

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
January 6, 2025

State Library Updates

Happy New Year! A Message from NJ State Librarian Jen Nelson

Happy New Year to our colleagues from across New Jersey and beyond! The New Jersey State Library is excited about a number of new and continuing projects this year. From preparations for a digital Rev250 exhibit, to welcoming new staff members, and to piloting new equipment for our Talking Book and Braille Center patrons, it promises to be a year filled with the opportunity to serve New Jersey's residents and libraries in so many different ways.

Teaching Information Literacy, a collaborative project with LLNJ, is poised to release learning modules for librarians and educators later this year and continue toward developing a curricular response to the state's Information Literacy standards, which are under development. NJSL's work in the area of digital equity continues through our partnership with the NJ Office of Broadband Connectivity that will implement the state's digital equity plan. We're also really excited about our pilot project with Literacy Minnesota that is bringing 6 Digital Navigator Americorps members to libraries in New Jersey. A new series of workshops providing mental health training to library staff are scheduled this spring, and we're delighted to offer these sessions at no charge and in person across the state thanks to a generous grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Please accept my best wishes for a new year that is filled with the things that matter the most to you, both personally and professionally. Each of you is an integral part of why New Jersey is a great place to live and learn, and I'm mindful that our libraries are lucky to have you present.

Jen Nelson

An Update from NJSL's Genealogy Librarian

We took a look back over the past year, and found that from July to September 2024, there was an increase in patrons requesting genealogy research assistance at the New Jersey State Library! [Click here](#) to hear from Regina Fitzpatrick, our Genealogy Librarian, on the types of questions asked and interesting examples of research she assisted with!

In-Person Mental Health Training for Libraries - New Sessions Added

We've added more dates and locations to the In-Person Mental Health Training for Libraries that will be held over the coming months. Funded by a grant from the National Network Libraries of Medicine Region 2, these in-person workshop trainings will address self-care for librarians and dealing with crisis. [Click here to learn more and register](#).

Become a Digital Navigator!

Applications are being accepted for individuals to become AmeriCorps members and serve as Digital Navigators in one of six New Jersey public libraries. Digital Navigators will support community members through one-to-one mentorship, classroom-based instruction, and resource guide creation and referrals. **Application deadline: Jan. 24, 2025.** [Click here to learn more](#).

Extended Deadline for Request for Quotations

JerseyClicks Electronic Resources
New Deadline: January 24, 2025

[Click here to read the full RFQ.](#)

Updated with pre-quotation questions and answers on 12/31.

Save the Date - Northeast Summit on Climate Adaptation for Library Facilities

The Northeast Summit on Climate Adaptation for Library Facilities, which consists of State libraries and agencies from Maine to Maryland, invites you to save **February 4th, 2025** for our next webinar, "Library Greenscapes: Cultivating Climate Resilience, Community, and Learning Outdoors." [Click to learn more.](#)

Save the Date - Virtual New Directors Training

As a new director, NJSL is here to support you in your role by offering basic training on a number of topics that are considered core knowledge for any leader of a public library in the state. We're excited to announce that this year's Virtual New Directors Training will take place **February 12 & 19, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Save the date and stay tuned for more information to come!

Telehealth in Libraries Virtual Summit Date Announced

Please join the New Jersey State Library for this virtual summit on **Thursday, February 27, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** to introduce the new NJHealthConnect@YourLibrary Digital Toolkit and website, generously funded by a grant from the National Network Libraries of Medicine Region 2. The summit will introduce the topic of Telehealth in libraries, review resources for health and mental health literacy from specialists in the field, and demonstrate how to use the toolkit to create a scalable Telehealth program in your library. Save the date and stay tuned for more details on how to register.

News From Around the State

LibraryLinkNJ's Library Marketing Made Easy Q&A

Join LibraryLinkNJ for an exclusive live Q&A session with Kathy Dempsey, author of The Accidental Library Marketer and founder of [Libraries Are Essential](#) on **Monday, January 27th, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** This session is open to library staff who complete the Library Marketing Made Easy course, now available on the LibraryLinkNJ LearningSpace. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

NJSL Presents January 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 the New Year, feel free to share within your communities.

- [DNA Evidence: Analysis, Correlation & Interpretation](#) - January 8th @ noon
 - [The Many Faces of Brain Injury: Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Mental Health](#) - January 14th @ noon
 - [Healthy Eating: New Year's Resolutions](#) - January 15th @ noon
 - [10 Steps to Financial Success](#) - January 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 [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:

- [Inclusive Marketing for Libraries](#)
- [How to Fix a Creative Block in Marketing](#)
- [Exploring AI in Library Marketing](#)
- [Instagram Threads: A Year Later](#)

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](#)

