

NJSL DIRECT

Weekly News Updates for New Jersey Libraries

July 13, 2026

State Library Updates

State Librarian's Update - July

Please take a moment to read the [July 2026 New Jersey State Library update](#).

Public Library Building Construction Needs Survey Results

In April and May 2026, the New Jersey State Library conducted a Public Library Building Construction Needs Survey. The survey responses reflect the needs of 218 of the state's 440 public libraries. We are grateful for the high rate of participation, which helps paint a clear picture of need. You can view the survey questions and the report on our [new Library Construction webpage](#). Please reach out with any questions – jnelson@njstatelib.org.

NJ AI Library Learning Network

The State Library and LibraryLinkNJ have partnered with the NJ AI Hub to launch the NJ AI Library Learning Network, a new initiative that will help libraries bring practical AI learning and workforce skills to communities across the state. Library staff from five public libraries will receive advanced AI literacy training and, in turn, will offer free community workshops focused on the practical, ethical, and accessible use of AI. Participating libraries include the Jersey City Free Public Library, Mercer County Library System, Somerset County Library System of New Jersey, Camden County Library System, and Burlington County Library System. [Click here to view the press release](#) and learn more about this exciting partnership!

Snapshot View of the New Jersey State Library Teaching Information Literacy Pilot

The New Jersey State Library worked with the American Institutes of Research (AIR) to create a set of K-12 learning activities on information literacy for educators, as part of its IMLS Teaching Information Literacy grant. Participating school library media specialists and classroom teachers piloted the learning activities in their classrooms between January and March 2026. [Check out this snapshot](#) of the experiences, highlights, and challenges they faced, along with recommendations for next steps from AIR.

News From Around The State

Help Your Community Prepare to Vote

Libraries play an important role in connecting residents with reliable, nonpartisan information. The [New Jersey Division of Elections' Voter Information Portal](#) provides official information on voter registration, mail-in voting, early voting, polling place locations, secure ballot drop boxes, ballot tracking, accessibility services, election deadlines, and more. Whether someone is voting for the first time or is a longtime voter, the site offers the resources they need to participate confidently in the electoral process.



Promote Civic Engagement in Your Community

[Jersey Civic Engage](#) is a nonpartisan initiative of the New Jersey Department of State that provides programs, resources, and tools to help residents become informed and engaged participants in civic life. With a special focus on youth engagement, the initiative includes opportunities such as the NJ Ballot Bowl, High School Voter Registration Week, and resources that encourage voter participation and community involvement.



National Opportunities

U.S. Government Publishing Office Launches

Public Access to Newly Available Records

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) has launched public access to more than 1.2 million newly available records of historic U.S. Government publications, making it easier than ever to find documents published between 1895 and 1976. The records are now live in the [Catalog of U.S. Government Publications \(CGP\)](#) and are available to the public at no cost. This launch improves search and discovery and opens the door to decades of Government publications that were previously difficult to locate online. [Click here to learn more in the news release.](#)

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 July, feel free to share within your communities.



- [William Livingston: Governor, General, Signer of the Constitution](#) - July 15th @ noon
 - [Medicare 101](#) - July 21st @ noon
 - [Gentle Yoga](#) - July 23rd @ 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.

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:

- [Early Marketing: How to Build Excitement for Your Library's Work](#)
- [Community Influencers: The New Word-of-Mouth](#)
- [How to Use Canva Templates for Library Social Posts](#)
- [How to Turn One Library Program into Multiple Marketing Opportunities](#)
- [Library Content Brainstorm for 2026](#)

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.

New Jersey State Library | [Website](#)



NJ250: Living Documents, Evolving Rights - New Jersey Through Three Constitutions
<https://www.njstatelib.org/nj250>

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