

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

September 22, 2025

## State Library Updates

### Information Literacy Training Modules

LibraryLinkNJ, in partnership with the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Department of Education, has released the first two modules of a new five-part learning series, *Information Literacy: A Guide for New Jersey Communities*. These on-demand learning modules are part of the IMLS-funded [Teaching Information Literacy initiative](#) spearheaded by the New Jersey State Library. Whether you are a librarian, educator, parent, or community leader, these free resources will help you communicate effectively with learners of all ages about this essential skill. The courses are free to access and do not require a login.

[Learn more about this initiative.](#)

[Get started with the modules.](#)

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### Research Ready: Resources for Supporting Teens

The NJ State Library is sponsoring a five-part series of one-hour virtual sessions to equip librarians with the essential tools and strategies to support teens' skills in conducting academic research. The series will be facilitated by Christine Jansen, Research and Instruction Librarian at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and moderated by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library. Sessions will take place October through December.

[Learn more about the sessions and register for each one.](#)

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### The Four Pillars of Information Literacy in New Jersey - Webinar Series

Join Jen Nelson, Linda Braun, and Ang Coxen, for a 4-part series of workshops

designed to familiarize you with the core principles driving New Jersey's emerging K-12 information literacy student learning standards. Workshops will take place in October. [Sign up for one or all sessions](#).

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## Updates for the Freedom to Read Act

The model policies and forms, plus a compliance document, for the Freedom to Read Act are now posted on the [NJSL website](#). Information sessions on implementing the model policies will be held in October 2025; registration is not required. [Find the session dates on the website](#). Please contact Jen Nelson ([jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org)) with any questions.

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## Proposed Changes to N.J.A.C. 15:21 State Library Aid and Grants and 15:22 Library Network Services

The [proposed changes are available for public comment](#) and were published in the August 4, 2025, NJ Register. Comments may be submitted to Jen Nelson, [jnelson@njstatelib.org](mailto:jnelson@njstatelib.org) through **October 3, 2025**.

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## News from Around the State

### Freedom to Read: A Panel Discussion on Representation and Censorship

NJ State Librarian Jen Nelson will join representatives from Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders of New Jersey (AAPI NJ), and Garden State Equality on **October 8th** at the North Edison Temporary Branch from 7-8 p.m. The panel will lead a timely discussion on the power of diverse representation in literature, the consequences of censorship, and the significance of the recently passed Freedom to Read Act, which upholds every reader's right to access a broad range of perspectives in libraries. [Registration for this event](#) is encouraged, but not mandatory.

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### Capital Health Fall Schedule of Events

Capital Health believes good health is a community effort, and they want libraries to be part of it. Through their free, year-round lectures, they provide health information straight from medical professionals and specialists. Please share their upcoming fall programs with your patrons. [Access PDF of all Fall Programs](#). Class sizes are limited, so early registration is encouraged. Participants can register online at [capitalhealth.org/events](http://capitalhealth.org/events) or call 609-394-4153.

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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 in September, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Protecting Your Personal Information in Today's Digital World](#) - September 24th @ noon
  - [A Century of Cuban Music in New Jersey Online](#) - September 29th @ 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 training 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.

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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:

- [How to Create Better Hyperlinks for Accessibility](#)
- [Spotify Playlists for Library Programs](#)
- [Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App](#)
- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)

Download sharable social media graphics and videos from the [Statewide Digital Marketing Campaign](#).

Also, you can [download marketing resources from State Library Vendors & Partners](#).

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