

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
September 16, 2024

State Library Updates

Thomas Edison State University and New Jersey State Library Launch Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Thomas Edison State University (TESU), in collaboration with the New Jersey State Library (NJSL), announces the formation of a new Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force. This initiative aims to guide the integration of AI technologies across the university and library, ensuring these innovations align with the strategic goals and ethical standards of both institutions. [Click to read more.](#)

Register Now to Adapt and Fortify Your Library against Extreme Weather

In honor of National Preparedness Month, you're invited to register for and attend *Adapt and Fortify Your Library against Extreme Weather* on **Tuesday, September 24, from 2:30 to 4:00pm**. This virtual event is brought to you by the Northeast Summit on Climate Adaptation, a group of state library agencies and library entities from Maine to Maryland that includes the New Jersey State Library.

In this first webinar of a three-party series, hear from a panel of East Coast librarians for practical tips about increasing the resilience of your library facilities, and learn more about the challenging weather we are all experiencing from Sean Birkel, the Maine State Climatologist. [Click here to register](#).

Questions? Contact Michele Stricker, Deputy State Librarian for Library Development, mstricker@njstatelib.org.

News from Around the State

Tips for National Preparedness Month

As New Jersey enters the peak Atlantic hurricane season and recognizes the start of National Preparedness Month in September, the Murphy Administration is reminding the public of the importance to be storm-ready by planning for hurricanes and other extreme weather events that have become more frequent due to climate change. [Click to read more](#).

National Opportunities

Call for Participation: Libraries Advancing Community Learning to Reduce Substance Abuse

[Libraries Advancing Community Learning to Reduce Substance Use](#) (LACL), is an IMLS-funded national forum (Grant #RE-256563-OLS-24), and they invite applications from public library workers and administrators who are interested in participating in an online or on-site forum at the Kansas City Public Library on **May 15 and 16, 2025**. Experts in the library and substance abuse recovery fields will engage participants to envision and create support for people experiencing alcohol use disorder (AUD) and/or substance use disorder (SUD) through reading, bibliotherapy, and peer-to-peer learning circles.

Selected participants will be able to participate on-site. All on-site participants will be expected to actively participate in discussions and contribute to the toolkit. They will be provided with travel, two nights' accommodation at a hotel near the event space, and a stipend for meals not included at the conference. Applications for the on-site event are due **October 31, 2024**. [Click here to apply](#).

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 September, feel free to share within your communities.

- [VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALK – Puerto Rican Farmworkers in the Garden State, 1950s-1970s](#) - September 19th @ noon
- [Suicide Prevention and Awareness: You Are Not Alone](#) - September 26th @ noon

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](#) 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:

- [Instagram Threads: A Year Later](#)
- [How to Quantify Your Library's Social Media Efforts](#)
- [How to Master Social Media Automation](#)
- [Marketing Your Library on YouTube](#)

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](#).

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