

## **THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY**

### **December 2018**

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian  
Greg McCormick, Director

#### **Annual Online Library System Certification Begins January 2**

The Annual Online Certification process begins Jan. 2, 2019. Certification is required of all library system members in order to qualify for continuing system services and grants programs from the State Library. The window for certification will close March 31, 2019.

Libraries are also required to complete the ILL ILLINET Traffic Survey before completing certification. The ILL ILLINET Traffic Survey can be completed any time prior to the certification deadline, March 31, 2019.

More information about certification is available at the State Library's Annual Library Certification [Web page](#). The page includes a link to the data and questions included in the certification form, a link to the online certification portal (accessible from Jan. 2–March 31), a Frequently Asked Questions and a document outlining Library Data Entry Guidelines to use in completing the certification form.

#### **FY19 Live & Learn Construction Grant application due date approaching**

Applications for the State Library's Live & Learn Construction Grant Program are due no later than Jan. 11, 2019. Information about the grant program is available at: <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/constructgrants.html>. The website provides access to Live & Learn Construction Grant Program, requirements and a link to the grant application.

An informational webinar for public libraries interested in applying for the FY19 Live & Learn Construction Grant Program is also available on the grant program's Web page and includes an overview of the program including eligibility requirements, grant categories, rules and regulations governing the program, application procedures, required supporting documentation, grant submission and review procedures.

For more information or if you need assistance in the application process, please contact [Mark Shaffer](#).

#### **Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant Applications Due January 15**

The FY19 Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant application and FY17 Expenditure Report forms are available at [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/plpc\\_equalization.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/plpc_equalization.html).

Instructions for completing a fillable PDF are available at <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/grant-pdf-instructions.html>.

When you have completed the application and report(s), email the documents to [Percap-grant@ilsos.net](mailto:Percap-grant@ilsos.net) by **Jan. 15, 2019**. Be sure to include your city in the subject line.

Please contact [Jeanne Urbanek](#) for more information.

#### **FY20 SOS Adult Literacy Grant Applications Due February 1**

The FY20 Secretary of State Adult Literacy Grant Program applications are being offered in advance of the provision of the state budget. The Illinois State Library makes these grant applications available so that award notification may be released when legislative and gubernatorial approval of an FY20 appropriation is made. All grant applicants are encouraged to listen to the appropriate online presentation(s) as Literacy Office staff reviews the FY20 application and programming requirements.

The grant information session webinars were recorded and are available at the following links:

- [Adult Volunteer Literacy Grant Information Webinar](#)
- [Penny Severns Family Literacy Grant Information Webinar](#)
- [Workplace Skills Enhancement Grant Information Webinar](#)

All grant applications will be due **Friday, Feb. 1, 2019**. Obligations to fund this grant program will cease immediately without penalty or further payment being required if the Illinois General Assembly or the federal funding source fails to appropriate or otherwise make available sufficient funds.

Contact the Literacy Office at (217) 785-6921 with questions.

### **2019 Guide to the Illinois Secretary of State Literacy Effort**

Secretary of State/Illinois State Library Literacy Office has published and printed the newest edition of the Guide to the Secretary of State Literacy Effort. The publication provides an in-depth overview of the literacy program, statistics from FY18 grant recipients, maps of service locations throughout the state and a listing of all agencies who received FY19 Secretary of State Literacy Grants. The listing provides location and contact information for each agency and can be used as a reference and referral guide for anyone seeking assistance with literacy issues. The guide can be accessed at the following link - [http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf\\_publications/dl18.pdf](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/pdf_publications/dl18.pdf).

### **IPLAR Survey Now Available**

The FY18/19 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) survey is now open. Each public library is required to submit the IPLAR 60 days after the library's fiscal year end. The instructions and worksheet are available on the IPLAR Login Screen. The 2019 survey is similar to 2018, but the Capital Needs Assessment has been added. There is one additional question about website visits. For more information about the IPLAR survey, please visit the State Library's [IPLAR Web page](#).

### **Big Opportunities for Small Libraries**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has launched a new special initiative, [Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries \(APP\)](#) and is accepting grant applications now through Feb. 25, 2019.

This new funding opportunity is designed specifically to strengthen the ability of small and rural libraries, archives and related organizations to serve their communities. Award sizes range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. APP is a special initiative of National Leadership Grants for Libraries, which support projects that enhance the quality of library and archives services nationwide by advancing theory and practice.

### **Metamora library director donates kidney to best friend's mother**

When Joel Shoemaker learned that his best friend's mother, Linda Miller, of Mahomet, was in need of a kidney transplant, he did not hesitate to get tested to see if he would be a match for her.

Linda had first looked to her family for a match, but no one was able to donate to her. So Joel went through an evaluation to determine if he could become a donor for Linda. The results of the test supported that Joel's kidney would be a match for Linda.

On October 30,, Joel and Linda both underwent surgery at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. Linda received her life saving transplant, made possible by the gift of Joel's kidney.

Joel was told that recovery after donating his kidney may take four to five weeks, but he was feeling well enough to return to his work as director of the Illinois Prairie District Public Library Metamora after only two weeks.

Linda is also doing well. She is very grateful for this life-saving gift from Joel.

Both Linda and Joel are happy to tell their story, in hopes that it will help others understand the importance of organ donation.

Joel received a letter from Secretary of State Jesse White expressing his appreciation for Joel's heroic and selfless decision to become a living kidney donor and also for his ongoing efforts as Director of the Illinois Prairie District Public Library. Joel has been a supporter of organ/tissue donation long before he became a living kidney donor and makes sure to include information about organ/tissue donation and the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry at the libraries in his district. For tips on hosting a successful organ/tissue donor registration drive at your library, visit [Lifegoeson.com](http://Lifegoeson.com).

### **Jesse White Announces Winners of 14th Annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition**

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced the winners of the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award in the 14th annual Illinois Emerging Writers Competition. The winners are from Saunemin, Evanston and Jacksonville.

Donna O'Shaughnessy of Saunemin was awarded first place for her poem "In the Kitchen They Danced." Emma Morris of Evanston received second place for her poem "MS 57947." Laura Bandy of Jacksonville was the third-place winner for her poem "Knockout." The winners read their poems and received their awards during a ceremony on December 4 at the Illinois State Library in Springfield.

The competition is named for the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks and is sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book. Kevin Stein, Illinois Poet Laureate 2003-2017, served as the final judge of the competition.

The winning poems are available at

[http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center\\_for\\_the\\_book/](http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/center_for_the_book/). Also, the winning poems will be submitted for possible publication in the "Ninth Letter," "RHINO" and "Quiddity" magazines and "Poetic License Press" publications.

### **Illinois Author and Artist William Crook, Jr. Exhibits at State Library**

The State Library will display a collection of pen and ink illustrations by Springfield artist and author William Crook, Jr. The exhibit "William Crook, Jr. Looks at His Hometown" will be held in the atrium through Jan. 4, 2019. For more information, please contact the State Library at 217-785-5615.

### **"Illinois Reads" author spotlights**

The authors and illustrators below have published books that are included in the 2018 "Illinois Reads" [book list](#) for adults. "Illinois Reads" is an initiative of the [Illinois Reading Council](#) that highlights the importance of reading at all ages and supports Illinois authors. Each year, the program offers a list of 36 titles written and/or illustrated by Illinois authors at six different age levels from birth to adult.

- The Executive Secretary of the city of Wheeling, [Martin Seay](#), lives in Chicago with his spouse, writer Kathleen Rooney. His fiction, essays and criticism have appeared in a variety of publications. His debut novel, "[The Mirror Thief](#)," is a globetrotting, time-bending, wildly entertaining masterpiece set in three cities in three eras. It was selected as a New York Times Notable Book of the Year, A Publishers Weekly and NPR Best Book of the Year.
- "[Kathleen Rooney](#)" lives in Chicago with her spouse, writer Martin Seay. She teaches English and Creative Writing at DePaul University. She is a founding editor of Rose Metal Press, a publisher of literary work in hybrid genres and a founding member of Poems While You Wait, a team of

poets who compose commissioned poetry on demand. Her second novel, "[Lillian Boxfish takes a walk](#)," is an amusing and moving Indie National Bestseller.

- [Michael Harvey](#) is a Chicago writer and journalist. He has received national and international awards for his work. He was the co-creator, writer and executive producer of the television series "Cold Case Files," as well as an Academy Award-nominee for his documentary "Eyewitness," and is a former investigative producer for CBS in Chicago. "[The Chicago Way](#)," is the first book in his five book series about private investigator Michael Kelly. It received a starred review from Publishers Weekly.
- [Allison Pataki](#) is the daughter of former New York State governor George E. Pataki. She graduated from Yale University with a major in English. Now living in Chicago, Pataki was inspired to write her third book and New York Times Bestseller, "[Sisi: Empress On Her Own](#)," by her family's deep roots in the former Habsburg Empire of Austria-Hungary. It has been called an enthralling work of historical fiction that is also a gripping page-turner.
- [Leslie Parry](#) currently lives in Chicago and is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Her short stories have appeared in VQR, The Missouri Review, The Cincinnati Review, The PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories, and elsewhere. "[Church Of Marvels](#)," is her first novel. A story set in turn-of-the-century New York City, where "a sideshow performer, a pair of asylum escapees and an orphaned boxer converge in an intricately braided novel of secrets and hidden identities." (O, The Oprah Magazine)
- [Jack Gilbert, PHD](#) is a Professor of Surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine and Faculty Director of the Microbiome Center. The internet is rife with speculation and misinformation about the risks and benefits of what most parents think of as germs, but which scientists now call the microbiome. He co-wrote "[Dirt Is Good: The Advantage of Germs for Your Child's Developing Immune System](#)," to help bring answers to parents who want to do the best for their young children.

### Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights **Land O'Frost, Inc** in Lansing, which runs a Secretary of State supported Workplace Skills Enhancement Program. The goal of the program is to provide non-native English speaking employees the opportunity to communicate better. The classes that are offered have assisted employees with English language skills in the workplace and also in conducting personal business such as at parent teacher conferences. Land O'Frost has introduced new automated equipment into various production areas. With the implementation, there is a need to conduct training with vendors who are not bilingual. The classes have provided the opportunity for machine operators to improve their communication skills in English and have a better understanding of operating the equipment.

### Salute to Veterans

In this issue of E-News, we are saluting Frederick 'Rick' G. Welch. Mr. Welch served in the Navy during the Vietnam War from 1968 to 1971. Mr. Welch shares his story of serving in the Navy Seabee's during the Vietnam War. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at <https://youtu.be/ZgDJ6HGVvgs>.

### Happy New Year!

Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White and the State Library staff wish you and yours a very happy new year! The State Library will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day

**State Library's comprehensive online calendar**

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

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