

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries  
October 2, 2023

## State Library Updates

### Proposed Amendments to Library Construction Bond Act Adopted

The proposed [amendments](#) to the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act regulations are adopted as proposed, effective **October 2, 2023**.

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### Feedback Survey: Statewide Digital Marketing Campaign

Has your library been using the Life Happens @ Your Library marketing campaign materials? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Please take our feedback survey! [Click to take survey.](#)

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### Introducing a Palace Project Statewide Virtual Barcode

In the coming weeks, we will be rolling out access to a Palace Project statewide virtual barcode, which will provide access to content in the Palace Project to every New Jersey resident who chooses to sign up. This content includes the Digital Public Library of America-curated Palace Bookshelf of approximately 17,000 items, the perpetually-licensed Boundless (formerly Axis 360) titles purchased by the New Jersey State Library, and items purchased through the Palace Marketplace by the New Jersey State Library. [Click to learn more.](#)

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## October is National Family History Month

October is National Family History Month! Our own Genealogy Librarian, Regina Fitzpatrick, has planned several informative webinars about researching your family history. Check out the different events throughout the month and celebrate diving deeper into your genealogy with the New Jersey State Library. [Click to learn more and register.](#)

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## Climate Action Planning Webinar Recording Available

On September 26th, the Climate Action Planning (Part 2): Disaster Preparedness and Community Resilience webinar took place. In this webinar with the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, library and partner organizations shared how they have prepared both libraries and communities for the impacts of climate change. [Click here](#) to watch the recording.

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## NJSL and LLNJ will host an Info Session for School Libraries

*Please help us spread the word by passing this information along to school library staff and teachers in your school district.*

We are inviting all NJ school librarians, media specialists, school library staff members, and interested teachers, to join us for an Information Session on **Tuesday, October 24th at 4pm**. The session will explore school library offerings from the State Library and LibraryLinkNJ – including details about the Talking Book & Braille Center, information about statewide databases and e-resources, and instructions for accessing professional development and mentoring services. Attendees will have the chance to hear more from our staff and ask questions of our team. Registration for this free, virtual event is open on the LibraryLinkNJ website: <https://librarylinknj.org/schools-info-session>

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## Reserve Your Spot for the Northeast Virtual Summit on Resilient Library Facilities

In honor of September being [Emergency Preparedness Month](#), reserve your spot now for our upcoming event on resilient library facilities. This kick-off virtual summit taking place **November 8th** is the first joint partnership of all Northeast State Libraries in support of adaptive resilience solutions for libraries facing the effects of climate change to their buildings and communities.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

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## News from Around the State

### Outside Together! Report Open for Public Comment

[Outside, Together!](#) was formed to update a broader Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) to ensure a more equitable distribution of outdoor recreation and conservation funds and resources. Last spring your responses to the survey helped shaped the report that is now out for public comment. Please feel free to review the report and send feedback [here](#) or via email: [Outside.Together@tpl.org](mailto:Outside.Together@tpl.org).

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### NJBEST New Jersey's 529 College Savings Plan

Help spread the word about benefits available to NJ families when they save for education with NJBEST. If you would like to order brochures to share with your patrons, please send the following details via email [here](#):

- Contact Name
- Mailing Address
- Requested number of NJBEST Mini Brochures

If you have questions about the NJBEST program or additional materials available, please contact [amanda.clark@franklintempleton.com](mailto:amanda.clark@franklintempleton.com).

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### Topics Announced for Upcoming LibraryLinkNJ AI Training Webinar Series

LibraryLinkNJ and [LibraryLinkNJ Tech Advisory Group \(L-TAG\)](#) are pleased to announce the four webinars on AI topics they will host this upcoming fall and winter! Feel free to click each webinar to learn more and register. Any questions, contact [info@librarylinknj.org](mailto:info@librarylinknj.org).

- [Introduction to AI Concepts & Examples](#) - October 24th, 2-4pm
  - [ChatGPT for Library Staff](#) - November 3rd, 2-4pm
  - [Creating AI Images for Your Library](#) - January 25th, 2-4pm
  - [An Integration with Library Data and Operations](#) - February 8th, 2-4pm
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## National Opportunities

## Department of Homeland Security Includes Venezuela in Temporary Protected Status

The Secretary of Homeland Security is extending and redesignating Venezuela for [Temporary Protected Status](#) (TPS) for 18 months to individuals that were continuously residing in the United States on or before July 31, 2023 and meet other eligibility criteria. TPS provides temporary protection from removal, as well as employment authorization for eligible Venezuelan nationals.

Beginning **October 1, 2023**, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will be accelerating the processing of Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) by decreasing median processing times from 90 to 30 days. For further details, please view the [Fact Sheet](#) provided by DHS and feel free to share these updates with your community.

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## Apply Now - Accessible Small and Rural Communities Grants

ALA invites applications from small and rural libraries for the Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Accessible Small and Rural Communities grant. Libraries selected will receive \$10,000 or \$20,000 to support costs related to their community engagement project; virtual training to assist project directors in developing their community engagement, facilitation, and disability service skills; a suite of online resources developed to support local programs; and technical and project support from the ALA Public Programs Office throughout the grant term. Library workers may apply online for grant funding from **September 11, 2023, to December 11, 2023**. [Learn more here.](#)

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## Professional Development Opportunities

Check out the upcoming LYRASIS CE opportunities on their [calendar here](#).

[Click here for a monthly national list](#) of NJSL and National CE and Professional Development opportunities for librarians, trustees, and library staffs.

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## 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:

- [Ten Reasons to Visit Your Local Public Library](#)
- [Tips for Consistently Engaging Facebook Content](#)
- [Introducing Instagram Threads](#)
- [Design Tips for Social Media Graphics](#)

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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Development Unit](#)

*Connecting people with information through libraries.*

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)

