

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries  
July 28, 2025

## State Library Updates

### Expanding Digital Literacy Grant Program

Applications are now being accepted for the New Jersey State Library's Expanding Digital Literacy grant program. Public libraries can apply for up to \$25,000 to develop and implement digital skills programs in their communities. Selected projects will increase confidence and technology skills in participants, with a focus on underserved populations, including seniors, English language learners, low-income households, individuals with disabilities, and others as identified by the applicant. NJSL estimates that \$100,000 is available for approximately 4-6 grants. The deadline to apply is **September 12, 2025** at 11:59 p.m. [Click here to view guidelines and application instructions.](#)

An informational webinar will be held on **August 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** [Click here to register.](#)

Questions should be directed to [grants@njstatelib.org](mailto:grants@njstatelib.org) with the subject "Expanding Digital Literacy."

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### NJ State Library Talking Book & Braille Center Traveling Display

TBBC has a traveling display featuring both historical and current equipment and materials used by individuals with print disabilities. Are you interested in hosting the display at your library?

[Learn more.](#)

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## Spotify Playlists for Library Programs

Our latest marketing blog shows how NJ Libraries can create themed playlists to promote programs and spark conversations. From Summer Reading Soundtracks to Study Break Beats, we've got ideas, tools, and tips to get you started. [Click here to read.](#)

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## News from Around the State

### LibraryLinkNJ Summer Book Bash

LibraryLinkNJ is throwing a Summer Book Bash! This series of virtual author events and publisher book buzzes are packed with giveaways, prizes, and plenty of bookish fun! Join the book bash now through **August 29th**, to hear about novel debuts and noteworthy books for Summer and Fall 2025. Plus, catch up on all the excitement on social with #BookBashNJ. [Click here to see upcoming events and register.](#)

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## National Opportunities

### EveryLibrary Survey for Public Libraries

[EveryLibrary](#) is a national nonprofit dedicated to supporting school and public libraries. They're researching the financial costs of book challenges to public libraries and the taxpayers. Data from public schools has been rolling in and researchers at UCLA recently published the [Cost of Conflicts Report](#).

EveryLibrary would like to gather similar data from public libraries and hope you can participate to contribute to this research.

[Click here to preview the questions asked in the survey.](#)

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

Have questions or concerns? Contact Heather Libby, PhD, [heatherelibby@gmail.com](mailto:heatherelibby@gmail.com) or Patrick Sweeney, Political Director at EveryLibrary, [patrick.sweeney@everylibrary.org](mailto:patrick.sweeney@everylibrary.org).

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## 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, feel free to share within your communities.

- [The Aging Eye](#) - July 30th @ noon
- [Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) - August 7th @ noon
- [Getting Fiscally Fit](#) - August 11th @ noon
- [A Pinelands Road Trip](#) - August 19th @ noon
- [Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia](#) - August 20th @ 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](#) of 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:

- [Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App](#)
- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)
- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)

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](#)

