

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries
June 23, 2025

State Library Updates

Email Issue with New NJLA Listserv

Some email servers, including JerseyConnect, are blocking email messages from NJLA and ALA, or messages sent through their online communities to Sections, Committees, and Task Forces. Please check your spam folder to see if you have missed anything, and take a moment to go to Trusted Senders through your webmail interface and [add connectedcommunity.org as a Trusted Domain](https://add.connectedcommunity.org) so you won't have any gaps in email messages from NJLA or ALA. Please contact office@njla.org if you have questions or need assistance.

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](https://njsl.org), 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

2025 Statewide Summer Reading Programs in New Jersey Libraries

Everyone of all ages is invited to “Color Our World: Colorea Nuestro Mundo” at their local public library this summer to celebrate this year’s theme of arts and creativity, with artwork created by illustrator Mike Mullan. All New Jersey public libraries are members of the [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#), a nonprofit consortium of libraries that works together to provide a unified summer reading theme and professionally created, evidence-based materials for member libraries to enable them to provide high-quality summer reading programs.

[Read more about the 2025 Statewide Summer Reading Program.](#)

The State Library's Talking Book & Braille Center is also working together with the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) to coordinate efforts for the NLS Summer Reading Program! To explore the full summer schedule for TBBC patrons, [click here](#).

NJ Dept. of Human Services - Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

The New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Office of New Americans (ONA) has issued two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for:

- Coordination of Detention and Deportation Defense Initiative and provision of legal services for New Jersey residents facing detention and/or deportation
- Coordination of New Jersey's Legal Representation for Children and Youth Program and provision of legal services to migrant children and youth arriving to New Jersey as unaccompanied minors seeking refuge

Details on these RFPs are available at [Department of Human Services Request for Proposals/Information \(RFPs, RFIs\)](#)

Proposals are due on **Monday, July 14, 2025, by 11:59 PM EST.**

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 the national heroes listed in [Executive Order 13978](#). We are 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.**

August 2025 Meeting of the Public Library - Community Partner Coalition

Join the Public Library - Community Partnership Coalition. The Coalition is an expanding network that collaboratively supports the development and sustainability of community partnerships involving or led by public libraries. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday August 29 at 2 pm Eastern and will be hosted by Dr. Noah Lenstra and Dr. Zachary Stier.

You can find details about the Coalition, sign up to join, and register for the next meeting [here](#).

Upcoming NJSL Presents Events

- [The Talking Book and Braille Center: Resources and Services for the Print Disabled](#) - June 24th @ noon
 - [Understanding Posttraumatic Stress Disorder](#) - June 27 @ 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](#) 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.

