

# NJSL Direct - News for Librarians from the NJ State Library

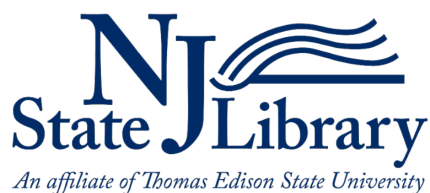
New Jersey State Library <marketing@njstatelib.org>

Mon 8/24/2020 10:04 AM

To: Patt Ferrari <pferrari@njstatelib.org>;

Categories: Blue Category; Purple Category; doctors approvals

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## NJSL DIRECT

*Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Public Libraries*



*August 24, 2020*

### Blog Posts

#### Marketing Blog

[What Happens When Libraries Can't Solve the Digital Divide?](#)

#### New Books Blog

[Featured eBooks \(Aug. 14, 2020\)](#)

### In This Issue

**Webinar - Navigating the New Normal: Lessons Learned for Building More Resilient Libraries**

**Webinar - Youth Services & Back to School Prep Meet-Up**

**New Wifi Locator Helps Bridge the Digital Divide**

**NJSL Presents Blog**  
[Recap: Researching Revolutionary and Civil War Service Records for NJ Residents](#)

[Find more blog posts here...](#)

## Webinars This Week

**August 25, 2020**  
[Take the Mystery Out of Medicare](#)

[Find more events here...](#)

## Continuing Education and Training Opportunities

[NJSL's Continuing Education Webpage](#)

[NJSL's In Person Workshops and Online Training Schedule](#)

[Upcoming Training Opportunities from NN/LM MAR](#)

[ReferenceUSA Webinar Schedule](#)

[Public Library Director 101 Series](#)

[WebJunction Training](#)

## Stay Connected with NJSL on Social Media!



## Connect with the NJSL Social Media Task Force!

**Mary Chute:** [@NJSLMaryChute](#)  
*NJ State Librarian*

**Peggy Cadigan:** [@pcadigan](#)  
*Deputy State Librarian for Innovation & Outreach*

**Sharon Rawlins:** [@bklover](#)

## Learn How to Support Job Seekers During Covid

[Apply for "A Community Thrives Challenge"](#)

[Apply for the Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference Inaugural "@ the Table" Pitch Competition](#)

## Webinar - Navigating the New Normal: Lessons Learned for Building More Resilient Libraries

Join us on September 15th from 1-5 p.m. for our virtual summit, "Navigating the New Normal: Lessons Learned for Building More Resilient Libraries." This half-day event will include webinars topics on how to continue operations, stay connected while working remotely, and much more. [Learn more and register here.](#)

## Webinar - Youth Services & Back to School Prep Meet-Up

Is your school district resuming in-person instruction in September? Some parents/guardians are choosing to opt-out of in-person instruction, while some school districts are asking for full remote instruction. As a result, there are concerns that students may be left unsupervised on those days when they are not in school and parents may have to return to physical workplaces. Without a vaccine for COVID-19, public libraries cannot encourage anyone to linger and must adhere to policies regarding unsupervised students in the library. How is your library preparing for these different scenarios? Let's chat about your back to school plans, fall online programming, and school library and public library partnerships. Join us on August 25th from 3-4:30 p.m. to discuss. [Learn more here.](#)

## New Wifi Locator Helps Bridge the Digital Divide

The [TOPCATS](#) Futures Work Group, in collaboration with the State Library, is developing a statewide wifi locator map in an effort to bridge the digital divide, which is not a new problem but has become a dire consequence of the coronavirus pandemic. The map will expand and enhance the [State Library's Drive](#)

Youth Services Consultant

**Andrea Levandowski:**

[@NJGrowsBiz](#) and [@NJWorks](#)

Small Business Development &  
Technology

**Teri Taylor:** [@TeriTaylorNJSL](#)

U.S. Documents Librarian,  
Reference Services

**Leigh Clark:** [@NJSLFundingInfo](#)

New Jersey State Library's Funding  
Information Center

**Elizabeth Burns:** [@NJSLTBBC](#)

New Jersey State Library  
Talking Book & Braille Center

**Susette Brooks:** [@NJStateLibrary](#)

New Jersey State Library  
Office of Communications, Marketing and  
Outreach

**Up Wifi Map** in order to increase its visibility and the types of free wifi providers included to benefit its users. We invite schools, libraries, colleges, universities and other organizations to participate. Please fill out this brief **online form** (LLNJ user login required to use) so we can include your organization on the map. This tool will help New Jersey residents find the wifi Internet access they need for school, work, and other critical services.

## Learn How to Support Job Seekers During Covid

On **Aug. 28, 2020 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.**, the New Jersey Career Network will host a free webinar, "Supporting Job Seekers During Covid." In this session, we'll discuss hiring trends and explain how Covid-19 is impacting hiring practices. We will also cover strategies for supporting job seekers as they look for work in this radically different world. This information will be helpful for any library staff member assisting job seekers or planning future workforce development and employment services. If you have questions, contact Andrea Levandowski at [alevandowski@njstatelib.org](mailto:alevandowski@njstatelib.org). [Register here](#).

## GRANTS AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

### Apply for "A Community Thrives Challenge"

Organizations may now submit applications to A Community Thrives Challenge, a nationwide grantmaking and crowdfunding initiative sponsored by Gannett Media. A Community Thrives offers a way for eligible nonprofits to get neighbors, friends, family, and peers excited to support community-building ideas and a chance at more than \$2,000,000 in grants to get them off the ground and running. Projects must contribute to and/or focus on community building with a preference for impacting under-served individuals and groups. Community building is defined for this program as activities, projects, or events that create or enhance the sense of community amongst individuals or groups in a region. Projects should involve individual and community support, either financially or through personal service. The application deadline is **Sep. 11, 2020**. [Learn more here](#).

### Apply for the Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference Inaugural "@ the Table" Pitch Competition

The [Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference](#) will host its inaugural pitch competition on Nov. 12, 2020 at 3 p.m. Libraries are invited to pitch ideas about how a library can support local economic development, job creation, workforce development, entrepreneurs,

nonprofits, small businesses, or innovation in general. Submissions should be specific about the target population, the problem addressed, resources available or needed, and the service provided or value added. Five finalists will have up to five minutes to pitch their idea live and online to a panel of economic development professionals and the ELC 2020 attendees. Jennifer Hensel at Launch Greensboro will provide pre-recorded best practices for all contestants, as well as one-on-one consultations with the five finalists before the live pitching takes place. The first-place winner will receive \$2,000, and the second-place winner, plus the audience choice winner will receive \$500. [EBSCO](#) is the generous sponsor of this competition. Registration for the ELC will be free. The application deadline is **Sep. 25, 2020** at 5 p.m. Eastern. [Learn more here](#).

**As always, we look forward to your feedback. Please don't hesitate to forward any questions or concerns to the team in NJSL's Office of Communications, Marketing & Outreach.**

*Sincerely,*

**New Jersey State Library**  
Office of Communications, Marketing & Outreach  
[marketing@njstatelib.org](mailto:marketing@njstatelib.org)

*Connecting people with information through libraries.*

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