

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
June 30, 2025

State Library Updates

NJSL Presents July 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 July, feel free to share within your communities.

- [Murder, Disaster, and Scandal in New Jersey](#) - July 8th @ noon
- [What Do You Want to Be when You Grow Up? Preparing for your Last Career and Active Retirement](#) - July 17th @ noon
- [Understanding Credit](#) - July 22nd @ noon
- [Introduction to Finding Grants](#) - July 24th @ noon
- [The Aging Eye](#) - July 30th @ noon

An Update on the NJ Library Construction Bond Act

The NJ State Library is pleased to provide a progress update of the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act. As of mid-2025, there are 69 library projects either completed or underway in 20 counties, out of the 75 total planned projects. [Click to learn more.](#)

Get to Know Your Local Historical Society Project: Bordentown Historical Society

By creating a library of informational videos of historical societies throughout the state, we aim to promote local collections, increase the visibility of the state's historical societies, and provide a central repository for researchers, genealogists, and other librarians to get a high-level description of the collections and services available. In this feature, we're getting to know the Bordentown Historical Society. [Click to learn more.](#)

Surprising Things About Borrowing Books from TBBC

Learn five surprising facts about borrowing books from our Talking Book and Braille Center! [Click here to read.](#)

Freedom to Read Act Policies: Time for your Feedback

The draft policies and procedures that the State Librarian, in consultation with the New Jersey Library Association developed are available for public review and comment. The documents are posted on the [NJSL website](#), your feedback is requested by **July 31, 2025**.

Please contact Jen Brenner (jbrenner@njstatelib.org) or Jen Nelson (jnelson@njstatelib.org) for further information or assistance.

Learn More About the New Instagram Edits App!

Say hello to Instagram Edits, the shiny new video editing tool on the block! Is it the next big thing for your library's social media? Head over to our marketing blog to get the scoop and see if it's worth adding to your toolkit! [Click here to read.](#)

News from Around the State

DOH Heat Safety Resources

The NJ Department of Health has shared heat safety resources that may be of use to our most vulnerable community members. Below are links to a number of printable materials (English and Spanish) that can be printed and distributed at your library. Please share these resources as needed:

- [Heat Exhaustion](#)
- [Heat Exhaustion \(Español\)](#)
- [Heat Safety](#)
- [Heat Safety \(Español\)](#)
- [Chill Out NJ](#)
- [Chill Out NJ \(Español\)](#)

Additionally, the following websites offer valuable information and resources:

[NJ211 Cooling Centers](#)

[Heat Hub NJ](#)

Water Conservation Outreach Toolkit

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is seeking help to spread public awareness of water conservation and how we can all do our part. In the summer, outdoor water use can more than double. We can reduce our water use by as much as 30% by taking a few simple steps. Take a look at their ["Every Drop Counts"](#) information page, which includes an [Outreach Toolkit](#) that can be used to spread the word in your community.

National Opportunities

National Endowment for the Arts America250 Arts Projects Grant Opportunity

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will offer grants for arts projects in any discipline that celebrate the contributions to American history of one or more of a select list of national heroes. NEA is accepting proposals for works of art in a

range of formats: plays, operas, literary arts, concerts, visual arts, museum exhibitions, etc. that honor these individuals. Projects may take place in any of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. jurisdictions. [Click here to learn more and apply](#). **Application Deadline: July 14, 2025.**

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:

- [Grab Patrons' Attention With These Videos](#)
- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)
- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)
- [Inclusive Marketing for Libraries](#)

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](#)

