

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries  
December 23, 2024

## State Library Updates

### A Message from NJ State Librarian Jen Nelson

The New Jersey State Library is starting the process of developing the model policies specified in the Freedom to Read Act, and you can help! If you especially like your library's collection development policy, request for reconsideration policy and/or request for reconsideration form, please send along. I'm compiling an inventory of samples that will be used to develop the model policy in consultation with the New Jersey Library Association. Please email your submission to Stephanie Kowalski at [skowalski@njstatelib.org](mailto:skowalski@njstatelib.org) when you have a moment. If you have particular thoughts, questions or concerns about a model policy, don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. I'd appreciate hearing from you as we undertake this process. I can be reached at [jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org).

### 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.](#)

### 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.](#)

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## Extended Deadline for Request for Quotations

*JerseyClicks Electronic Resources*

**New Deadline: January 24, 2025**

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

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## 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.](#)

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## 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!

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## 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.

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## Inclusive Marketing for Libraries

Public libraries are a safe space, open and accessible to all walks of life, offering a variety of services and programs to enhance the community. We share ways that your library's social media and marketing efforts can reflect that inclusivity in our most recent marketing blog! [Click to read](#).

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## News from Around the State

### Status Update on Strategic Roadmap for the EDI Framework for NJ Libraries Project

The EDI Framework for NJ Libraries is making steady progress. This statewide initiative aims to coordinate and align the EDI-related activities and projects of professional library organizations across New Jersey under a unified framework. The primary goal of this project is to establish a sustainable roadmap for advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in libraries statewide. [Click here for the latest updates](#).

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### Creative Aging Initiative Guidelines Now Available

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts' Creative Aging Initiative Grant (CAI) provides \$10,000 to eligible arts organizations, libraries, veterans homes, senior and community centers, colleges/universities, and units of government to cover costs for arts learning experiences with New Jersey older adults aged 55 and over. Successful applicants will receive \$10,000 of funding for each year of the two-year grant cycle, pending available resources. The CAI guidelines are now available on the Arts Council website. The application will open in SAGE on or around **January 7, 2025**, and the deadline to apply is **February 27, 2025**. [Click here to learn more](#).

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## National Opportunities

### Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grants

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation provides grant funding to support literacy and education initiatives serving individuals of all ages. The Foundation funds

nonprofit organizations, schools, and libraries within a 15-mile radius of Dollar General stores in the states in which they operate. Adult Literacy, Family Literacy and Summer Reading grant applications will open on **January 9, 2025**. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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## 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.

- [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](#).

*Connecting people with information through libraries.*

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)

