

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY **February 2020**

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

Project Next Generation Grant Applications Due March 15

The Illinois State Library is currently accepting applications for [FY21 Project Next Generation \(PNG\)](#) grants. PNG programs encourage personal growth and the educational development of at risk, middle to high school students through the use of mentors, technology and library-based group projects. Public libraries that have completed the 2020 [Annual Certification](#) and are recognized by the State Library as a full member in good standing of an Illinois library system are eligible to apply. The deadline to submit is March 15, 2020. If you have questions about this grant offering, contact [Rita Stephens](#) at 217-782-5506.

Public Library Construction Act Grant (PLCAG) Program applications Due April 15

The State Library will be accepting applications for the PLCAG Program for FY2020, with those applications due on or before April 15. The State Library has been accepting applications for this program every year since the program's inception in FY2012. To be considered for funding, applications must be submitted electronically to construct-grant@ilsos.gov and include all of the applicable required supporting documentation. Information on the required supporting documentation as well as an overview of the program to include program rules and regulations can be found at https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/publib_construction.html.

FY2019 Statewide Delivery Statistics

During FY2019, over 14,303,767 million books, magazines, DVDs and other cataloged library materials traveled around the state to meet the needs of residents from Carbondale to Chicago and everywhere in between. Through the physical delivery of materials, resources were shared among 1,801 libraries of all types. Illinois Heartland Library System delivered 4,505,471 items; Reaching Across Illinois Libraries System delivered 9,033,465 items, and Illinois Library Delivery Service shared 764,831 items. In addition, the Chicago Public Library System processed 1,108,213 interlibrary loans for ILLINET member libraries.

IPLAR Survey Now Available

The FY19/20 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 2020 Survey is similar to 2019, but the Capital Needs Assessment is not required this year. When completing the 2020 Illinois Public Library Annual Report for your library, please remember to refer to the charts available for Section 17 [Counting Electronic Items](#), and Section 18 [Reporting Electronic Item](#)

[Usage](#) . Check out this link for Section 21: [Counting Wifi Sessions and Website Visits](#) For more information about the IPLAR survey, please visit the State Library [IPLAR Web page](#).

Public Libraries Survey Search and Compare Tool Now Available

Each year, the public library annual report data for Illinois is imported into the [Public Libraries Survey](#) (PLS). The PLS is part of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). FY2017/18 data is now available through the [Search and Compare Tool](#). You can use the Tool to compile trend and comparison analyses of other libraries in Illinois and other states. Statistics include library visits, circulation, size of collections, public services hours, staffing, electronic resources, operating revenue and expenditures and number of service outlets. ([details](#))

Annual Certification

A total of 1,131 libraries have completed Annual Certification. As of today, 663 ILLINET member libraries still need to complete certification. Approximately to date, 63 percent of ILLINET member libraries have completed certification. 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, 2020. Libraries are also required to complete the [ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey](#) before completing certification. The ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing Statistical Survey can be completed any time prior to the certification deadline of **March 31, 2020**.

More information about certification is available at the State Library's Annual [Library Certification webpage](#).

Census 2020

A new toolkit designed to strengthen library efforts in promoting Census 2020 outreach geared toward immigrant communities and New Americans is now available. The "Counted In" Toolkit is a project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The toolkit was developed by 45 librarians and marketing experts from across the country. The resources are primarily downloadable, customizable free visual aids and marketing material. They are free and available for all types of libraries.

The "Counted In" Toolkit is a response to concerns from librarians about promoting the 2020 Census among immigrant communities. Suspicion on how census data will be used pose barriers to participation. Given their role as welcoming places for immigrant groups, libraries are considered trusted messengers for census participation.

The toolkit can be found at <https://countedinlibraries.org/>.

Elevate 2020

Elevate 2020 will take place on Saturday, April 18, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., at the Illinois State Library in Springfield. Registration is open at the [Illinois Library Association’s website](#).

This year’s Elevate 2020 leadership session will explore the concept of judging versus joining behaviors and the types of behaviors that lead to inclusion and exclusion. This is a timely topic as libraries are grappling with concepts of inclusion and equity, and how to create and sustain professional environments. Please join us at the Illinois State Library on April 18, 2020 while we work through this topic with the Mark A. Puente, Director of Diversity and Leadership Programs with the Association of Research Libraries. This program is jointly sponsored by the Illinois Library Association, the Illinois Heartland Library System, the Reaching Across Illinois Library System and the Illinois State Library.

Workshops for Public Library Trustees

The Library Trustee Forum will host the first of their annual workshops on Saturday, March 7 at the Illinois State Library, Springfield. Register today to attend: [Plan – Implement – Communicate: Building Strategic Planning and Storytelling Capacity for Community Impact](#). Trustee workshops are designed to educate public library board members on their role and offer solutions to issues affecting libraries. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a newbie, trustees at any level of their career will benefit from attending one of these workshops. The second workshop will be held March 14 in Oak Brook.

The 2020 Illinois Reads Authors and Book festival Has Been Announced

“[Illinois Reads](#)” is an annual statewide reading initiative of the [Illinois Reading Council](#) to promote Illinois authors and the importance of reading for Illinois citizens of all ages, from birth through adult. Each year, there are six different books by Illinois authors and/or illustrators selected at six different age bands for the [reading list](#). Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is the honorary chair.

The 2020 “Illinois Reads” program formally gets underway with a Book Festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at Illinois Valley Community College in Oglesby. Readers from throughout Illinois are invited to the free event. Mark your calendars now to attend and meet these authors.

Below is a list of the 2020 “Illinois Reads” authors and illustrators who attended the festival and their highlighted books:

Ages Birth to 4 Years

- Jacob Grant – “Bear’s Scare”
- Bob Raczka – “Beware!”
- Rich Lo – “Chinese New Year Colors”
- Heidi Bee Roemer – “Peekity Boo-What You Can Do!”
- Patricia Toht – “Pick a Pumpkin”

Grades K – 2

- Alex Willan – “Jasper & Ollie”
- Lori Degman – “Just Read!”
- John Sandford – “Oak Leaf”

Grades 3-5

- Kate Hannigan – “Cape—The League of Secret Heroes, Book One”
- J.S. Puller – “Captain Superlative!”
- Lindsay Currie – “The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street”
- Eileen R. Meyer – “The Superlative A. Lincoln: Poems About Our 16th President”
- Liesl Shurtliff – “Time Castaways #1: The Mona Lisa Key”
- Carolyn Crimi – “Weird Little Robots”

Grades 6-8

- Rosaria Munda – “Fireborne”
- Art Baltazar – “Powers in Action, Volume 1: The Hero Squadron!”
- Brandon Marie Miller – “Robert E. Lee: The Man, the Soldier, the Myth”
- Crystal Cestari – “Windy City Magic, Book 1: The Best Kind of Magic”

Grades 9-12

- Jessie Ann Foley – “Sorry for Your Loss”
- Alyssa Wees – “The Waking Forest”
- Laura Ruby – “Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All”
- Joelle Charbonneau – “Verify”
- Natalie Lund – “We Speak in Storms”

Adult

- Devin Murphy – “The Boat Runner: A Novel”

Illinois School District Librarians and Public Librarians look for an “Illinois Reads” poster and a set of bookmarks to be coming in the mail from the Secretary of State shortly.

Literacy Spotlight

This month’s Literacy Spotlight highlights the Project READ program at **The Learning Center/House Of Connections** in Chicago. A woman came to the United States as a teenager from Mexico. Before moving to Chicago, she faced some difficult life challenges. She was a victim of domestic violence and lost custody of two of her three children. To protect herself, she decided to move to Chicago to start a new life and fight for custody of her sons. In October of 2017, she enrolled in The Learning Center's literacy program. She was very dedicated to her studies and worked extremely hard to achieve her academic goals. With the help of volunteer tutors, she achieved the highest possible score on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE). Because of all the hard work and dedication she put into her studies, The Learning Center felt she could bring a great work ethic to their staff and hired her as receptionist. In July of 2018, she was awarded custody of her sons and resides in Chicago with all three of her children.

Salute to Veterans

In this issue of E-News, we are saluting Robert E. Suddeth. Mr. Suddeth served in the U.S. Marine Corp during World War II as part of the occupation of Japan and during the Korean War. Mr. Suddeth shares his account of serving during these conflicts. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at <https://youtu.be/sNLEIVgVzMs>.

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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