

# NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

December 1, 2025

## State Library Updates

### New Financial Literacy Initiative: Money Smart for Life

Join the New Jersey State Library to promote financial literacy information and resources for all ages during Financial Literacy Month in April 2026! Money Smart for Life is NJSL's statewide initiative to showcase how libraries support financial education and wellbeing in their communities.

Coming Soon!

- Resources: Discover financial literacy websites and tools in one place
- Professional Development: Attend webinars on financial literacy topics
- Statewide Reach: Host financial literacy programs at your library

Stay updated through the NJSL website: [www.njstatelib.org/moneysmart](http://www.njstatelib.org/moneysmart)

If you have questions, contact Andrea Levandowski ([alevandowski@njstatelib.org](mailto:alevandowski@njstatelib.org)) or Sharon Rawlins ([srawlins@njstatelib.org](mailto:srawlins@njstatelib.org)).

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### Join the Community of Practice (CoP) to Discuss Teaching Information Literacy in New Jersey

Anyone who works with youth in school, public, or academic libraries is invited to register to join the NJ State Library-sponsored monthly virtual Community of Practice (CoP) meetups. These sessions offer an opportunity to connect with colleagues, share ideas, and explore strategies to strengthen information literacy programming for youth. The [CoP meetups](#) will be held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning **December 9th, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** via Microsoft Teams.

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# Five Free Library Content Ideas You Can Post This Week!

No budget? No problem! Our latest marketing blog has five free content ideas your library can post this week to keep your followers engaged. [Click to read.](#)

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## News From Around the State

### NJLA/NJASL Conference Deadlines

The 2026 NJLA/NJASL Joint Conference is heading to the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City, February 17–19, 2026. [Register for the conference here.](#)

[Conference Proposals](#) are being accepted until end of day on **December 7th**.

[NJLA Honors & Awards nominations](#) are open through **December 7th**. If you know someone doing great work in New Jersey libraries, nominate them for an award! There are opportunities to recognize library workers at every stage of their career, and awards that accept self-nominations as well.

[Submit your poster session](#) by **December 15th**. Poster sessions feature innovative library program ideas, success stories, research studies, problem-solving solving and more. Participants have the opportunity to informally discuss their presentations with conference attendees.

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### Last Chance! Apply for New Jersey Council for the Humanities' Prime Time Family Reading Program

The application deadline for New Jersey libraries interested in serving as 2026 host sites for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities' Prime Time Family Reading program has been extended to **December 3, 2025**.

Prime Time Family Reading is a national program serving kids and their families. Participating families build early literacy skills, engage in critical thinking, and connect with each other through literature and discussion. Participating libraries receive \$6,500 in funding from NJCH and training through the national network to implement this program in their community.

Full information and the application can be found at <https://njhumanities.org/programs/prime-time-reading/>.

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### Libraries and AI Futures Webinar

This program, brought to you by LibraryLinkNJ and the LibraryLinkNJ Tech Advisory Group (L-TAG), will help library professionals gain a better perspective on the rapidly developing AI technology and a set of issues related to AI and libraries. On **Wednesday, January 14th, at 1 p.m.**, attendees will become familiar with potential leading factors and dynamics that may shape the future of AI adoption in our society, as well as the implications of various combinations of these factors and dynamics for the future of libraries and their services.

[Learn more about the presenter or register for the webinar.](#)

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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 December, feel free to share within your communities.

- [10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's](#) - December 10th @ noon
  - [Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) - December 11th @ noon
  - [RetireReady NJ: Your Path to a Secure Retirement](#)- December 18th @ noon
  - [Virtual Author Talk - Winning the Ten Crucial Days: The Keys to Victory in George Washington's Legendary Winter Campaign](#) - December 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:

- [The Secret to Social Media Hooks](#)
- [Refresh Your Library's Approach to Email Marketing](#)
- [How to Create Better Hyperlinks for Accessibility](#)
- [Spotify Playlists for Library Programs](#)
- [Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App](#)

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

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

*Connecting people with information through libraries.*

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New Jersey State Library | 185 West State Street P.O. Box 520 | Trenton, NJ 08625-0520 US

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