomorrow: AI, Community, and the Future of NJ Libraries

LibraryLinkNJ is accepting [proposal submissions](#) for its inaugural Futures Conference, taking place in May 2027! Proposals should address the broader theme of libraries and librarianship through one of these lenses:

- Track 1: AI & The Future of Work: Navigating emerging technology, automation, advantages, disadvantages, VR/AR, robotics, and how artificial intelligence is reshaping library workflows and professional roles.
- Track 2: Community & Connection: Evolving social service trends, creating welcoming spaces, fostering a sense of belonging, and balancing high-tech with "unplugged"/analog community experiences (like makerspaces and physical media integration).



If you are interested in contributing to the conference, please complete the [Call for Proposals form](#) by **Thursday, September 17, 2026**. Before submitting, it is highly recommended to review the [Proposal Evaluation Rubric](#) to see exactly what the committee is looking for.

Issues submitting your proposal? Email the committee at: zamooneyhan@gmail.com.

NJSL Presents Events

Our NJSL Presents Webinars are free and open to anyone interested in attending. Registration is required in advance and [all webinars are recorded and posted to our YouTube page](#) afterward. You can also [check out event recaps on our blog](#)! Here's what we have coming up in August, feel free to share within your communities.



- [Where is AI in 2026 and Where is it Going](#) - August 18th @ noon
 - [Cancer Information Session](#) - August 21st @ noon
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Professional Development Opportunities

Visit the State Library's [CE Training webpage](#) for a variety of Continuing Education training opportunities for New Jersey librarians, library support staff, and trustees.

[On-Demand Training Portal](#) in the LibraryLinkNJ LearningSpace and [a list of training programs](#) currently being offered.

[Professional Development Links](#) and [Webinars and Other Training Events](#) from the NJLA Professional Development Committee.

Check out the upcoming LYRASIS CE opportunities on their [calendar here](#).

[Click here for a monthly national list](#) of CE and Professional Development opportunities.

Library Marketing Resources

If your library is looking for marketing tips, best practices and inspiration, [check out our Marketing Blog](#) updated monthly. Here's our most recent blog posts:

- [How New Jersey Libraries Can Turn Archives Into Engaging Posts](#)
- [Early Marketing: How to Build Excitement for Your Library's Work](#)
- [Community Influencers: The New Word-of-Mouth](#)
- [How to Use Canva Templates for Library Social Posts](#)
- [How to Turn One Library Program into Multiple Marketing Opportunities](#)

Download sharable social media graphics and videos from the [Statewide Digital Marketing Campaign](#).

Also, you can [download marketing resources from State Library Vendors & Partners](#).

Connecting people with information through libraries.

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)



NJ250: Living Documents, Evolving Rights - New Jersey Through Three Constitutions
<https://www.njstatelib.org/nj250>