

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
December 9, 2024

State Library Updates

An NJ State Library Welcome & Farewell

The New Jersey State Library is excited to welcome our next Director of Library Development. Jen Brenner, currently Director of Cumberland County Library, will join the State Library in this role on **January 13, 2025**. Jen has a wealth of experience in New Jersey libraries and will be in a great position to help move forward our many initiatives. She'll be overseeing our work related to special initiatives, director and trustee training, library law and regulations, youth services and statewide services, including Jersey Cat.

While we are excited to welcome Jen on board, we're also sad to say goodbye to Michele Stricker, who has spent 20 years working at the State Library in many roles in Library Development. Michele has done groundbreaking work in the area of disaster preparedness, health literacy in libraries and more recently sustainability. Her contributions to New Jersey libraries and libraries across the country will last for the next generation of libraries and librarians.

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.](#)

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. [Click here 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!

In-Person Mental Health Training for Libraries

Thanks to a generous grant from the National Network Libraries of Medicine Region 2, the New Jersey State Library invites you to attend in-person workshop trainings offered at five locations throughout the state addressing self-care for librarians and dealing with crisis. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

Library Network Review Board – Call for Representatives

The New Jersey State Library seeks representatives to serve on the Library Network Review Board. Representatives will serve a two-year term beginning January 1, 2025. Representatives of all types of libraries, including K-12 school, academic, and public libraries, are encouraged to apply. [Click to learn more and apply.](#)

Current Requests for Quotations from the NJ State Library

Instructional Frameworks and Activities Designer

Deadline: December 16, 2024

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

JerseyClicks Electronic Resources

Deadline: January 10, 2025
[Click here to read the full RFQ.](#)

News from Around the State

LibraryLinkNJ to Offer Customer Service Signs for Librarians

LibraryLinkNJ is partnering with Signing Basics to offer "Customer Service Signs for Librarians," which will teach library staff how to better communicate with patrons who have hearing loss. Their free-of-charge virtual training courses are being offered on Wednesdays in January:

Customer Service Signs for Librarians
Wednesdays, January 8th, 15th, 22nd
10am-10:45am

[Click to learn more and register.](#) Questions? Contact LLNJ Programming & Outreach Specialist, Stephanie Sendaula, stephanie@librarylinknj.org.

National Opportunities

Recruitment for a Survey on Social Services in Public Libraries

You are invited to participate in a survey, conducted by Dr. Melissa Gross and Dr. Don Latham from Florida State University, on social services in public libraries. The survey explores the disposition of public library administrators and adult and youth services librarians on changes to their professional scope of practice in the face of the increasing demand on public libraries. The goal is to get broad participation from across the country. The survey will take approximately 20 to 30 minutes to complete and will close in February 2025. [Click to take survey.](#)

If you have any questions/concerns about the study, please reach out to Dr. Melissa Gross at mgross@fsu.edu.

NJSL Presents Upcoming 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 December, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) - December 10th @ noon
 - [Maximizing Social Security Part 1](#) - December 11th @ noon
 - [Maximizing Social Security Part 2](#) - December 18th @ noon
 - [Virtual Author Talk - Colonial Taverns of New Jersey: Libations, Liberty and Revolution](#) - December 27th @ 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:

- [How to Fix a Creative Block in Marketing](#)
- [Exploring AI in Library Marketing](#)
- [Instagram Threads: A Year Later](#)
- [How to Quantify Your Library's Social Media Efforts](#)

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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New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)

