

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
March 31, 2025

State Library Updates

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

- [Legal Research Databases at the NJ State Library](#) - April 2nd @ noon
- [The Mysteries of the 1777 Battle of Navesink](#) - April 9th @ noon
- [Listen More, Talk Less: A Key to Career Success](#) - April 16th @ noon
- [Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) - April 17th @ noon
- [Coping with Deer](#) - April 23rd @ noon

State Librarian's Update - April 2025

Please take a moment to review the April 2025 New Jersey State Library [update](#).

Updated Research Guides

We've made updates to two of our Research Guides:

- An [Archived Federal Websites and Data](#) section has been added to the U.S. Government research guide. This is to help users navigate changes

made to federal government websites and data portals since the 2025 presidential transition.

- An Immigration tab has been added to our [Get Help: New Jersey Social Services](#) research guide to include links to federal, state, and local resources on immigration, including legal services and information.
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News from Around the State

LCBA Featured Library Project: Fanwood Memorial Library

The next New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act spotlight features Fanwood Memorial Library! The opening of their new building is the culmination of a decade of planning that began with the demolition of their 70-year-old original library. [Click here to read](#) about their new ADA-compliant building supported in part by funds from the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, administered by the New Jersey State Library.

LibraryLinkNJ Mental Health First Aid Training

LibraryLinkNJ will continue their partnership with Hackensack Meridian Health to offer virtual Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid training courses. Mental health emergencies can touch nearly any aspect of library service, and staff in any position from any library type are invited to register for this free training course taught by certified Mental Health First Aid instructors.

Registration is now open for the following spring training courses and is limited to 30 participants for each session:

- [Youth Mental Health First Aid Training](#) - April 15th, 9:00AM-1:30PM
 - [Adult Mental Health First Aid Training](#) - May 16th, 9:00AM-2:30PM
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RevolutionNJ Spotlight: America's Field Trip

In 2026, the United States will mark our Semiquincentennial: the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. America's Field Trip is a contest that invites students across the country in grades 3–12 to be part of this milestone by sharing their perspectives on what America means to them, with the opportunity to earn an unforgettable field trip experience at some of the nation's most iconic historic and cultural landmarks. Field trip sites include

the Smithsonian's National Zoo, National Archives Museum, Kennedy Space Center, and Yellowstone National Park — just to name a few.

Students are asked to submit writing or original artwork in response to the contest's prompt: "What does America mean to you?" Submissions will be accepted until **Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** [Click here to learn more.](#)

National Opportunities

National Library Week 2025: Drawn to the Library!

Celebrate National Library Week, April 6 - 12, 2025. This year's theme is "Drawn to the Library" to celebrate that no matter what draws you in, the library has something for everyone! Award-winning author and illustrator Raina Telgemeier and cartoonist and comic theorist Scott McCloud have been selected as Honorary Chairs of National Library Week 2025. If your library would like to take part in this annual celebration, [visit ALA's website](#) for free tools and resources.

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:

- [Understanding the Algorithm](#)
- [Have Hashtags Gone Out of Style?](#)
- [Look Out for These Social Media Trends in 2025](#)
- [Inclusive Marketing for Libraries](#)
- [How to Fix a Creative Block in Marketing](#)

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](#).

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