

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

May 18, 2026

State Library Updates

NJ State Library Talking Book & Braille Center Quarterly Highlights

The NJ State Library Talking Book & Braille Center sends out a quarterly newsletter that includes staff announcements, program or equipment updates, frequently asked questions, and book recommendations. This newsletter is designed with accessibility in mind and offered as an audio or a print version. If you'd like to receive this newsletter, [click here to subscribe](#).

Click here to [explore the Spring 2026 Edition](#).

New Edition of New Jersey Library Trustee Guide

A new edition of the [New Jersey Library Trustee Guide](#) is now available on the Library Trustees page of the New Jersey State Library website. The New Jersey Library Trustee Guide offers information to assist New Jersey's public library trustees in their responsibilities.

Request for Quotations for LSTA Five-Year Evaluation

The New Jersey State Library is inviting qualified contractors to respond to our Request for Quotations (RFQ) to produce the mandatory LSTA Five-Year Evaluation in accordance with the requirements of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). [View the RFQ on our webpage here](#).

Money Smart for Life Award

Has your library recently hosted a financial literacy program? There's still time to apply for the Money Smart for Life Award! [Learn more and submit an application here.](#) The deadline for this application is **June 5, 2026.**

News From Around The State

Youth & Adult Mental Health First Aid Training

LibraryLinkNJ invites staff in any position from any library type to register for this valuable, free training course. Training courses will be taught by certified Mental Health First Aid instructors. Seats are limited. Register early.

- [Youth Training](#) - June 11th, 9 am - 1:30 pm
 - [Adult Training](#) - July 17th, 9 am - 2:30 pm
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National Opportunities

Second Lady Usha Chilukuri Vance's Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of America's founding, all children (K-8) are invited to join in the [Second Lady's 2026 Summer Reading Challenge](#). Participants will read and track 12 books of their choice between **June 1 and September 4**. Readers can receive a personalized certificate, an America 250th anniversary-themed bookmark, and a special link to win a prize! Readers will also be entered for a chance to visit our nation's capital and the White House with a chaperone. To promote this national reading challenge within your library community, [click here for the media kit](#).

Free Screenings of Flag Day Film for New Jersey Public Libraries

[Flag Day](#) is a new documentary about the largest Flag Day parade in the United States and the community that has kept that tradition alive for more than seventy years. [Watch the trailer here.](#) The film is available for FREE community screenings at public libraries. Host a screening of *Flag Day* to commemorate the holiday, America's 250th, or just to gather your community. Libraries that host a screening will receive a discussion guide, promotional materials, and a free Flag Day poster. [Click here to register.](#)

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 May, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Financial Planning for Mid-Career Professionals](#) - May 19th @ noon
 - [Financial Side of College Graduation](#) - May 27th @ noon
 - [Cancer Information Session](#) - May 29th @ 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 to Use Canva Templates for Library Social Posts](#)
- [How to Turn One Library Program into Multiple Marketing Opportunities](#)
- [Library Content Brainstorm for 2026](#)
- [Marketing Trends for 2026](#)
- [A Guide to YouTube Shorts 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](#).

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>

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