

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY March 2021

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

FY2022 SOS Adult Literacy Grant Applications Due March 15

The FY2022 Secretary of State Illinois State Library 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 FY2022 appropriation is made. Information is available at <https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/literacy/home.html>. If you have questions about this grant offering, contact the Literacy Office at 217-785-6921.

FY 2021 Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant Applications Due March 15

The deadline to apply is **March 15, 2021**. To be eligible for the Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant, a public library shall show that it provides library services that either meet or show progress toward meeting the Illinois Library Standards as, most recently approved by the Illinois Library Association (75 Illinois Compiled Statutes 10/8.1 [1]).

The FY 2021 Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant application is a series of questions to determine the status of the library in relationship to "Serving Our Public 4.0 Standards for Illinois Public Libraries." Review the checklist at the end of each chapter to navigate the application and evaluate if the library meets, is making progress toward meeting, or does not meet each standard.

FY 2021 grant information can be found at:

https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/grants/plpc_equalization.html.

If you have questions, contact the Illinois State Library at percap-grant@ilsos.gov or 800-665-5576, ext. 2.

Project Next Generation Grant Applications Available

The Illinois State Library is currently accepting applications for [FY22 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 recognized by the Illinois State Library as full members in good standing of an Illinois library system are eligible to apply. The deadline to submit is **March 30, 2021**. If you have questions concerning this grant offering, contact [Rita Stephens](#) at 217-782-5506.

Public Library Construction Act Grant (PLCAG) Program applications being accepted

The Illinois State Library will be accepting applications for the PLCAG Program for fiscal year 2021, with those applications due on or before **April 15**. The State Library has been accepting applications for this program every year since the inception of the program in fiscal year 2012. To be considered for funding, applications and all required supporting documentation must be submitted electronically to construct-grant@ilsos.gov. 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.

The Illinois State Library is making grant applications available for this program prior to the availability of funds. Obligations to fund this grant program is contingent upon the Illinois General Assembly appropriating sufficient funds for the program.

IPLAR survey now available

The fiscal year 2020-21 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, worksheet and Guide to Virtual Programming are available on the [IPLAR Login Screen](#). The 2021 survey includes the Capital Needs Assessment as part of the biennial requirement stipulated by Public Act 96-0037. There are 15 additional questions this year that are related to the impact of COVID-19. Thirteen COVID-19 questions require yes/no answers, and two questions report on the number of weeks closed or with limited occupancy as a result of the pandemic. For questions about counting Wi-Fi sessions and website visits, check out this link: [Counting Wi-Fi Sessions and Website Visits](#). If you would like more information, including a detailed list of changes and helpful tips, contact [Pat Burg](#). For more information about the IPLAR survey, please visit the State Library [IPLAR webpage](#).

FY2021 ANNUAL CERTIFICATION

The portal to FY21 Annual Certification is now available at [L2: Library Directory and Learning Calendar](#). ILLINET Member libraries must complete annual certification for system membership at the L2 website, between February 15 and May 15, 2021. Before starting certification, your library should complete the latest [ILLINET Interlibrary Loan \(ILL\) Statistical Survey](#).

Designated certification contacts should see a link to the certification form on the L2 homepage and your Account > My Dashboard page when logged in.

If you are a library director or are the person who typically completes certification for your library, but do not see the certification link, go to My Dashboard and click on Edit in your Location affiliation and scroll down to the "Key Contact - Regional System" section, check "Certification Contact," and click "Save" at the bottom of the page.

If you need help with certification:

- Check the FAQs linked from <https://librarylearning.org/help>
- Watch the [video demonstration of certification](#)
- Submit the contact form at <https://librarylearning.org/help> to receive assistance from system staff

Transforming Teen Services Train the Trainer

The second in a series of trainings for those that serve teens will be offered over the next couple of months. Gwen Harrison, Illinois State Library and Amber Creger, Schaumburg Township District Library will introduce the concepts of Computational Thinking. Computational Thinking (CT) includes tinkering, creating, designing, building, coding and making.

We use CT in our day to day lives. It is the way we go about attacking a problem. This series of classes will create another tool for actively engaging teens. Take advantage of this opportunity to build and develop services for and with teens that will help guarantee that the adolescents you support have what they need for future success.

All training will be hosted via Zoom. Training will be held once a week on consecutive Fridays' beginning April 9th – May 7th, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. The online "homework" will be hosted utilizing Canvas Instructure as the online learning platform. Members will have weekly "homework" that is due the Wednesday of the following week.

For registration and further information go to [T3: Transforming Teen Services - Train the Trainer | L2: Library Directory & Learning Calendar \(librarylearning.org\)](#).

This training is sponsored by Young Adult Library Services Association, Institute of Museum and Library Services and Chief Officers of State Library Agencies.

Project Next Generation in Chicago

Chicago Public Library has launched an 8-month fashion-based program series, [Radical Fit](#). The Project Next Generation grant has allowed the library to partner closely with Sky Cubacub, a non-binary queer and disabled Filipinx fashion designer, to develop a curriculum of tutorials that build craft and entrepreneurship skills while demonstrating how fashion can be used as a tool to empower and affirm identity formation across the spectrum. Through teen facing virtual programs, Take & Make craft kits, live interviews and staff trainings, the library has been able to continuously build new platforms for teens to confidently acquire new skills and safely express their voices.

The Research Institute for Public Libraries Data Boot Camp free webinar series

The Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL) is offering a Data Boot Camp series. This free webinar series features curriculum from the [RIPL 2020 national event](#). Come ready to participate in a variety of interactive learning activities, some of which will occur in small groups in breakout rooms. Visit <https://ripl.irs.org/ripl-data-boot-camp/> to learn more about each webinar and to register. For more information contact [Linda Hofschire](#), RIPL director.

2020-2021 ILLINOIS READS BOOK FESTIVAL SATURDAY, MARCH 13 – VIRTUAL

[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 2020-2021 ILLINOIS READS Book Festival will be held virtually from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at: <https://sites.google.com/view/illinois-reads-book-festival/home>. There will be LIVE and pre-recorded author sessions. Mark your calendars now to attend this free, family event to learn about some great books and meet some fantastic Illinois authors!

The tentative list of authors who will be participating in the virtual festival are listed below along with their highlighted 2020-2021 Illinois READS book title:

Birth – 4

[Jacob Grant](#) – “Bear’s Scare”
[Bob Raczka](#) – “Beware!” (Illinois illustrator, Larry Day)
[Rich Lo](#) – “Chinese New Year Colors”
[Heidi Bee Roemer](#) – “Peekity Boo – What You Can Do!”
[Patricia Toht](#) – “Pick a Pumpkin”

K – 2

[Alex Willan](#) – “Jasper & Ollie”
[Lori Degman](#) – “Just Read”
[Jeffrey Brown](#) – “My Teacher is a Robot”
[John Sandford](#) – “Oak Leaf”

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”

[Liesl Shurtliff](#) – “Time Castaways #1: The Mona Lisa Key”
[Carolyn Crimi](#) – “Weird Little Robots”

6 – 8

[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”

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”

Literacy Spotlight

This month’s Literacy Spotlight highlights **Literacy Chicago**. A woman with a deep interest in art and drawing did not do well in a traditional school atmosphere because the classes were big and teachers didn’t provide the support that she needed. Eventually she dropped out of high school, but one of her teachers helped her get a scholarship to attend the Art Institute of Chicago. Because of her limited reading ability, she was too afraid to continue. Ten years ago, she was matched with a tutor at Literacy Chicago that inspired and helped her improve her reading skills. Today she is able to read every sign, posters and announcements at Literacy Chicago. She never stopped drawing, and now wants to improve her math skills in order to sell her artwork.

Salute to veterans

This issue of E-News salutes Sam Rice of Galesburg, who served in the United States Army during Vietnam from 1969-1970. He received three Bronze Stars, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry Medal and Vietnam Service Ribbon for his service. The interview was conducted on July 14, 2017 in Springfield, and can found on the Illinois Veteran’s History Channel [Oral History Interview with Sam Rice - 7Illinois Veterans History Project - YouTube](#).

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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E-News is the best way to find out what is happening at the State Library, including grant offerings, continuing education opportunities and other news. Over 5,000 subscribers receive E-News each month. To subscribe to E-News, contact [Kyle Peebles](#) at 217-558-4029.