

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

August 10, 2026

State Library Updates

State Librarian's Update - August

Please take a moment to read the [August 2026 New Jersey State Library update](#).

Visit the NJ State Library to Tour the NJ250 Exhibit This August

You're invited 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 Through historical documents, fascinating stories, and little-known facts, visitors will gain a deeper understanding of how New Jersey helped shape the rights and freedoms we know today.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

2026-2027 NJLA Emerging Leader Application

Develop your leadership skills! This opportunity is open to librarians who have been working professionally in New Jersey for less than 5 years. This program will consist of five full-day sessions from October through March. Presenters with various backgrounds within the NJ library community and beyond will lead

discussions and interactive sessions that will encourage attendees to learn about leadership and explore their own leadership style while networking with other emerging leaders. Attendees will also meet State Library and NJLA leaders and learn about the structure of NJLA. **The deadline for applications is August 14th, 2026.** [Learn more here.](#)



The cost of the five sessions is \$200; the registration fee covers lunch and materials. For applicants in need of financial aid, the Professional Development Fund is awarding tuition to cover the cost of the Emerging Leaders program. In addition, up to \$300 in travel costs can be awarded, to be reimbursed after the completion of the program. Access the funding application [here](#).

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:



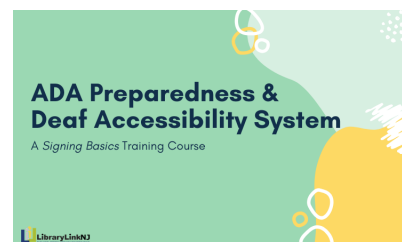
- Track 1: AI & The Future of Work: Navigating emerging technology, automation, advantages, disadvantages, VR/AR, robotics, and how artificial intelligence is reshaping library workflows and professional roles.
- Track 2: Community & Connection: Evolving social service trends, creating welcoming spaces, 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.

New ADA Compliance Training

Registration is now open for September's ADA Preparedness & Deaf Accessibility System event on **September 18th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, brought to you by Signing Basics and LibraryLinkNJ.



This 3-hour online course is designed to strengthen institutional response protocols and reduce communication breakdowns during

emergency and public-facing interactions. Attendees will explore Deaf culture, ADA awareness, and institutional risk exposure, as well as basic emergency sign language and protocol scenarios. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Questions? Contact [Darby Malvey](#).

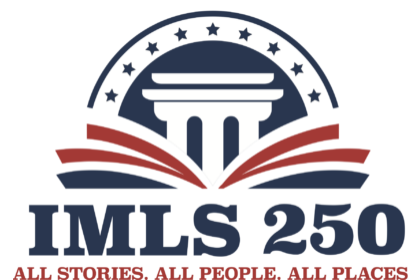
National Opportunities

IMLS Grants

[National Leadership Grants for Libraries](#)

Deadline: November 13, 2026

Program Overview: The National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program (NLG-L) supports projects that develop, enhance, or adapt replicable practices, programs, models, or tools to strengthen library and archival services for the American public.



[Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program](#)

Deadline: November 13, 2026

Program Overview: Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian (LB21) projects build a library and archival workforce that can meet the information needs of communities and increase the institutional capacity of libraries, archives, and library and information science graduate programs across the country.

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.



- [Learn to Cross-Stitch](#) ***In-Person Event, Waitlist*** - August 12th @ noon
 - [Genealogy Research Stories: The Basse Class](#) - August 13th @ noon
 - [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

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