

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

May 27, 2025

## State Library Updates

### Upcoming NJSL Presents Events

- [Researching Your Pre-May 1848 New Jersey Ancestors](#) - June 11th @ noon
- [Virtual Author Talk - Abolition and the Underground Railroad in South Jersey](#) - June 19th @ noon
- [The Talking Book and Braille Center: Resources and Services for the Print Disabled](#) - June 24th @ noon
- [Understanding Posttraumatic Stress Disorder](#) - June 27 @ noon

### Headed to the NJLA Conference? Don't miss connecting with NJSL staff members!

The State Librarian's program will be held on **Thursday, May 29th, at 4:10 pm** this year. Joining us virtually from Australia, the speaker is Daniel Aldrich. Daniel is at Northeastern University and as a trained political scientist, focuses his research and writing on resilience. And don't forget to mark your calendar for the State Librarian's Breakfast on **Friday morning at 8 am**. As we've done in recent years, you'll hear some updates from the State Library and, importantly, have a chance to connect with colleagues. And please stop by and visit our booth. We'll have a schedule of individuals staffing the booth available, so you can time your visit if you'd like to check in with someone in particular.

[Check out the full schedule of NJSL sessions.](#)

## News from Around the State

### Make the Road NJ: Know Your Rights Webinar

With an increase in activity by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, library workers and administrators are invited to join Lauren Herman from Make the Road NJ and Natalie Kraner from Lowenstein Sandler, on **June 2nd, at 2pm**, for a valuable and timely program. Representatives will share information on the rights of library users when dealing with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other law enforcement officials. The information presented in the program does not constitute legal advice or opinion. New Jersey library workers and administrators can [click here to register](#).

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### Open Call for Revolutionary Acts

[Monument Lab](#)—in partnership with the [New Jersey State Council on the Arts](#), the [New Jersey Historical Commission](#), and [RevolutionNJ](#)—is launching an Open Call for Artist Ideas to commission a new monumental performance series in New Jersey that will animate histories and legacies of the American Revolution in 2026.

Revolutionary Acts invites artists who live or work in New Jersey to propose a performance-based work that will unfold across sites in Camden, Trenton, and Fort Lee. The selected artist will collaborate with local partners to activate these sites, weaving together stories of the state's and nation's past, present, and future.

[Please click here](#) for more information about the project, the process for artist selection, and the timeline.

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### Upcoming LibraryLinkNJ Webinars

Check out these upcoming webinars from LibraryLinkNJ and click each link to learn more and register.

- [New Jersey Office of Innovation - Popular Tools Showcase](#), **June 5th at 9:30 a.m.** A brief overview from the NJ Office of Innovation and demonstration of tools to enhance your library services or programs.
- [Beyond Prompt Engineering: Practical Strategies for Everyday AI Use in Libraries](#), **June 10th at 2 p.m.** This session demystifies "prompting" -- the process of providing instructions and context to AI tools and will focus on Large Language Models like ChatGPT and Gemini.

- [Youth Mental Health First Aid Training](#), **June 13th at 9 a.m.** This training course prepares participants to enact an action plan and utilize appropriate interventions when they encounter a mental health emergency.
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## NJ Dept. of Labor's Young Workers Hub

NJDOL has developed a suite of online resources specifically for young workers. These free resources include guidance on resume writing, interviewing skills, child labor laws, and more. NJDOL is encouraging young people and their caregivers to visit the state's [Young Workers Hub](#) to find resources to help them get prepared for a new job, including how to easily apply for working papers online.

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## New Online Referral Programs for Small Businesses

The NJ Business Action Center, a division within the Department of State, has launched a no-cost online referral program to assist eligible New Jersey businesses in finding a mentor or establishing or growing their online presence. The NJBAC is looking for help spreading the word. Please pass this information along to your library patrons who are part of the small business community. [Read more.](#)

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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 [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:

- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)
- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)
- [Inclusive Marketing for Libraries](#)

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

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

*Connecting people with information through libraries.*

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)

