

STATE LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Third Quarter 2020-2021
May 14, 2021

AGENDA

10:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Donna McDonald, Chairperson

A. Approval of Minutes [Feb. 12, 2021]]

Unfinished Business

B. Administration Report/FY2021 Agency Funding

C. State Aid and Scholarships

D. Grants and Special Projects

Other Unfinished Business

New Business

E. State Aid FY2021/Scholarships

F. Reports/Travel and Correspondence

Other New Business

G. Board Information

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STATE LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Second Quarter 2020-2021
February 12, 2021

The State Library Board convened on February 12, 2021, via Zoom due to the directives of the Governor in response to the COVID-19 health pandemic. Members present were Donna McDonald (Chair), JoAnn Campbell (Vice-Chair), Deborah Knox, Pam Meridith, Joan O'Neal, and Donnette Smith. Member JoAnn Campbell was not in attendance. Staff members present were State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Deputy Director Kristen Cooke, Debbie Hall, Brooke Crawford, Sarah Lipsey, and April Murphy. Crystal Gates with Laman Library was also in attendance.

McDonald called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. The first item of business was the review of minutes from the November 13, 2020, meeting. A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Knox, to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The second item of business was the nomination of officers. A motion was made by Meridith, seconded by Knox, to re-elect Donna McDonald as Chair. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Meridith, seconded by Knox, to re-elect JoAnn Campbell as Vice-Chair. The motion carried.

Crawford then covered the items in Tab B. Crawford provided an update on the staff positions that have been filled and that are vacant. The number of Authorized Staff remains at 50, and the agency's Budgeted Staff number is 47. Current staff is at 36 Full-Time with one Extra Help position. Jean Ann Slavings, Library Technician with Digital Services, retired on 1/31/2021 after 41 years of service. Thomas Sepe was promoted to Library Technician with BPD effective 1/24/2021.

Legislative Session began on 1/11/2021. This agency's appropriations bill is HB 1145 [B4], which was signed by the Governor on February 2, 2021.

Ken Giesbrecht, Information Technology Coordinator, has confirmed that the agency will move from the State of Arkansas (SOA) domain to the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) domain. This will move our servers and email under ADE.

Crawford completed her report with a brief overview of the State General Revenue [B2] and the Federal LSTA Revenue [B3] spreadsheets.

Chilcoat reviewed Tab C, which contained the Standards for State Aid to Public Libraries [C1], the Rules Governing Distribution of Scholarship Assistance [C2], and the Scholarship Assistance Application [C3].

Debbie Hall presented the items covered in Tab D. The FY19 State Program Report (SPR) was submitted at the end of December and has been approved. The LSTA Grants to States award for FY21 (beginning

October 1, 2021) has been received and the award amount is \$1,980,065, which is an increase of \$35,832.

Chilcoat presented the items in Tab E, beginning with the list of public library systems qualifying for state aid [E1]. She noted the appointment of George Fowler, MLS, as the new director of the Crawford County Library System. A motion was made by Meridith, seconded by O'Neal, to approve the list. The motion carried.

The spreadsheet for the third quarter FY2021 State Aid distribution [E2] was introduced. A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Meridith, to accept the payment as presented. The motion carried.

An amendment to the previous meeting's Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance [E3] was presented, reflecting a total of 99 hours completed by sixteen recipients for a total cost of \$44,550. A motion was made by O'Neal, seconded by Campbell, to accept the amended November Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance. The motion carried.

A Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance [E4] was presented, requesting reimbursement for sixteen recipients' successfully completed coursework. A total of 98 hours were completed for a total cost of \$44,100. A motion for approval was made by O'Neal and seconded by Campbell. The motion carried.

Chilcoat moved into the reports section of the packet [Tab F], beginning with her report [F1].

Chilcoat introduced new staff members April Murphy, Administrative Specialist III, and Kristen Cooke, Deputy Director, to the Board. Staff are monitoring the current legislative session and working on SB 127, a bill which will authorize libraries to accept credit and debit cards for payments. Staff are also watching HB 1056, SB 14, and SB 20.

Work on ADE's Strategic Planning Initiative continues. Since our last Board Meeting, each of ADE's divisions was tasked with putting together a Project Team to guide its participation in this goal-setting process for the agency. To that end, the Project Team has conducted focus groups including every ASL staff member, soliciting their input on the Vision Statement and what goals they envision that would be in line with it.

Kristen Cooke, Deputy Director, reported [F2] that work on the edits to the Public Library Survey has wrapped up and the deadline for the finalization of the survey was moved up to February 17, 2021. She also organized the Focus Groups for ADE's Strategic Planning Initiative.

Jennifer Wann, Manager of Library Development (LD), reported [F3] the third cohort of the All-In Institute will be held in the spring of 2022 in order to allow face-to-face attendance. The pre-purchased courses from Library Juice Academy have proven to be popular, with a total of 109 courses completed. Wann also presented the reports of the other LD staff members for the Board.

Karen O'Connell's report on Center for the Book activities [F4] included the selection of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis (New York: Dutton, 2020) as the 2021 If All Arkansas Read the Same Book state-wide read. Davis will participate in two virtual sessions this summer. Other projects include the poetry program, *In Conversation with Jericho Brown*, on February 4, 2021, which had 213 participants via Zoom and 50 views on YouTube.

Amber Gregory, Manager of E-Rate Services [F5], hosted four sessions of *You Can Do I.T.!*, and a total of 37 libraries participated.

Ruth Hyatt, Coordinator of Youth Services, reported [F6] that the 2021 Youth Services Workshop will be held on March 12 from 9 am-4 pm with keynote speaker Jarrett Krosoczka. Hyatt also reported on the upcoming one-year anniversary of Zoom meetings with Youth Services programmers.

Chilcoat covered section F7 on behalf of Kristina Waltermire, Manager of Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. In the Federal fiscal year from October 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, ASL's Library for the Blind program circulated a total of 46,856 books. Waltermire has also begun taking a more accurate count of the Reader Advisor's interactions with patrons. They are tracking the following categories: following categories, "Phone Calls/Emails Received/ Answered," "Voicemails Received and Responded," "Follow up Calls to Patrons," "Welcome Calls or Outreach," and "Work Follow Up."

Chilcoat covered section F8 on behalf of Michael Strickland, Manager of Information Services. Strickland reported on three new displays: Know Your Rights and Avoid Scams, Arkansas in Literature, and a third display celebrating Black History Month.

Sarah Lipsey, Division Manager of Collection Management, [F9] announced the retirement of Jean Ann Slavings, Library Technician of Digital Services, after 41 years of service.

Regarding the ASL website, Lipsey reported on the status of the bug in the CMS interface. The interface has been fixed to the degree that staff training can resume in the upcoming quarter. Lastly, she reported on the successful migration of the SirsiDynix Symphony ILS from an internally-hosted server to a cloud-hosted SaaS environment, which was completed in November. The final step in the process is the implementation of Enterprise.

Danielle Butler, Digital Services Manager, reported [F10] that Jennifer Razer, Senior Librarian, Digital Services, has completed updating the Arkansas Documents Classification Scheme to reflect changes made in the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019. Razer has also completed a draft liaison training. On-demand training will be available in the spring, and agency specific trainings will be offered by request.

On October 13, 2020, Manager of Digital Services, Danielle Butler, met with Lance Watsky, Manager of Media Archives & Licensing at the Sherman Grinberg Film Library and discussed adding digitized historic news reels to the library's online digital collection.

Butler continues to work to migrate content into Preservica for long term preservation.

Katie Walton, Acquisitions Manager, reported [F11] the Traveler Advisory Committee met and reviewed the submissions on Thursday, January 12, 2021. The Committee largely chose the same resources we currently offer, but InfoBase Science Bundle was added as a way to increase Traveler's science offerings for students. Walton presented the proposed Traveler Database Budget and noted that if the total costs exceed the annual budget of \$800,000, the State Library will cover any overages. A motion was made by Knox, seconded by O'Neal, to accept the Traveler Database Budget. The motion carried.

The Selection Committee of the Arkansas Digital Library Consortium met in December to assign selection responsibilities to each member and adjust purchasing allocations. Some funds were diverted to purchase more audiobooks. In January 2021, the ADLC passed 100,000 checkouts in one month.

Chilcoat moved to section F12, covering correspondence received from Secretary Key, Governor Hutchinson, Kenya Windel of the Newton County Library, and Anna Sharon of the Bentonville Public Library.

Chilcoat briefly reviewed the map of Arkansas Public Library Systems [F13] and the list of Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts [F14].

In Tab G, Chilcoat reviewed the contact information for the Board [G1] and our other contacts in ADE, the Governor's office, and the Attorney General's office [G2]. A map of the representation of the board across the State Congressional Districts [G3] was reviewed.

The Arkansas State Library Board Bylaws were presented [G4] prior to the State Library Board Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy [G7]*. A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Knox, to approve the Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy. The motion carried.

The section was completed with the staff directory [G8] and the calendar of meetings for 2021 [G9].

A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by O'Neal, to adjourn. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

*G5 and G6 were present as placeholders for officer elections and committee assignments, but those were conducted at the opening of the meeting.

Approval Date

Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian

Administrative Services Manager – Brooke Crawford

Human Resources:

Authorized staff: 50

Budgeted staff: 47

Current staff @ 5/1/21: 35

Full-Time, 1 Extra Help, 15 Vacant Positions (+2 Shared Services positions).

Administrative Specialist III – Library Development position was vacated by Lora Sandoval on 4/16/2021. Several positions are currently advertised or in the process of approval to be advertised.

Learning the new ARCareers site which replaced arstatejobs.com.

Performance Evaluations 2021:

Measurements and weights were changed to reflect what ADE decided on to be consistent across all divisions. Deadline for the PEs to be complete is May 14 to allow Chilcoat to review the agency as a whole. Once she gives her approval, they will be ready for review by ADE. Once approved by ADE, supervisor-employee conferences can take place and the PEs will be finalized in the system by June 1, 2021.

State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) Survey:

The SLAA Survey is administered biennially by IMLS to all State Libraries. The survey collects a variety of information regarding some collection statistics, services to the public, services to public libraries, revenue and expenditures of state and federal funds. This survey was completed and submitted, and was certified on February 11, 2021.

IT:

We are officially under the ADE domain, meaning our servers and email are under them. This change has brought about new emails for the staff. The email format is now:

firstname.lastname@ade.arkansas.gov. Ken is currently working with Michael Gates at ADE regarding the next step of Office 365 migration.

We are currently working on getting the Bessie Moore Conference Room and Meeting Room B upgraded with the latest technology. This will provide wireless options and help with the ongoing growth of demand for virtual gatherings.

Training:

Trish Luckadue and Brooke Crawford have been taking the new Procurement Training classes. These classes are part of a new requirement from OPM that requires certification for anyone who deals directly, obtains quotes, or negotiates in any manner with vendors. This requirement goes into effect on July 1, 2021. Several staff who deal with getting quotes or have some direct contact with one or more vendors are also taking a small portion of the training to meet the certification requirement.

Extra Help:

We have two summer workers, Adain Luckadue and Jacob Giesbrecht, who are going to be available to assist us with several projects. Both have previously worked during the summer here at the agency and the staff is looking forward to having their assistance while they are here.

STATE GENERAL REVENUE
EPA0100 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2021
BY COMMITMENT ITEM
APRIL 30, 2021

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$1,775,424	\$1,520,959	45.5%	\$1,111,916	\$409,043	27%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.1%	\$1,840	\$3,160	63%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$600,987	\$520,836	15.6%	\$398,655	\$122,182	23%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$2,381,411	\$2,046,795	61.2%	\$1,512,410	\$534,385	26%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$1,128,409	\$1,091,322	32.6%	\$880,877	\$210,445	19%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$7,760	\$7,428	0.2%	\$355	\$7,073	95%
506:00:10	Prof. Fees & Services	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
	Total M & O	\$1,136,169	\$1,098,750	32.8%	\$881,232	\$217,518	20%
509:00:46	Books/Subscriptions	\$220,243	\$200,000	6.0%	\$165,836	\$34,164	17%
	TOTALS	\$3,737,823	\$3,345,545	100.0%	\$2,559,478	\$786,067	23%
	M&R paid to ASL account	\$0	\$462		\$0	\$462	100%

FEDERAL LSTA REVENUE
FEL0100 FEL0200 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2021
BY COMMITMENT ITEM
APRIL 30, 2021

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$451,571	\$450,660	14.1%	\$257,541	\$193,119	43%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$14,625	\$14,625	0.5%	\$10,263	\$4,362	30%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$175,820	\$175,820	5.5%	\$122,898	\$52,922	30%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$642,016	\$641,105	20.1%	\$390,702	\$250,403	39%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$2,453,239	\$2,453,239	77.0%	\$1,353,321	\$1,099,918	45%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$42,161	\$42,161	1.3%	\$15,465	\$26,696	63%
506:00:10	Prof. Fees & Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.3%	\$0	\$10,000	100%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$40,000	\$40,000	1.3%	\$0	\$40,000	100%
	Total M & O	\$2,545,400	\$2,545,400	79.9%	\$1,368,786	\$1,176,614	46%
	TOTALS	\$3,187,416	\$3,186,505	100.0%	\$1,759,488	\$1,427,017	45%

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY
900 WEST CAPITOL, STE 100
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3108

STANDARDS FOR STATE AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Authorized by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979

1.0 ORGANIZATION

- 1.1 All county libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 244 of 1927. All city libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 177 of 1931.
- 1.2 County and city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation as a department of county or municipal government.
- 1.3 Public library systems composed of county and/or city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation under the provisions of a formal interlocal agreement, as provided in Section 90, Act 742 of 1977.

2.0 GOVERNANCE

- 2.1 Policies for city, county, and regional library systems shall be established by legally constituted administrative boards, comprised of trustees serving designated terms, conducting regularly scheduled meetings, preferably not less than quarterly, and functioning with recorded bylaws and policies which are on file with the State Library.
- 2.2 The library shall comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and shall provide library service for all residents.
- 2.3 The library director shall submit quarterly, annual, and special reports as required to the State Library and to local boards.
- 2.4 City, county, and regional library systems shall provide the State Library with a copy of a current long range plan developed for the purpose of guiding the public library administration in the attainment of goals and future planning.

3.0 FINANCE

- 3.1 The State Library Board supports the concept that libraries or library systems serving populations greater than 50,000, with budgets in excess of \$250,000, can render more efficient, effective library service, and preference of support shall be given to the development of such systems.**
- 3.2 All libraries shall maintain the one mill county or city library tax on real and personal property as authorized in Amendments 30 and 38 of the Arkansas Constitution.**
- 3.3 All cities and counties should restore the library tax to the maximum permitted by law by not later than July 1, 1991.**
- 3.4 Libraries should receive additional local support.**
- 3.5 The annual budget for city, county, and regional libraries shall be filed with the State Library. The budget should reflect an amount equal to the previous annual budget, plus growth, with the allocation for materials reflecting comparable growth.**

4.0 PERSONNEL

- 4.1 City, county, and regional library systems participating in the State Aid to Public Libraries program shall be administered by a qualified librarian. A Master's degree in Library Science awarded through a program accredited by the American Library Association is recognized as the minimum qualifying degree.**
- 4.2 Systems employing a new head librarian or director after September 1, 1988, must provide the State Library Board with evidence of a qualifying library degree in order to continue participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program.**
- 4.3 Public library staff members should be well trained and qualified for their position. They should be encouraged to participate in continuing education and training programs to improve library skills.**
- 4.4 All libraries should have adequate support staff, with no employee receiving less than the current minimum wage.**

5.0 FACILITIES

- 5.1 The county or city government shall provide a suitable building for headquarters operation and adequate quarters for necessary branches.**

6.0 RESOURCES AND RESOURCE SHARING

- 6.1 The library shall maintain a current collection of materials to serve all citizens.**
- 6.2 The library shall agree to provide interlibrary loan service to other libraries in Arkansas.**
- 6.3 The library shall coordinate services for the blind and physically handicapped with the sections of the Arkansas State Library which administer these services.**

7.0 NOTIFICATION

- 7.1 If the State Library Board determines that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the State Librarian shall notify the board chairman and the library director via certified mail not later than fifteen working days following that determination.**

8.0 RIGHT OF APPEAL

- 8.1 Upon determination by the State Library Board that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the library or system shall have the right to appeal that decision at the next scheduled meeting of the State Library Board. Intent to appeal must be filed in writing with the State Librarian not more than thirty days following receipt of a notice of failure to meet the standards.**
- 8.2 All appeals shall be presented to the State Library Board in an open hearing, with the final determination to be made by the State Library Board.**
- 8.3 The State Library Board may provisionally approve a city, county, or regional library or system for a period of time they deem sufficient to rectify deficiencies. The Board may grant additional waivers upon acceptance of satisfactory evidence of progress.**

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY
RULES GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION OF
SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as Arkansas State Library Rules Governing the Distribution of Scholarship Assistance.
- 1.02 These rules are enacted pursuant to the Arkansas State Library's authority under Act 489, Acts of Arkansas 1979, Arkansas Code Anno. 13-2-201 et seq.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.01 It is the purpose of these rules to formalize a process already in existence and set reasonable guidelines to make scholarship assistance available to every public library in the state of Arkansas to address the education needs of public library staff working toward the ultimate goal of obtaining a master's degree in library and information science as defined in 3.04. These rules are specifically for the purpose of establishing standards for distributing funds available through the state aid to public library fund administered by the Arkansas State Library.

3.00 DEFINITIONS

- 3.01 For the purpose of these rules and regulations the applying institution must be a "public library" located in Arkansas which is duly established and recognized pursuant to Arkansas Code 13-2-401, 13-2-501, 13-2-901 and those libraries which have been determined by the Arkansas State Library to be functioning as a "public library."
- 3.02 ASL refers to the Arkansas State Library.
- 3.03 ALA refers to the American Library Association.
- 3.04 A master's degree refers to the educational award given by a library school whose program is accredited by the ALA.
- 3.05 State Aid refers to State Aid to Public Libraries

4.0 FOCUS AREA

- 4.01 To aid Arkansas public libraries in employing master's degree librarians by providing educational opportunities for public library staff members through traditional, on-campus or distance learning.

5.0 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

- 5.01 Scholarship funds will be distributed to a public library that submits scholarship application to the ASL Board. Priority will be given as follows:
 - 1. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed as library directors.
 - 2. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed positions other than library director.
 - 3. Public libraries not eligible for State Aid but recognized by the ASL as public libraries.

- 5.02 The applying institution (or its governing body) must be able to accept and administer the scholarship on behalf of the employee.
- 5.03 Individuals upon whose behalf the library is applying must meet the following standards:
1. Show evidence of completion of 12 semester hours toward the master's degree.
 2. Provide a copy of the agreement with the public library concerning employment in a public library for at least one year after completion of the master's degree.
 3. Furnish official transcript which shows the individual received a minimum course grade (based upon an "A-F" grading scale), of "B", or if applicable, a "Credit" for a credit/no credit course. "Incompletes" do not qualify for reimbursement.
 4. Agree to remain employed by a public library in the state of Arkansas for a duration of one year upon completion of degree.

6.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 6.01 The scholarship will be administered by the ASL Board.

7.0 SCHOLARSHIP PROPOSALS

- 7.01 The proposals shall include an application from the applicant library. The ASL Board shall review the proposals for approval. Proposals shall be consistent with Arkansas Code and existing ASL rules regarding an ALA accredited library program.
- 7.02 Funding may include but is not limited to tuition, materials, travel, lodging, and other items associated with educational costs.

8.0 DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- 8.01 The ASL Board will budget and distribute funds appropriated for each biennium from the Arkansas State Legislature according to the following:
1. The total amount of funds to be distributed will be determined by the ASL Board each year at a minimum of 1% of the appropriated State Aid to Public Libraries.
 2. Funds may provide as many scholarships as are requested each year. All monies not disbursed shall be returned to the State Aid fund for distribution.
 3. Funds may be disbursed to the applicant library at the completion of each semester.
 4. Funds will be distributed via scholarship for each individual as identified by the ASL Board in accordance with eligibility. Each scholarship will include a set of assurances and provisions required in the eligibility standards.
- 8.02 The ASL Board reserves the right to approve and/or deny any scholarship applications.

-- Approved by the State Library Board, August 12, 2005

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Applicant Library Name

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

Phone Number

Fax Number

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Participant's Signature

Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Librarian

Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date

Manager of Grants & Special Projects – Debbie Hall

Federal Grants to States Program (LSTA)

Arkansas State Library is pleased to announce the receipt of \$2,660,308 in ARPA funds through IMLS. The following is from IMLS:

Purpose

To achieve the American Rescue Plan Act's purposes with respect to Grants to States, this funding is to be used by September 30, 2022, in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches. Spending priorities are as follows:

First, to enable libraries to reach residents with internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and other digital inclusion efforts, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce development. The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations:

- Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Unemployment
- Broadband availability;

Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;

Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs; and

With respect to the three points above, reach tribal and museum partners best positioned to assist with pandemic response efforts, in addition to traditionally eligible library entities, where appropriate.

These funds flow through the Library Services and Technology Act Grants to States and follow all LSTA guidelines.

ASL Response to ARPA Funds

Approximately \$2,400,000 is allotted for subgrants to public libraries. These will be disbursed based on a formula taking into consideration the priority one listed above. Each library will submit a Non-competitive Application to receive funds. All documents are currently being developed including "American Rescue Plan Act Manual: Sub-Awards Information and Requirements," Non-competitive Application and Guidelines, Reporting Guidelines and Forms, Acknowledgement of ARPA Terms & Conditions, etc.

Because ARPA is a federal grant, there are rules and regulations that need to be communicated to libraries that receive ARPA funds. These rules and regulations include libraries being CIPA (filtering) compliant if they purchase any item that connects to the internet, cost principles including allowable and unallowable costs, Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200, and other assurances and certifications.

Libraries will be able to apply for funds in four spending "categories." We are working on the categories so they can be reported in the annual State Program Report as Projects.

American Rescue Plan Act – ARPA

Institute of Museum and Library Services - IMLS

Arkansas State Library – ASL

CIPA – Children's Internet Protection Act

Official Award Notification for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Action Taken: Award

Date of Action: 4/9/2021

Award Date: 4/9/2021

FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

Federal Award ID Number (FAIN)	LS-250196-OLS-21
Award Recipient	Arkansas State Library
Award Recipient Unique Entity Identifier	014515675 TIN: 710847443
Award Period	4/8/2021 - 9/30/2022
Budget Period	4/8/2021 - 9/30/2022
Assistance Listing Number/Title	45.310 State Library Program
Does the award support research and development?	No
Project Title	LSTA ARPA State Grants
Project Description	The Arkansas State Library will use funds under the American Rescue Plan Act to help communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches in digital inclusion and library services. They will continue to support the goals of their Five-Year Plan for FY 2018-2022. In Arkansas, specific goals address 1) Enhancing access to information; 2) Providing training and professional development to the state's library workforce; 3) Providing programs and services to targeted audiences; and 4) Enhancing the technological environment of Arkansas libraries.
Grant Program and Office	LSTA State Grants, Office of Library Services

AWARD AMOUNTS

Funds Obligated by this Action	\$2,660,308.00
Total Outright Award Amount	\$2,660,308.00
Total Cost Share	\$0.00
Total Project Costs	\$2,660,308.00
Indirect Cost Rate	

RECIPIENT CONTACTS

Role	Name	Affiliation
Authorizing Official	Jennifer Chilcoat(JChilcoat) jennifer.chilcoat@ade.arkansas.gov	Arkansas State Library
Grant Administrator	Ms. Deborah N. Hall(DHall) debbie.hall@ade.arkansas.gov	Manager of Grants and Special Projects Arkansas State Library
Project Director	Jennifer Chilcoat(JChilcoat) jennifer.chilcoat@ade.arkansas.gov	Arkansas State Library

REMARKS

1. The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides this grant support pursuant to the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act (Public Law 117-2) and the IMLS authorization statute (20 U.S.C. § 9101 et seq.).

2. Matching requirements for these funds are waived.

3. To achieve the American Rescue Plan Act's purposes with respect to Grants to States, this funding is to be used in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches. Spending priorities are as follows:

a. First, to support digital inclusion efforts to enable libraries to reach residents such as through internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and digital content and related resources, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce development needs. The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations:

- Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Unemployment
- Broadband availability;

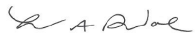
b. Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;

Official Award Notification for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

Institute of Museum and Library Services

- c. Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs; and
- d. With respect to (a), (b), or (c), reach tribal and museum partners best positioned to assist with pandemic response efforts, in addition to traditionally eligible library entities, where appropriate.
4. The administration of this grant and the expenditure of grant funds are subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards regulations (Uniform Guidance) promulgated by the Office of Management and Budget (2 C.F.R. part 200) and related IMLS guidance.
5. All SLAAs receiving these funds must comply with existing certifications and assurances for the Grants to States program in FY 2021.
6. The SLAA's first request for payment using ARPA funds will indicate the SLAA's acceptance of the award and compliance with its provisions, the American Rescue Plan Act, and IMLS statutory and regulatory requirements, including the above referenced certifications and assurances for the Grants to States program in FY 2021.

AWARDING OFFICIAL



Teresa A. DeVoe

Associate Deputy Director, Grants to States

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ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, DIRECTOR, AND AREA SERVICED:	2016 Population Served	LIB. TAX UNITS *	QTRLY MLS AWARD
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 150,001 OR MORE :			
Central Arkansas Library System Nate Coulter, MLS - U of Wisconsin-Madison (Perry and Pulaski Counties, excluding North Little Rock)	337,104	3	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	337,104		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 75,001 TO 150,000:			
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library Clare Graham, MLS - UNT (Saline, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, and Cleveland Counties)	185,869	5	YES
Washington County Library System Glenda B. Audrain, MLS - U of AL (Washington County)	144,223	1	YES
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library John McGraw, MLIS - U of AL (Faulkner and Van Buren Counties)	138,855	2	YES
Crowley Ridge Regional Library David Eckert, MLS - Kent State U (Craighead and Poinsett Counties)	129,858	4	YES
Garland County Library Adam Webb, MLS - UNT (Garland County)	97,477	1	YES
Fort Smith Public Library Jennifer Goodson, MLIS-U of OK (Fort Smith District of Sebastian County)	88,133	1	YES
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library Donna McDonald, MLIS - U of OK (Franklin, Johnson, Logan, and Yell Counties)	87,146	4	YES
Fayetteville Public Library David Johnson, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (Fayetteville)	83,826	1	YES
White River Regional Library Debra Sutterfield, MLS - U. of AL (Cleburne, Fulton, Izard, Sharp, and Stone Counties)	80,516	5	YES
White County Library Darla Ino, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (White County)	79,263	1	YES
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library Mike Rogers, MLS - UNT (Clay, Greene, and Randolph Counties)	76,966	3	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	1,192,132		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 50,001 TO 75,000:			
Lonoke County Library Deborah Moore, MLS - LSU (Lonoke County)	72,228	1	YES
Pine Bluff and Jefferson County Library VACANT 4/2021 (Jefferson County)	70,016	2	YES
Union County Library Michael O'Connell, MLIS - Catholic Univ of America (Union County and contracted with Ouachita County and Calhoun County)	69,129	5	YES
Texarkana Public Library Jennifer Strayhorn, MSLS - UNT (Texarkana, AR and TX)	(Total Population 67,962) (Arkansas only 30,283) 30,283	1	YES
Mississippi-Crittenden Co. Regional Library Lowell Walters, MSLS - Clarion (Mississippi and Crittenden Counties)	66,786	3	YES
North Little Rock Public Library Crystal Gates, MLIS - LSU (North Little Rock)	66,278	1	YES
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Judy Calhoun, MLS - Florida State U (Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew and Lincoln Counties)	66,173	5	YES
Rogers Public Library Judy Casey, MLS - U of AL (Rogers)	65,021	1	YES
Pope County Library Judy Mays, MLS - UNC/Chapel Hill (Pope County)	63,779	1	YES
Crawford County Library System George Fowler, MLS - UNT (Crawford County)	62,267	1	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	631,960		

May 1, 2021

PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS QUALIFYING FOR STATE AID

LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 25,001 to 50,000:			
Scott-Sebastian Regional Library Rene Myers, MLIS - U of WI/Milwaukee (Scott County and Sebastian County, South District)	49,937	2	YES
Carroll and Madison Library System Johnice Glisson, MLIS - LSU (Carroll and Madison Counties)	43,718	2	YES
Tri-County Library System Marilyn Archer, MLS - Emporia State U. (Howard, Little River and Sevier Counties)	42,738	3	YES
Baxter County Library Kim Crow-Sheaner, MLS - UNT (Baxter County)	41,062	1	YES
Boone County Library Ginger Schoenenberger - MLS - Clarion Univ (Boone County)	37,304	1	YES
Independence County Library Vanessa Adams, MLS - U of Missouri (Independence County)	37,168	1	YES
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library VACANT 6/2002 (Phillips, Lee, and Monroe Counties)	35,454	3	NO
Columbia County Library Rhonda Rolen, MLIS - LSU (Columbia County and contract with Lafayette County)	30,748	2	YES
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library Brenda Miner (MLS - U of OK) (Montgomery and Polk Counties)	29,052	2	YES
West Memphis Public Library Rebecca Bledsoe (West Memphis)	25,284	1	NO
SUBTOTAL SERVED		372,465	
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX SERVING LESS THAN 25,000:			
East Central Arkansas Regional Library John Paul Myrick, MLS - U of Alabama (Cross and Woodruff Counties)	23,678	2	YES
Clark County Library Betsy Fisher, MLIS - Wayne State Univeristy (Clark County)	22,657	1	YES
Hempstead County Library Courtney McNiel, MLS - Florida State U. (Hempstead County)	21,974	1	YES
Ashley County Library David Anderson, MLS - TWU (Ashley County)	20,492	2	YES
Conway County Library Jay Carter, MLIS - USF (Conway County)	20,937	1	YES
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library Courtney McNiel, MLS - Florida State U. (Nevada and Pike Counties)	19,230	2	YES
Arkansas County Library Allie Stevens, MLIS - LSU (Interim) (Arkansas County)	18,214	2	YES
Jackson County Library Jennifer Ballard, MLIS - U of AL (Jackson County)	17,221	1	YES
Lawrence County Library Ashley Burris, MLIS - U of AL (Lawrence County)	16,735	1	YES
Marion County Library Dana Scott, MLS - TWU (Marion County)	16,325	1	YES
Forrest City Public Library Arlisa Price, MSLS - UNT (Forrest City)	14,480	1	YES
Newton County Library Kenya Windel, MLS - UNT (Newton County)	7,936	1	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED		219,879	
TOTAL POPULATION SERVED		2,753,540	
Total Arkansas Population		2,988,248	

May 1, 2021

FY2021 State Aid

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2016 Population	Per Capita @ 1.41266261	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2020	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	18,214	25,730		18,000	43,730	10,933	10,933	10,933	10,931
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crossett	15,364	21,704							
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crossett (city) (Ashley Co.)	5,128	7,244							
Ashley Co. Lib. Total		20,492	28,948		18,000	46,948	11,737	11,737	11,737	11,737
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	41,062	58,007		18,000	76,007	19,002	19,002	19,002	19,001
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	37,304	52,698		18,000	70,698	17,674	17,674	17,674	17,676
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	22,657	32,007		18,000	50,007	12,502	12,502	12,502	12,501
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	23,901	33,764							
Columbia Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co. (contract)	6,847	9,673							
Columbia Co. Lib. Total		30,748	43,437		18,000	61,437	15,359	15,359	15,359	15,360
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	20,937	29,577		18,000	47,577	11,894	11,894	11,894	11,895
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	62,267	87,962		18,000	105,962	26,491	26,491	26,491	26,489
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	97,477	137,702		18,000	155,702	38,926	38,926	38,926	38,924
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	21,974	31,042		18,000	49,042	12,260	12,260	12,260	12,262
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	37,168	52,506		18,000	70,506	17,626	17,626	17,626	17,628
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	17,221	24,327		18,000	42,327	10,582	10,582	10,582	10,581
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	26,175	36,976							
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	43,841	61,933							
Jefferson Co. Lib. Total		70,016	98,909		18,000	116,909	29,227	29,227	29,227	29,228
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,735	23,641		18,000	41,641	10,410	10,410	10,410	10,411
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	72,228	102,034		18,000	120,034	30,008	30,008	30,008	30,010
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	16,325	23,062		18,000	41,062	10,265	10,265	10,265	10,267
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,936	11,211		18,000	29,211	7,303	7,303	7,303	7,302
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	63,779	90,098		18,000	108,098	27,025	27,025	27,025	27,023
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	18,339	25,907							
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	21,548	30,440							
Union Co. Lib.	Calhoun County (contract)	5,144	7,267							
Union Co. Lib.	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	11,219	15,849							
Union Co. Lib.	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden (contract)	12,879	18,194							
Union Co. Lib. Total		69,129	97,656		18,000	115,656	28,914	28,914	28,914	28,914
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	144,223	203,738		18,000	221,738	55,435	55,435	55,435	55,433
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	79,263	111,972		18,000	129,972	32,493	32,493	32,493	32,493
Total Single County Libraries		967,155	1,366,264	-	378,000	1,744,264	436,066	436,066	436,066	436,066
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,626	24,900	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,176	36,978	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,792	30,785	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	21,552	30,446	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total		87,146	123,108	48,000	18,000	189,108	47,277	47,277	47,277	47,277
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	27,646	39,054	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	16,072	22,704	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System Total		43,718	61,759	24,000	18,000	103,759	25,940	25,940	25,940	25,939
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	198,541	280,471							
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,132	14,313	12,000						

May, 2021

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2016 Population	Per Capita @ 1.41266261	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2020	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NLR	128,431	181,430	12,000						
Central Arkansas Lib. System Total		337,104	476,214	24,000	18,000	518,214	129,554	129,554	129,554	129,552
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jonesboro	30,946	43,716	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co.)	74,889	105,793							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumann	16,894	23,866	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Trumann (city) (Poinsett Co.)	7,129	10,071							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total		129,858	183,446	24,000	18,000	225,446	56,361	56,361	56,361	56,363
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cross Co.	17,037	24,068	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Woodruff Co.	6,641	9,381	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		23,678	33,449	24,000	18,000	75,449	18,862	18,862	18,862	18,863
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	122,227	172,666	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Van Buren Co.	16,628	23,490	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib. Total		138,855	196,155	24,000	18,000	238,155	59,539	59,539	59,539	59,538
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cleveland Co.	8,241	11,642	12,000						
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Dallas Co.	7,469	10,551	12,000						
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Grant Co.	18,082	25,544	12,000						
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Hot Spring Co.	33,374	47,146	12,000						
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Saline Co.	118,703	167,687	12,000						
Mid-Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		185,869	262,570	60,000	18,000	340,570	85,143	85,143	85,143	85,141
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co.)	14,375	20,307							
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West Memphis	23,951	33,835	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blytheville	28,460	40,204	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib. Total		66,786	94,346	24,000	18,000	136,346	34,087	34,087	34,087	34,085
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Clay Co.	14,920	21,077	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Greene Co.	44,598	63,002	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Randolph Co.	17,448	24,648	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		76,966	108,727	36,000	18,000	162,727	40,682	40,682	40,682	40,681
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Montgomery Co.	8,879	12,543	12,000						
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Polk Co.	20,173	28,498	12,000						
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib Total		29,052	41,041	24,000	18,000	83,041	20,760	20,760	20,760	20,761
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Lee Co.	9,310	13,152	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Monroe Co.	7,169	10,127	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	18,975	26,805	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib. Total		35,454	50,085	36,000		86,085	21,521	21,521	21,521	21,522
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Scott Co.	10,277	14,518	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Sebastian Co. Total less Fort Smith	39,660	56,026	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib. Total		49,937	70,544	24,000	18,000	112,544	28,136	28,136	28,136	28,136
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	10,996	15,534	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	10,945	15,462	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	11,876	16,777	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	18,651	26,348	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	13,705	19,361	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		66,173	93,480	60,000	18,000	171,480	42,870	42,870	42,870	42,870
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,398	11,864	12,000						
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,832	15,302	12,000						

FY2021 State Aid

		2016 Population	Per Capita @ 1.41266261	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2020	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit									
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		19,230	27,166	24,000	18,000	69,166	17,291	17,291	17,291	17,293
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	13,377	18,897	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	12,451	17,589	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	16,910	23,888	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.		42,738	60,374	36,000	18,000	114,374	28,594	28,594	28,594	28,592
White River Reg. Lib.	Cleburne Co.	25,264	35,690	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,123	17,126	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	13,433	18,976	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Sharp Co.	17,157	24,237	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,539	17,713	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib. Total		80,516	113,742	60,000	18,000	191,742	47,935	47,935	47,935	47,937
Total Regional Libraries		1,413,080	1,996,205	552,000	270,000	2,818,205	704,551	704,551	704,551	704,550
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville (city)	83,826	118,418		18,000	136,418	34,104	34,104	34,104	34,106
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City (city)	14,480	20,455		18,000	38,455	9,614	9,614	9,614	9,613
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith (city)	88,133	124,502		18,000	142,502	35,626	35,626	35,626	35,624
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock (city)	66,278	93,628		18,000	111,628	27,907	27,907	27,907	27,907
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers (city)	65,021	91,853		18,000	109,853	27,463	27,463	27,463	27,464
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana (city)	30,283	42,780	12,000	18,000	72,780	18,195	18,195	18,195	18,195
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis (city)	25,284	35,718			35,718	8,929	8,929	8,929	8,931
Total City Libraries		373,305	527,354	12,000	108,000	647,354	161,839	161,839	161,839	161,840
Grand Total		2,753,540	3,889,823	564,000	756,000	5,209,823	1,302,456	1,302,456	1,302,456	1,302,456

Counties Not Qualifying

Total Released for FY2021 State Aid

5,359,823

Fifth Payment (optional) is the distribution of the remainder of the reserves held for scholarships, multi-county regionals and MLS awards. (Director discretion).

Prairie

Reserved for Scholarships	(150,000)
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Searcy

Multi-County Regionals	(564,000)
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Benton

MLS Awards, 42 headquarters libraries (756,000)

Miller

Total Designated	(1,470,000)
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St. Francis

Balance for Per Capita Distribution

3,889,823

Source:

www.census.gov

$$3,889,823/2,753,540=$$

1.41266261

Fact Finder 2 database of 2016 official census estimates

Multi-County Regionals & MLS Awards are based on July 1st status.

Only positive changes to the payout amounts are permitted during the year due to recipient budget expectations.

ACTUAL:

As of:

5/1/2021

State Aid:

5,359,823

Scholarships:

76.950

Amt Paid Out

3,907,368

Adjustments

(5,400)

Balance

1,380,905

Scholarship Explanatory Notes

Ms. Hurtado is completing her first twelve hours this spring semester and will submit her official transcript once the semester is complete. If you approve her application, you will be approving it pending her completion of twelve semester hours. She is planning to take three hours during the summer semester, and you are being asked to approve those hours in advance, as you will do for all students taking summer hours.

Ms. Shrell is likewise completing her first twelve hours this semester and will submit her official transcript when the semester ends. She is also planning to take three hours this summer, which you are being asked to approve.

Ms. Smith completed 15 hours in the 2020 fall semester, and is currently taking three hours. You are being asked to approve her for a scholarship, and to approve six hours for reimbursement. She is not planning to take classes this summer.

**Arkansas State Library
Scholarship Assistance Application**

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Doris Elizabeth Hurtado

Applicant Library Name

3680 W Clearwood Dr.

Mailing Address

Fayetteville AR 72704-6126

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

479-502-2150

Phone Number

Fax Number

Paula Wilson
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Marcia Ransom Library Director
Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

3/9/21
Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Doris Elizabeth Hurtado
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Doris Elizabeth Hurtado
Participant's Signature

03/08/21
Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ☒ approve () deny this application.

J f Cit
Signature of State Librarian

5/7/2012
Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to
() approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date

Statement of intent about your desire to obtain the degree

My name is Doris Elizabeth Hurtado, and I am Children's Multicultural Outreach Librarian in Springdale Public Library, AR. I'm from Dominican Republic and I have 4 years living in this State.

Being a librarian was not in my plans. Inclusively, I had not heard of this as a profession. But from my first day in Springdale Public Library (where I work) I fell in love with the job, my tasks and responsibilities. I enjoy planning, reaching out to the community and promoting Reading and Literacy. But I think the part that I am mostly enjoying is that I have found a way to help my community become more educated giving hope to those who have emigrated as I did.

Although we are living uncertain times with a new virus around, I started my classes in the University last fall. My goal is acquiring a Library Science-M.S. degree and continue serve my community to the best of my abilities by being better prepared and adding new tools to my portfolio.


Doris Elizabeth Hurtado

Children's Multicultural Outreach Librarian

Springdale Public Library



Springdale Public Library

Library in the Park

March 13, 2021

Dear Arkansas State Library Board:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Elizabeth Hurtado as a candidate for the Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance program. I have worked with Elizabeth at the Springdale Public Library since October 2019, when Elizabeth joined our team as Children's Multicultural Outreach Librarian.

It was immediately clear that Elizabeth is a thoughtful, driven, and creative colleague. Within days of being hired, Elizabeth launched a Spanish-language story time and began work on a Spanish story time backpack program. She also understands the importance of telling the Library's story beyond the Library's walls and has proactively sought opportunities to draw in new library users of all ages. In addition to her many professional skills, she has been instrumental in making our library more inclusive and accessible through her outreach to Springdale's Latinx population, local HeadStarts, and Spanish-language media.

She has also risen to the challenge of the pandemic. She quickly brought her story time online via Facebook and has been working ceaselessly to deepen partnerships with other community organizations to better serve Springdale during the COVID-19 crisis. She has always been a dependable and productive team member, and I've appreciated her even more as she's thrived in a remote work environment and throughout our myriad pandemic transitions and has also helped her team succeed in such a stressful and uncertain time.

Elizabeth's grasp of professional values and commitment to the Library's mission were apparent from the beginning. Given her intelligence, creativity, and professionalism, I have no doubts that she will continue to succeed in her M.L.S. program. She is also exactly the sort of forward-thinking, adaptable colleague I believe our profession and our state need to carry us forward into the future.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there is anything else I can do in support of her candidacy.

Regards,

Anne Gresham
Assistant Director
Springdale Public Library

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form: all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Bentonville Public Library

Applicant Library Name

405 S Main St

Mailing Address

Bentonville, AR 72712

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

479-271-3192

Phone Number

479-271-6775

Fax Number

Hadi S. Dudley

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Hadi S. Dudley

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

4/14/2021

Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Hanna Shrell

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Hanna Shrell

Participant's Signature

4/14/21

Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ☒ approve () deny this application.

[Signature]

Signature of State Librarian

5/7/2021

Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to
() approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date

Hanna Shrell
105 South Church Avenue
Apartment A
Fayetteville, AR 72701

April 21, 2021

Dear Arkansas State Library Board of Directors,

As an elementary school student, my school did not have a school library. I remember how special the days were when my teachers would take our class to visit the neighboring public library. Being able to explore books on any subject and access library resources for research was not something we were able to do every day, or even every week. These special early library experiences piqued my lifelong interest in expanding my knowledge in a variety of subjects, shaped my view of a library as being a special place to visit, and fostered an interest in a career in librarianship.

Through my work experiences at Bentonville Public Library, I have gained valuable insights into understanding the community needs. I have been fortunate to learn from my co-workers how to meet these needs. I am able to connect what I am learning in my coursework with real life situations. Most of all, it is fulfilling and satisfying to be responsive and helpful to library patrons as they seek to access information, meet educational needs, or explore the library for recreational materials. The opportunities to be involved in the community and to provide valuable resources to the citizens of Bentonville are meaningful to me both professionally and personally.

I am currently enrolled in the Masters of Library and Information Science program at Louisiana State University, with a specialization in public librarianship. By gaining the skills necessary to understand how information is organized, I look forward to developing my career towards serving the community as a public librarian. I seek to hold a position that will allow me to utilize my educational experience in acquiring resources, cataloging, collection development, information management, and more. I aspire to serve as a bridge between acquiring and managing resources and making these resources readily available to the public library clientele.

I want to partner with local schools and civic organizations to engage families across generations, thereby preparing children and families for success and fostering community involvement. I want to personally connect with library patrons and be actively involved in community outreach programs and events. My analytical and problem solving skills, along with a broad knowledge and interest base, will allow me to acquire and connect relevant subject information with library users. I want to be able to guide and train people to search for information, conduct research, broaden their knowledge, and evaluate and use the information they find. I want to be responsive to advancements in technology which encompasses digital aspects such as online safety, effective use of social media, and online collaboration.

This scholarship would help me immensely in achieving these goals. I am appreciative of your consideration for the scholarship provided by the Arkansas State Library.

Sincerely,

Hanna Shrell



Our mission is to engage our community, to encourage discovery and promote literacy by offering lifelong learning opportunities.

April 21, 2021

Dear Arkansas State Library Board of Directors,

I support Hanna Shrell's application to participate in the Arkansas State Library's Scholarship Assistance Program at the end of this Spring term 2021, following her 12-hour completion of coursework in May and her current employment at Bentonville Public Library (BPL).

Hanna began working at Bentonville Public Library (BPL) as a Part Time Library Clerk on August 17, 2020. She brought solid teaching experience, plus an educational background and academic pursuits making her an ideal candidate for our library. She joined the BPL team during the COVID-19 pandemic proving that she is both motivated and adaptable. Hanna is currently enrolled in the ALA-accredited Library and Information Science program at the Louisiana State University (LSU).

Since joining BPL, Hanna has served our library in many ways, working in Adult Services:

- Implementation of library protocols in response to COVID-19
- Front-line desk support in circulation services
- Reader's advisory and reference help for patrons
- Technology support for patrons
- Sorting, shelving and processing materials
- Implementation of basic library science principals.

Hanna's communication and organizational skills assist with the implementation of BPL goals and she has excellent rapport with her peers and our patrons. She is smart, driven and responsible. Hanna has a passion for connecting with the community, which is a valuable attribute in our organization. She believes "librarians have a unique role to serve as a guide to ever-changing avenues of creativity, new worlds of information, and unlimited resources." I look forward to watching her grow in the field of librarianship.

I am proud to say that Hanna Shrell is an asset to Bentonville Public Library, and to the Arkansas library community. I trust the scholarship assistance made in Hanna's education will be exponentially repaid by the contributions she makes to our profession.

Sincerely,

Hadi S. Dudley, MSIS, MA
Library Director, Bentonville Public Library
479-271-3194 | hdudley@bentonvillear.com

**Arkansas State Library
Scholarship Assistance Application**

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Fayetteville Public Library
Applicant Library Name
401 W Mountain St
Mailing Address
Fayetteville, AR 72701
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension
(479) 856-7000 571-0222
Phone Number Fax Number
K. B. Davis
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)
[Signature]
Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Jessica Smith
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)
Jessica Smith 3/28/21
Participant's Signature Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board ☒ approve () deny this application.

[Signature] 5/7/2021
Signature of State Librarian Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman Date

JESSICA SMITH

813 S. Colonial Fayetteville, AR 72701

(479) 799-5331

jsmith@faylib.org

DEAR ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM,

Throughout my adult life and all my various jobs, one thing has become clear: that I truly love working with people. I love helping people. I really enjoy customer service. As a teacher and bookseller, I enjoyed helping people - both big and small - to learn and grow. What appeals to me most about working in a public library are all the possibilities for reaching out to my community. There are many reasons why I want to work at a library. I want to help create and coordinate events that reach out to my community, I want to help promote literacy, and I want to help create a safe and open space for people to connect.

My past jobs have all centered around one main tenet: helping people learn and access information. As a teacher I have taught Pre-Kindergarten and I currently work as an aide for a student with special needs. In both positions I have been able to use books and stories to give my students a love of learning. As a bookseller at a local bookstore, I cherished getting to connect with people over a shared love of reading. I enjoyed organizing author events and attending conferences and interacting with other professionals in the field.

I am fortunate enough to live in a community where there is a fantastic library. This library reaches out in so many valuable ways and serves the needs of many people. Beyond just loving reading, I love connecting people with their favorite books and engaging children with stories. There are so many vulnerable people in the community who need places like a public library to help bridge the gap between them and resources available to them. As a volunteer working with refugee families who have been resettled in the community, I have seen firsthand how difficult it can be to navigate certain spaces and processes. At the library, adults can find help with their taxes, take computer classes, and find community in book clubs and yoga lessons. Children can have a safe place to read and explore. People of all ages can have access to technology and art. This type of space is so vitally important to overall community health and I take pride in being a contributor to the upkeep and improvement of my community. This is why completing my Master of Science in Information is so important to me. I want to become a main fixture here at the Fayetteville Public Library and continue to help it become the best part of my community.

Sincerely,
Jessica Smith



FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

April 12, 2021

Jennifer Chilcoat
Arkansas State Library
900 W Capitol
Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Chilcoat:

The Fayetteville Public Library enthusiastically supports the scholarship application from Jessica Smith. Jessica has been employed at Fayetteville Public Library since October of 2020 as a Youth Services Library Generalist. While working part time, Jessica has been enrolled in the MSLIS program at Florida State University with an estimated graduation target of Fall 2022.

In Jessica's time at Fayetteville Public Library, she has gained the trust and admiration of both our patrons and management. One example is her work with a child with a disability from Shiloh Christian School. Jessica brought ideas to her manager on ways FPL could incorporate better, more effective accommodations into our existing programs (post-Covid). Her solutions were simple, easily implemented, and had a profound impact on the parents of our patrons who have disabilities.

The library understands that the applicant must furnish transcripts to you and must remain employed with an Arkansas public library for at least one year after receiving the scholarship. We further understand that the money will come to the library which will then disburse the money to the applicant. Our action in support of Ms. Smith is recorded in the minutes of the Board's meeting on April 19, 2020.




I am delighted to recommend Jessica Smith as a potential recipient of the Arkansas State Library Scholarship.

Sincerely,

David Johnson, Executive Director

Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance

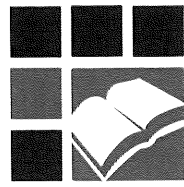
DRAFT

Library Name	Individual Name	Library School	# of Hours -- Summer 2021	Recommend Award in the amount of **	Cumulative number of hours completed	Anticipated date of completion/MLS award
Rogers Public Library	Shelby Spears	UNT	0	\$0	30	
Arkansas River Valley	Misty Hawkins	U Okla	0	\$0	36	
Craighead County/Jonesboro	Stephanie Sweeney	U Tenn	0	\$0	33	
Bentonville Public Library	Sarah Akers	UNT	6	\$2,700	21	
Bentonville Public Library	Nakeli Hendrix	San Jose St.	0	\$0	24	
Bentonville Public Library	Hanna Shrell	LSU	3	\$1,350	12	
Bentonville Public Library	Anna Sharon	U KY	0	\$0	36	
Central AR Library System	Amanda Hayes	TWU	0	\$0	36	
Central AR Library System	Elizabeth Newbern	Simmons	0	\$0	36	
Crawford County Library	Margaux Burleson	USoMS	6	\$2,700	36	
Fayetteville Public Library	Emily Jones	FSU	3	\$1,350	18	
Fayetteville Public Library	Jessica Smith	FSU	6	\$2,700	15	
Fayetteville Public Library	Cassady Murray	FSU	3	\$1,350	30	
Fayetteville Public Library	Kia Dodge	FSU	0	\$0	36	

Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance

DRAFT

[illegible]



DATE: April 30, 2021

TO: Jennifer Chilcoat, Director, Arkansas State Library

RE: Status of Margaux Burleson During Required Military Leave

Dear Ms. Chilcoat,

As you know, I have been looking into joining the Arkansas Air National Guard, and wanted to put in writing my intentions and make myself available to answer any questions related to my anticipated service and training in regard to the Arkansas State Library Scholarship, in which I have been participating. As always, I'm so grateful to be participating in the Arkansas State Library Scholarship for my MLIS degree at the University of Southern Mississippi, and want to assure you that my plans with the Guard will not impact the completion of my degree (anticipated this August) nor my commitment to serving Arkansas Public Libraries for at least a year following graduation. I will need to take an extended leave of absence to complete required military training sometime following August 2021. After speaking with Dr. Fowler, our CCLS Director, and Stacey Shelly, who does HR at the Crawford County Courthouse, they agree that I will still be considered employed during my training and thus still fulfilling the requirements of the scholarship during that time. Upon my return, it is my intention to continue to serve Arkansas libraries to the best of my ability, and with the benefit of the trainings and experiences from both my MLIS degree and those I will receive with the Air National Guard.

Please find attached a memo from Dr. Fowler indicating the library's position, and a copy of an e-mail from Ms. Shelly indicating the Crawford County Courthouse's position.

If I can be of any assistance or provide any further information, please let me know.

Thanks again for all the support that the State Library has given to our Arkansas Public Libraries, and especially those of us pursuing an MLIS degree. For my part, learning from State Library trainings has improved the quality of my work, and participating in the State Library Scholarship has made the pursuit of my MLIS possible. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaux Burleson

Mountainburg Branch Director



Crawford County

Library System

1409 Main Street, Van Buren, AR 72956

Phone 479.471.3226 Fax 479.471.3227 - <http://www.crawfordcountylib.org/>

DATE: April 27, 2021

TO: Jennifer Chilcoat, Director, Arkansas State Library

RE: Status of Margaux Burleson During Required Military Leave

Dear Ms. Chilcoat,

I am writing to confirm that Margaux Burleson will still be considered employed as a librarian serving the public in Arkansas in the Crawford County Library System if she becomes a member of the Air National Guard and is called up to attend mandatory training.

Upon her return from military training, she will be reinstated in the same, or similar, position in the Crawford County Library System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George J. Fowler".

George J Fowler, MLS, Ph.D.

Director, Crawford County Library System

1409 Main Street

Van Buren, AR 72956

gfwler@crawfordcountylib.org

479-471-3226

State Librarian – Jennifer Chilcoat

The Arkansas State Legislature is still expected to recess on April 30, but will reconvene at a later date to address redistricting. Senate Bill 127, authorizing libraries to accept credit and debit cards for payment, has been signed into law by Governor Hutchinson and will take effect 90 days after the legislature adjourns Sine Die. Another bill of interest was House Bill 1903, which would have tackled the murky issue of sales tax as applied to digital books and electronic subscriptions. That bill died in committee, however, and will not be resurrected in the 2021 session.

Work on ADE's Strategic Planning Initiative is wrapping up. ASL has committed to four goals that are in line with the larger departmental goals. Broadly stated, they are:

1. Recruit and support at least 30 new 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten (1KBBK) programs in Arkansas' public libraries. (Ruth Hyatt)
2. Create equitable learning experiences for blind/visually impaired learners through the integration of more tactile resources into existing storytelling and academic materials. (Kristina Hancock)
3. Provide enhanced training and professional development and develop planned learning experiences designed to bring about changes in knowledge, skills, attitudes, or behaviors that contribute directly to the delivery of quality library services. Training will foster leadership within the profession and ensure that professional development can be accessed anywhere, anytime. (Jennifer Wann)
4. Provide enhanced technology training to increase librarians' knowledge of their libraries' network and technological infrastructure, and improve the patron experience using library technology. (Amber Gregory)

In conjunction with the strategic plan, ADE is also running a pilot program to better tie in goals to employees' Performance Evaluations. Kristen Cooke, Kristina Hancock, and I will take part in the pilot which will run for approximately one year.

On March 1, the State of Arkansas released requirements for returning to on-site work due to the increase of vaccine availability. All State employees working remotely are required to return to work on-site by May 17, 2021, at the latest. In addition, Director's Authorized Leave (DAL), which had replaced the paid sick leave required by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), will no longer be available after May 14, 2021. We were elated on March 8 when librarians were officially made eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Before that time, some librarians had already received vaccines because pharmacists deemed them to be educators included in the earliest 1-B category. ASL employees and librarians around the state wasted no time in getting their vaccines, and I have been pleased and relieved at the number who are now completely vaccinated. As ASL staff return to work, we will continue to require face coverings for them and for all visitors. We will also allow use of our meeting rooms to resume at half-capacity.

My monthly meetings with Secretary Key have continued to be productive, allowing an opportunity to communicate our mission and needs to the larger department. In February, I reported that we were exploring the possibility of ADE taking on the cost of continuing LearningExpress beyond our May 2021 subscription expiration date. I am pleased to announce that our discussions were fruitful, and ADE has

committed a portion of their Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to pay for LearningExpress through May, 2024.

Additional activities were:

- ADE/Bellwether Division Planning Meeting, February 17
- COSLA Southern Council Informal Discussion, February 18
- Monthly Meeting with Secretary Key, February 19, March 19, April 14
- ADE/Bellwether Steering Committee Meeting, February 19
- ADE Legislative Session Briefing, February 19
- ADE/Bellwether Divisional Goal Setting Meeting, February 23
- Wi-Fi Statistics collection with Matt Jadud of USGSA, February 24
- Senate City, County & Local Affairs Committee, February 25
- ALA/COSLA briefing on Building America's Libraries Act, March 3
- LSWG State Ballot Process Information Session, March 4
- ADE First Friday, March 5, April 2, May 7
- ADE/Bellwether Divisional Goal Informational Meeting, March 5
- ASL Managers Meeting, March 10, April 7, May 5
- House City, County & Local Affairs Committee, March 10
- Youth Services Workshop, March 12
- ADE/Bellwether One-on-One Divisional Planning Meeting, March 15
- Consulting visit to Stuttgart Library, March 16
- ARPA Brainstorming with key ASL staff, March 17
- COSLA Exchange, March 17
- Pre-recording of "Tell Me What You Do" for South Arkansas Community College, March 18
- COSLA and IMLS conversation on ARPA, March 18
- Public-School Collaboration with ADE's Cassandra Barnett, March 29
- IMLS Grants to States Conference, March 30-31
- COSLA Exchange - Sub-granting, April 1

- Meeting with Sabine Schmidt and Don House, authors of *Remote Access: Small Public Libraries in Arkansas*, April 6
- ALA webinar, Emergency Connectivity Fund: What We Know Today, April 8
- COSLA Exchange: Review of States' High-Level Plans for ARPA, April 8
- Review and selection of Performance Evaluation measures with ADE Division Directors, April 9
- Vendor presentation/discussion regarding SHAREit with Auto-graphics, April 9
- Focus Group on ASL's ARPA Action Plan, April 13
- Arkansas Gems Tentative Final Selections with Karen O'Connell, April 13
- COSLA Exchange: ARPA Funds Open Discussion, April 15
- Misty Hawkins' MLS Portfolio Defense, April 16
- ADE's RISE Initiative with Ray Girdler, April 19
- LSWG Spring Meeting, April 19
- Arkansas Joint Budget Subcommittee PEER Review Committee re: Request for Budget Classification Transfer, April 20
- ALL-In Meeting, April 21
- COSLA Exchange: Challenges to Online Database Content, April 22
- ADE Performance Management Pilot, April 23
- "ARPA Basics" presentations for public library directors, April 26, April 27 (2), April 28, May 3
- Western Council Chiefs' ARPA Drop-In Discussion, May 5
- Dr. Eric Flowers, ADE, re: ASL Five-Year Plan Evaluation, May 9

Future meetings/events include*:

- ASL Managers meeting, first Wednesday of each month
- ADE First Friday meeting, first Friday of each month
- COSLA Exchange, biweekly on Thursdays
- LSWG Summer Meeting, June 8
- If All Arkansas Read the Same Book, June 10, July 27

*All extra-agency meetings will be conducted via Zoom or other electronic means, unless otherwise indicated.

Acronyms: AAAL – Advocates for All Arkansas Libraries; ADE – Arkansas Department of Education; ALA – American Library Association; ArLA – Arkansas Library Association; ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act; ARSL – Association for Rural and Small Libraries; COSLA – Chief Officers of State Library Agencies; DESE – Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; FDLP – Federal Depository Library Program; GPO – Government Publishing Office; IMLS – Institute of Museum and Library Services; LDD – Library Development District; LSWG – Library Statistics Working Group; SDC – State Data Coordinator

Deputy Director – Kristen Cooke

The 2020 Public Library Survey was due from public libraries in Arkansas on April 15, 2021. At large, libraries completed the survey ahead of the published due date. The next phase will be to validate and upload Arkansas' survey data to the IMLS collection site for the final verification process. Several librarians have expressed a desire for continued discussions and peer-learning opportunities regarding the PLS and how they collect and utilize data at the local library level. I am currently exploring options to support that request and help facilitate communication about the PLS process.

In preparation for the 2021 data collection cycle, which will begin early in 2022, several current data elements were under review and several new data elements were proposed. Chief Officers of State Libraries and State Data Coordinators worked jointly to their one ballot for their respective states, and ultimately all ballot items passed. More discussion is slated to take place in the coming months to identify collection concerns and establish definitions. In the coming days we will distribute information about the survey changes to be administered in 2022.

I have been fortunate to be included in the discussions and planning for how ARPA funds will be distributed in Arkansas. This has been an invaluable learning process that has provided a 'crash course' in federal funding priorities and processes. In the spirit of learning about agency processes, I have continued training and development in areas of my job responsibilities such as performance evaluations, ASL policies and history, and long range planning for Information Services and the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled.

Kristina Hancock and I have been added to a pilot program with the Arkansas Department of Education to test processes and collect feedback related to a new performance evaluation plan. The pilot program will allow us to represent the voice of ASL in this important part of continuous improvement efforts.

Cassandra Barnett, the Program Advisor for School Libraries within ADE, has reached out to ASL staff in hopes of establishing a relationship that increases access to development and engagement opportunities of school media specialists with ASL programs and services. I will be joining these discussions with ASL and Ms. Barnett, but have also been invited to represent ASL in similar meetings with ARKLink and interested academic libraries. I have long held that public and academic libraries would find a mutually beneficial relationship in collaboration so I am excited about the opportunity to be a part of these

The coming months will consist of supporting ASL efforts to distribute ARPA funds and validating the Arkansas Public Library Survey data with the federal reporting system. It is a busy but wonderful time to be at the Arkansas State Library.

Additional Activities were:

- February 23 – Nothing for Us, Without Us: Getting Started with Culturally Responsive Evaluation presented by Research Institute for Public Libraries
- February 25 – Orientation for Public Librarians completing the IMLS Public Library Survey
- March 2- Training, Meaningful Metrics for your Organization, presented by Research Institute for Public Libraries
- March 2- Meeting, ASL Staff, Youth Services Workshop Planning
- March 4- Meeting, IMLS and COSLA, Public Library Survey Ballot Session
- March 5 – Meeting, Arkansas Department of Education First Friday
- March 9 – Library Consultation, Data Collection
- March 10 Meeting, ASL Staff, Manager's Meeting

- March 11- Meeting, IMLS, State Data Coordinators Bi Monthly
- March 12- Event, Youth Services Workshop
- March 16 – Site Visit and Consultation, Stuttgart Public Library
- March 16- Training, Evaluation + Culture = Change, presented by Research Institute for Public Libraries
- March 17- Meeting, Information Services, Outreach Efforts and Planning
- March 17- Meeting, ASL Staff, ARPA Planning Meeting
- March 18- Meeting, BPD, ADE Strategic Planning Goals Refinement
- March 18- Meeting, COSLA & IMLS Conversation on the American Rescue Plan Act
- March 29- Meeting, ASL Staff, Staff Planning for unfilled LD position
- March 29,30, 31- Conference, IMLS, Grants to States
- March 30- Meeting, Arkansas Health Information Professionals, Monthly
- March 31- Meeting, ASL Staff, ARPA funds
- April 1- Meeting, COSLA Exchange
- April 5- Meeting, Strategic Planning, Kristina Hancock
- April 6- Meeting, ARPA Fund Distribution Details, ASL & ADE
- April 7- Meeting, ASL Staff, Managers' Meeting
- April 8 – Meeting, COSLA Exchange
- April 9- Vendor Presentation, SHAREit
- April 13- Meeting, Arkansas Gems, ASL staff
- April 14 – Meeting, Outreach Planning, Information Services
- April 15 – Meeting, COSLA Exchange ARPA Open Discussion, COSLA
- April 20 – Training, NARCAN Training, ASL
- April 23 – Meeting, Review of PLS Ballot Decisions, IMLS and SDC
- April 26, 27 (2), 28, May 3 – Meeting, ARPA Basics, ASL
- April 28- Meeting, ARPA Guidance, IMLS
- April 30 – Meeting, Performance Evaluation Pilot Program Team, ADE

Manager of Library Development – Jennifer Wann

On-Going Projects:

Library Consulting Services

Consulting topics included, but were not limited to: salaries; friends of the library bylaws; tax ID numbers; state aid eligibility; managing stress and evolving services; space planning; services provided to public libraries by ASL; reliable resources for COVID-19 information for the general public; Dr. Seuss books that are no longer being published; checking out hotspots; checking out DVDs to minors; sound proofing storytime areas; expiration of state-wide mask mandate; financial management; planning for renovation projects; movie licenses; scanning local history items; book bikes; COVID-19 vaccine locations eligibility of library workers; circulating e-readers; process for opening a new branch in a County Library; safely conducting Summer Reading Program; planning for potential increases in the federal minimum wage; how to calculate sales and use tax; cleaning up in active patron accounts in the automation system; locating bindery for family bibles; quarantine time for library materials.

Field Questions on general consulting topics:

- January 22: salaries and benefits for youth services librarians
- January 27: services for homeless patrons
- March 18: control of county library funds
- April 12: circulating e-readers

ALL-In

Information about the next ALL-In program is now available online:

<https://www.library.arkansas.gov/services/professional-development-for-librarians/arkansas-library-leadership-institute/all-in-2022/>

The Institute will be held April 6-8, 2022. The Institute is not just for library workers with an MLS or with “Director” or “Manager” in their titles. Applicants should exhibit leadership potential and be willing to share your enthusiasm, optimism, and vision with your peers in the cohort. Up to thirty participants will be selected from the applicant pool. Candidates with between two and ten years of library experience are preferred, but exceptional candidates with more or less experience will be accepted into the program. Library staff from all types of libraries are encouraged to apply.

Participants are responsible for transportation to and from workshops; all other expenses are covered by the Arkansas State Library with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Applications will be available in August 2021. Applications are due by 10 a.m. CDT on October 1, 2021.

Site visits were made to three conference and meeting facilities at the DeGray Lake, Queen Wilhelmina, and Mount Magazine state parks to evaluate the facilities for the next Institute. Quotes have been submitted by all three state parks and are currently being evaluated.

The first and second cohorts of the ALL-In program continue to meet in regularly scheduled Zoom meetings.

Continuing Education

Library Juice Academy

During January-March, 2021, 146 courses were requested and 90 evaluations were returned. Typical feedback from participants include statements like these:

"It was neat to have two Arkansas participants in my course! The recommended textbook will also come in handy."

"Allyship, Anti-Oppression Practices, and Building Inclusive Libraries is the BEST online course I have ever taken. Fantastic resources and context provided."

"I am a person who likes to be physically taught person to person (or over zoom). I am not a good self-taught learner and prefer to have human teaching."

Ratings for January, February, & March:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I learned something by participating in this LJA Course.	60	26	3	0	1
I feel more confident about what I just learned.	44	37	5	2	2
I intend to apply what I just learned.	54	29	4	2	1
Applying what I learned will help improve library services in my library.	46	37	4	2	1

There are currently 21 individuals enrolled in courses during the month of April taking 11 different courses. Participants include public, academic, and K-12 librarians. 36 individuals are registered for May courses.

Preparing for the Next Wave of Pandemic Fatigued Customers

94 participants joined a two hour webinar presented by Andrew Sanderbeck on January 21, 2021 with 57 completing evaluations.

Typical feedback from participants include statements like these:

"I just wanted you to know that I found this webinar very interesting and informative. Thank you for offering it to ASL employees and other libraries around the state! I have attended other sessions in the past concerning safety and security, but I really liked Andrew's approach and style of instruction. I am looking forward to the follow-up from today's session on Feb. 4th."

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I learned something by participating in this LJA Course.		37	19	1	0	0
I feel more confident about what I just learned.		30	25	2	0	0
I intend to apply what I just learned.		38	19	0	0	0
Applying what I learned will help improve library services in my library.		34	23	0	0	0

Narcan Training for Librarians

ASL partnered with the University of Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute to provide public libraries with information about the opioid overdose reversal drug Narcan. Participating libraries will receive two Narcan kits. A total of three sessions covering the same content are scheduled during the month of April.

Agency and Library Development Projects

- ARPA – participated in planning and work sessions related to the American Rescue Plan Act on different levels including through COSLA and IMLS; ASL staff; and meetings with the public library community.
- Center for the Book – participated in planning events and assisted with technical components of poetry even with Pulitzer Prize winning author, Jericho Brown. Participated in meetings to discuss the 2021 Gems poster and the 2021 If All Arkansas Read the Same Book program.
- Youth Services – provided technical support and meeting hosting for the Youth Services Workshop and presented a session on COVID-19 resources; facilitated Reinventing and Reimagining Storytime in a Pandemic World on Ruth Hyatt’s behalf.
- Collaboration with ADE Divisions – met with other groups and individuals from the larger ADE: Cassandra Barnett on the ways that school libraries and public libraries can work together; team members from the Ready for Life initiative.
- ADE Focus Group and Strategic Planning – Participated in Zoom sessions and completed assignments for the ADE strategic planning process.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

January 27	State Library Agency CE Coordinators Weekly Meeting
February 3, 17, & 24	Participated in the weekly meeting for Continuing Education Coordinators.
February 3, March 3	Arkansas State Library, Managers Meeting
April 7	Participated in the monthly managers meeting.
February 5, March 19	Library Development Chiefs Weekly Meeting
	Participated in the weekly meeting for heads of Library Development.

February 12	ASL Board Meeting Attended the ASL Board meeting.
February 12, April 9	Arkansas Library Association (ArLA) Executive Board Meeting Participated as Member at Large.
February 26, March 11	Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) A-Team Attended and participated in an ARSL Outstanding in Their Field Leadership Advisory Committee meeting.
March 16	Site Visit: Stuttgart Public Library Travelled to the Stuttgart Public Library with Jennifer Chilcoat and Kristen Cooke to meet with the Assistant Director, Clara Jane Timmerman.
March 19	LDD3 Meeting Attended the regularly scheduled LDD3 meeting.
March 30 & 31	2021 IMLS Grants to States Conference Attended and participated in the LSTA virtual conference.
April 15	Site Visit: Garland County Library Travelled to Hot Springs to meet with the Director, Adam Webb.
April 16	Thesis Defense: Misty Hawkins Attended a virtual portfolio presentation and thesis defense presented by Misty Hawkins, director of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library, as part of her MLIS from the University of Oklahoma.
April 19	Southern Council of State Library Agencies (SCSLA) Library Development Forum Participated in the virtual forum for Library Development staff members.

Upcoming Events:

April 27	ARPA Basics webinar
April 28	ARPA Basics webinar
April 28	Narcan Training webinar
May 3	ARPA Basics webinar
May 5	ASL Managers meeting
May 5	Meeting with Cassandra Barnett, ADE
May 13	Board training: Marion County Library
May 14	ArLA Board meeting
May 14	ASL Board meeting
May 17	Board training: Saline County Library
May 19	ALL-In meeting
May 22	ALL-In presentation to Emporia SLIM AR Cohort
May 27	Board training: East Central Arkansas Regional Library
June 1 & 2	Staff training & site visit: Northeast Arkansas Regional Library

Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book – Karen O’Connell

On-Going Projects:

Library of Congress Center for the Book Updates

The annual Idea Exchange will take place virtually on May 12 and May 13. In addition, the National Book Festival will be virtual again this year; September 17-26, 2021, with the theme and authors to be announced soon. It is uncertain at this point if there will be virtual booths in a “Roadmap to Reading.” However, there will be a “Great Reads” section on the virtual site. The 2021 Arkansas Center for the Book “Great Reads” selection is *Crossings: Extraordinary Structures for Extraordinary Animals* by Katy S. Duffield and illustrated by Mike Orodán (New York: Beach Lane Books, 2020); nonfiction, ages 0-8: “All over the world, wildlife crossings help animals travel safely over, under, across, and through busy roadways.” Ms. Duffield was born in Little Rock; she lived all of her life in Arkansas until a recent move to Florida.

Book Club Project

Attendance at book club meetings has increased, and tallies indicate that there were 664 readers from January through mid-April to date, with March and April statistics still being submitted to the Center. From February through May, kits were sent to 156 book clubs; and with 1,872 books provided. The Coordinator held an ASL Library Book Clubs meeting on March 3 with several library book club coordinators in attendance. At the meeting, the group discussed various methods of gathering during the pandemic; such as meeting outside, meeting over Zoom, meeting via email. We also talked about various genres, and there were great suggestions to add some more science fiction and thrillers to the collection as well as true crime. In addition, there was a suggestion to add pieces by noted essayists, and possibly in anthology. Mary Oliver and Annie Dillard were mentioned in particular. The group suggested gathering virtually two times per year to discuss titles in the collection; such as in the spring on titles not frequently requested and in the early fall on titles recently added to the collection. Lastly, the group chatted about adding more/keeping more “Classics” in the collection, as many book clubs like to read and discuss a Classic book in their year of reading together. Currently, there are approximately twenty Classic titles in the collection.

Arkansas Gems

Title selections for 2021 Gems have been finalized and the design vendor has been selected. Contracting for the poster and bookmark design and illustration is in process as of the writing of this report. In addition, the Public Information Specialist and the Center Coordinator have begun obtaining permissions and high-res book jacket images.

If All Arkansas Read the Same Book

Copies of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis (New York: Dutton, 2020) have been mailed to all Arkansas public library branches, and eBook and audiobook copies have been licensed in Arkansas public library OverDrive consortia. Registration is now open for both events on the ASL site:

- Fiona Davis discusses *The Lions of Fifth Avenue*, Thursday, June 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m. Central Time via Zoom Webinar and livestreamed over YouTube

- A Gathering of the Book Club Groups with Fiona Davis, Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 6:30 p.m. Central Time via Zoom Meetings and livestreamed over YouTube

Other Projects

Literary Landmarks – Arkansas does not yet have a designated Literary Landmark™. The Coordinator has been meeting with Jo McDougall, Arkansas Poet Laureate and her press secretary, Stacy Pendergrast; on a working list of potential people and places as well as on next steps in the application process.

February Poetry Program – Although statistics for the February poetry program with Jericho Brown and Jo McDougall were mentioned in the previous meeting, the program had not yet taken place when the February report was submitted. Below are program statistics:

	Advance RSVPs	Zoom Attendance	Viewed Live on YouTube
Total	328	213	50
Total Unique	317		
From Arkansas	115		
Zip Code not Provided	47		
Number of States	37		
Countries other than USA	5		

In addition, the Center received several emails containing positive attendee feedback. Here are a few:

- Most enjoyable. [Signed Name]. Washington County. Thank you. More, more.
- I watched tonight's conversation with Jericho Brown and was completely delighted. Rare is the poet who can be so funny, engaging, and inspiring in answering questions about his work.
- This was perfect.
- Thank you for last night's event with Jericho Brown. It was wonderful and inspiring on many levels. I ordered his new book immediately afterwards.
- Can I just say THANK YOU to all that made it possible. The conversation last night was a GIFT!

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 1 Jericho Brown Poetry Event Meeting
via Zoom, with Jo McDougall and Stacy Pendergrast

February 3 Jericho Brown Poetry Event – Dress Rehearsal 2
via Zoom Webinar, with panelists and LD staff as a final technology check-in and schedule run through

February 4 Follow-up on Preparing for the Next Wave of Pandemic-Fatigued Customers
via Zoom Meeting as a follow-up to January 21 Andrew Sanderbeck program

February 4 In Conversation with Jericho Brown
via Zoom Webinar

February 5 Meeting with Eureka Springs Carnegie Library
via Zoom, on a library-community book club collaboration

February 5 Library of Congress “Ambassador” Visits to State Centers
via Skype, with a small selection of State Center for the Book Coordinators to brainstorm on pilot programs within states and regions; “ambassadors” include the National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, the Poet Laureate of the United States, and the American Fiction Prize winner

February 9 Meeting with Gravette Public Library
via Zoom, on starting a new book club

February 12 ASL Board Meeting

February 18 Meeting with Christina Shutt, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
phone meeting on AR CFB supporting the July 17 Candacy Taylor event

February 21 Lee Bennett Hopkins Award Jury
via Zoom, jury deliberation and selection of award winner and honorees

February 23 Poetry Program – Reflection and Review
via Zoom with Jo McDougall, Arkansas Poet Laureate, Stacy Pendergrast, and Jennifer Wann

February 24
via Zoom

Library of Congress Center for the Book Affiliates Meeting

February 25 Youth Services Programmers Zoom
via Zoom, to brainstorm on IAARTSB title and Summer Reading

March 2 ADE Summit with Kristina
via Zoom, Kristina and Karen will share a time slot for the ADE Summit in June

March 2 via Zoom	Youth Services Workshop run-through
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March 3 ASL Library Book Clubs Meeting
via Zoom, with book club coordinators around the state to share tips on running book club meetings and
to consider genres for the ASL Book Club Collection

March 12
via Zoom

March 17
via Zoom

March 24
via Zoom

Library of Congress Center for the Book Affiliates Meeting

April 2 ALL-In Potential Venue – Site Visit to DeGray Lake

April 6 Conversation about Remote Access

via Zoom, with State Librarian and authors of *Remote Access: Small Public Libraries in Arkansas*

April 6 A Conversation about American Art Books
via Zoom, attended Hadi Dudley's program re: collaborating with the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, its Art Library which is open to the public, and the background of the Walton Foundation selection of art books to public libraries

April 7 Transforming Teen Services, spring 2021 Cohort
via Zoom, session 1 of 4

April 7 2021 Arkansas Gems – meeting for Title Selections
via Zoom, with Jennifer Wann, Ruth Hyatt, Amber Gregory, Katie Walton, and Danny Koonce; to narrow down the list for State Librarian consideration toward final selections

April 8 Preservation Standards & Practices Committee meeting
via Zoom, to discuss when to deploy the next Pres Stats Survey, Committee roster, and PS&P within ALA/Core, as Core continues to become established

April 8 Reinventing and Re-envisioning Storytime in a Pandemic
via Zoom, attended and provided Zoom support

April 13 Narcan Training for Public Libraries
via Zoom, attended and provided Zoom support

April 13 Gems Discussion – Finalizing the List
via Zoom, with Jennifer Chilcoat and Kristen Cooke

April 14 Transforming Teen Services, spring 2021 Cohort
via Zoom, session 2 of 4

April 21 Transforming Teen Services, spring 2021 Cohort
via Zoom, session 3 of 4

April 23 ALL-In Potential Venue – Site Visit to Mount Magazine

Upcoming Events:

June 10 If All Arkansas Read the Same Book – Virtual Author Event 1
June 23 ADE Summit Session
July 17 Mosaic Templars Cultural Center – Candacy Taylor Event
July 27 If All Arkansas Read the Same Book – Virtual Author Event 2

Manager of E-Rate Services - Amber Gregory

On-Going Projects:

E-Rate Update

- The FY 2021 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) application filing window opened January 15, 2021 and closed on March 25, 2021.
- FY 2021 E-Rate numbers:
 - Amount requested: \$1,086,366
 - Category 1: \$774,830
 - Category 2: \$311,536
 - First funding wave issued 4/17/2021
 - Amount funded as of 4/23/2021: \$446,439
 - Participation: 123 of 220 (55%) Arkansas public library locations
- The Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) was passed as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) legislation. This \$7.12 Billion appropriated program will fund off-property connectivity such as mobile hot spots and antennas to broadcast WiFi to surrounding areas for libraries and schools. The structure of the program will be very similar to E-Rate, and it will be administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will set program rules mid-May, and the program is expected to open for applications sometime in the summer.

You Can Do I.T.

Late spring 2021 Carson Block will offer a technology webinar focused on technology assessment to help guide libraries in shaping their library technology in response to Covid. This webinar is designed to help libraries plan for technology purchases with ARPA or ECF funding. Those who attended the fall You Can Do I.T. workshops will find this to be a refresher, and those who did not attend the fall workshops will find this to be a great place to plan technology purchases. Carson and I held a planning meeting 3-31-21.

Virtual E-Rate Meetings with Arkansas Public Libraries

Between January 21, 2021 and April 23, 2021, 88 virtual E-Rate consultations were held with 38 Arkansas public libraries. Assistance was given with E-Rate Forms 470, 471, 472, 500, Receipt Acknowledgement Letter (RAL) modifications, E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) updates, bid evaluations, invoice deadline extension requests, and out of window waiver requests to the FCC.

Arkansas County Library
 Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
 Ashley County Library
 Boone County Library
 Bradley County Library
 Chicot County Library
 Clark County Library
 Columbia County Library
 Craighead County/Jonesboro Public Library
 Crittenden County Library
 Crossett Public Library
 Dallas County Library
 Desha County Library
 Farmington Public Library
 Forrest City Public Library
 Fort Smith Public Library
 Gentry Public Library
 Grant County Library
 Gravette Public Library

Iva Jane Peek Public Library
 Lonoke County Library
 Malvern/Hot Spring County Library
 Marion County Library
 Mississippi County Library
 Newton County Library
 Pope County Library
 Prairie County Library
 Prescott/Nevada County Library
 Public Library of Camden and Ouachita County
 Public Library of Pine Bluff/Jefferson County
 Rogers Public Library
 Saline County Library
 Sevier County Library
 Southeast Arkansas Regional Library
 Star City Branch Library
 Van Buren County Public Library
 White County Regional Library

Conference Calls/Virtual Meetings/Webinars/Site Visits:

Jan 22 – Apr 21

E-Rate Task Force (ERTF) Zoom meetings

Six virtual meetings were held between January 22 and April 21. Due to activity focusing on off-campus connectivity and the new ECF program, we met multiple times to discuss ALA's comments to the FCC on this program. The January ERTF meeting was part of ALA Midwinter conference. Our meeting covered the ECF program, broadband legislation, and discussion on FCC changes.

Jan 25 – Apr 9

USAC Board of Directors virtual meetings

I attended the virtual January quarterly Board of Directors meeting Jan 25-27. The board also held 4 additional meetings that consisted primarily of executive session discussions.

Feb 1 – Apr 12

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) member calls

The Arkansas State library is a member of the SHLB organization, and Zoom meetings are held every other Monday to update the membership on broadband issues. I attended 6 membership calls and 3 E-Rate working group calls to discuss broadband legislation and issues relating to the E-rate program. I also attended 3 working meetings on the SHLB E-Rate Petition filed with the FCC.

Feb 1 – Apr 19

American Library Association (ALA) Washington Office telecom calls

Each Monday the ALA WO holds a call to discuss broadband and telecom issues and efforts related to libraries. I joined 10 calls in my role as E-Rate Task Force Chair.

February 2

ADE Focus Group

I participated in an ADE focus group about the strategic plan.

February 4

An Evening with Jericho Brown

I provided Zoom technical assistance to the AR Center for the Book poetry program with Jericho Brown.

Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13

E-Rate calls with Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)

I led three E-Rate calls with state E-Rate coordinators and representatives from USAC. The calls addressed the E-Rate application filing window, E-Rate Productivity Center updates, and transition of services.

February 10

SHLB Webinar: Biden and Broadband

SHLB presented a webinar on how the Biden administration may promote broadband.

February 12

FCC Roundtable on Emergency Broadband Program (EBB)

I attended a virtual roundtable hosted by the FCC to learn from stakeholders ranging from anchor institutions to service providers.

February 17-19

The Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy

The virtual conference featured research topics and papers delivered by leaders in the telecommunications field and featured keynote speakers including past FCC chairs and staff.

February 26

SHLB Webinar: RDOF's Impact on Anchor Institutions

SHLB invited speakers to discuss the potential impact of RDOF on anchor institutions.

March 11

SHLB Meeting: Emergency Connectivity Fund call

SHLB membership met to discuss the Emergency Connectivity Fund which passed as part of ARPA, and its potential impact on anchor institutions.

March 13 Youth Services Workshop
I assisted with the virtual Youth Services Workshop presented by ASL.

March 16 Senate Broadband Caucus Roundtable Discussion
The Senate Broadband Caucus, including Senator Boozman and other Senators, was joined by FCC Acting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel to discuss broadband priorities for 2021 and beyond.

March 31 SHLB Webinar: What Could Schools and Libraries do with \$7 Billion?
SHLB presented a webinar on ECF and its potential impact on school and library broadband connectivity.

March 31 COSLA: Review of States' High Level Plans for ARPA
I joined a COSLA meeting which included IMLS staff to discuss ARPA plans.

April 7 Arkansas Gems Planning Meeting
I attended a meeting with the AR Center for the Book and other ASL staff to plan the 2021 Gems list.

April 16 Thesis Defense: Misty Hawkins
I attended a virtual portfolio presentation and thesis defense presented by Misty Hawkins, director of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library, as part of her MLIS from the University of Oklahoma.

April 20 State Library Technology Directors monthly Zoom meeting
The state library technology directors hold a monthly meeting to discuss and share ideas relating to how state libraries support technology and broadband for public libraries. We discussed ARPA projects.

April 20 Narcan Training for Public Libraries
I provided technical backup for the Zoom presentation by the UA Criminal Justice Institute.

April 22 Queen Wilhelmina State Park
I visited Queen Wilhelmina State Park as a potential site for the next Arkansas Library Leadership Institute.

Upcoming Events:

April 26 - 28	USAC Board of Directors Meeting, virtual
June 23 - 29	ALA Annual Conference, virtual
July 26 - 28	USAC Board of Directors Meeting, virtual

Coordinator of Youth Services– Ruth Hyatt

Ongoing projects:

Museum of Discovery – Reimagining Preschool Readiness

Training opportunity: The Museum of Discovery partnered with the Bay Area Discovery Museum (BADM) in California on an IMLS grant to provide free training for librarians on an evidence-based program called Reimagining School Readiness. This program was piloted in California and is being offered to new cohorts over the next few years. Arkansas is fortunate to be included in the second cohort. We will offer in-person and virtual workshops with simple hands-on activities librarians can use. All participants get access to the Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit to use any time which includes a rich variety of materials to share with parents and young children.

The only commitment for the libraries who participate is to administer the program survey included in the toolkit following at least 3 of your library programs with children and their caregivers within six months of taking the training. Our goal is to train 75 librarians by the end of September. This is not an Arkansas State Library Program, but Ruth Hyatt can help direct your questions to Museum staff.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/4AygpDxK75cbat118>

- Virtual, Single 4 hour session – May 25
- Virtual, Two 2 hour sessions – May 19 & 26
- In-person, Single 4 hour session – August 24
- In-person, Two 2 hour sessions – August 23 & 30

READsquared and Page Turner Adventures

READsquared, the online reading program platform now available to all public library branches, can pre load the content of Page Turner Adventures into each sub account. Page Turner Adventures is a theater company that has adapted their content to completely virtual platforms. Page Turner Adventures provides 5-7 pre-recorded videos per week. This video content includes shows, crafts, field trips, authors and special guests with the theme of Animal Adventures to follow the Tails and Tales theme of Summer Reading 2021. The Arkansas State Library has purchased the four week program set. This content will be loaded into READsquared in May. Libraries can then use READsquared settings to release the content in alignment with their Summer Reading schedule and will have access through September 12 2021.

<https://pageturneradventures.com/>

Libraries can sign up for READsquared at: <https://www.readsquared.com/AR>

Collaborative Summer Library Program

State representatives are working together on themes and slogans for upcoming years. Arkansas public libraries are encouraged but not required to use the CSLP materials and incentives available for purchase on their website.

www.csllpreads.org

YALSA Cohort: Transforming Teen Services (T3—Train the Trainer)

ASL continues its participation in the YALSA T3 Train the Trainer program with our second cohort of participants. Sessions are scheduled every Wednesday from April 7th through April 28th. We have 10 active participants for the spring course. Sixteen of the thirty required training hours will have been provided at the end of the spring course.

A reunion zoom was held for the first cohort participants on March 17th. We will continue to meet with cohort participants to encourage and support their efforts in taking Transforming Teen Services content from the zoom course to their library services for teens.

T3 training continues for state partners. We participate in monthly webinars with other state teams and will have the chance to participate in a 6 week course on Equity in Library Services in May and June. An in person training is scheduled for Reno, NV in November 2021.

Charlie May Simon and Arkansas Diamond Primary Book Awards

New consideration lists have been compiled for both awards committees. We have had one resignation on the Charlie May Simon award committee. The committee is working to fill the open position. Both committees have attracted new volunteer Readers. Readers receive the consideration list being read by the committee. These lists consist of hundreds of titles. Readers cannot vote on titles to be put on the nominations short list, but they can help to guide the committee towards books that qualify for the award and earn their recommendation. Readers report via a short google form on each book that they read. The committee is informed of their recommendations during the regular schedule of meetings. Meetings are held monthly from September through February.

Current Simon and Diamond lists will be voted on in the first part of May. Cassandra Barnett of the Arkansas Department of Education will be releasing voting forms to schools.

Keep your eye on Craig O'Neill's YouTube channel to hear him read all of the current 2020-2021 nominees for the Arkansas Diamond Award.

The nominees for the 2021-2022 school year will be voted on next spring.

Charlie May Simon Award: <https://www.library.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/CMS-Nominees-2021-2022.pdf>

Arkansas Diamond Award: <https://www.library.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Diamond-Nominees-2021-2022.pdf>

Arkansas Teen Book Award

Committee members and Readers will be reading through July 31st to craft a short list of the top 5 nominees for each of the 2 reading levels of this award. Level one is for students in grades 7-9 and Level 2 is for students 10-12. A poster of the nominees will be created in August for a planned distribution to all schools and public libraries in September. You can sign up to be a Reader or suggest a book title on the award website.

<https://www.library.arkansas.gov/programs/book-awards/arkansas-teen-book-award/>

Programmers Zooms

We celebrated 52 weeks of weekly zooms on April 1st. Programmers continue to meet and share ideas, showcase performers, offer encouragement, and learn new skills. As we close in on Summer Reading, our focus will start to highlight the use of READsquared.

Youth Services Workshop

The workshop was well received and our speaker, Jarrett Krosoczka brought more to the virtual event than expected. Our participants learned a great deal about the author's own journey and then he took us deep inside his studio and demonstrated the tools he has used to adapt his in person events into online only content. We offered 16 unique break-out sessions on a wide variety of topics. Thank you to all of our presenters and room wranglers and Youth Services committee members and Arkansas State Library staff that made this event possible.

Reinventing & Re-envisioning Storytime in a Pandemic World

Sherry Norfolk is a storyteller, author, and teaching artist. She offered our youth services programmers a three part workshop on virtual programming. Content included useful tools and apps for online programming, creating opening and closing routines, using songs, chants, and rhythms to give instructions, get attention, and create smooth transitions. We also explored how to provide opportunities for movement, and personal interactions to help maintain focus and attention during the program. Over 30 programmers participated in each session. Recordings of the sessions have been shared with all the other youth services programmers in the state.

Upcoming Events:

April 22	DESE webinar on Human Trafficking Arkansas Library Association Youth Services Community of Interest Meeting Weekly Programmer Zoom
April 22	ALL-In location scout to Mount Magazine
April 26	Zoom with Page Turner Adventures and READsquared
April 27	Reader Orientation Zooms, 10am and 2pm
April 28	Transforming Teen Services week 4 of 4
April 29	Youth Services Committee 1pm Weekly Programmer Zoom 2:30
May 6	Library Day of Discourse Weekly Programmer Zoom
May 7	DESE webinar: Child Abuse Hotline
May 13	Arkansas Library Association Community of Interest Meeting Weekly Programmer Zoom
May 19	ALL-In
May 20	Weekly Programmer Zoom
May 25	Museum of Discovery Reimagining School Readiness workshop – virtual
May 27	Weekly Programmer Zoom
May 28 – June 25	Transforming Teen Services Equity training each Friday for 6 weeks.
June 22-24	Arkansas Department of Education – Education Summit

Manager of Arkansas Library for the Blind – Kristina Hancock

BPD librarians are looking forward to having three of our library employees back on Monday, May 17th. We will be able to resume braille shipments and, more importantly, outreach! We are currently working on creating tactile kits for our young patrons. There will be more information about the creation and implementation of those kits in future reports.

CIRCULATION

In the Federal fiscal year from October 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021, the Arkansas State Library's Library for the Blind program circulated a total of 90,209 books. Of this figure, 73,530 were by direct mail circulation, 195 were direct mail circulation of Braille books, 16,679 were patron downloads from the Braille and Audio Reading Download program (BARD). Patron downloads accounted for around 22 percent of total circulation. Circulation of books through Duplication on Demand accounted for 99 percent of all direct mail circulation.

READER INTERACTION STATISTICS

I have begun taking a more accurate count of our Reader Advisors' interactions with patrons. They receive a sheet at the beginning of each week with the following categories, "Phone Calls Received," "Emails Received/ Answered," "Voicemails Answered," "Welcome Calls or Outreach" and "Work Follow Up." They count each interaction with a tick mark in the relevant category. This will be an ongoing part of my board report moving forward. For the Federal fiscal year, October 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021, our Reader Advisors had a total of 12,739 patron interactions. Of those, 3,952 interactions were phone calls received, 482 were emails received and responded to, 377 were voicemails received and responded to, 319 were new patron outreach calls, and 5,289 were work follow up interactions. Work follow up includes curating a book order for a patron and searching for and providing reference information.

BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) READERSHIP

There are 824 Library for the Blind readers registered with the National Library Service for the Blind (NLS) BARD program. Of those patrons, 442 actively download digital audio and braille books and magazines. In the first 6 months of FY 2020, those patrons downloaded 16,679 BARD books and read them on 1,458 registered Apple and Android mobile devices. The free Apple App enables BARD books to be downloaded easily to an Apple iPhone, iPad, or other mobile Apple device. The free Android App enables users to download books directly to any Android device with an OS of 4.1 or higher.

OUTSOURCING BRAILLE

On July 1st of 2018 the Library entered into a contract with the Utah State Library for the Blind in Salt Lake City Utah to provide circulation of Braille books to Arkansas patrons. ASL continues to provide limited Braille service directly from its holdings as available, but with declining circulation, only 195 Braille books circulated since the beginning of FY 2020.

TRAVEL

No upcoming travel is scheduled due to the continuing pandemic.

Manager of Information Services – Michael Strickland

On-Going Projects:

COVID-19 and May 17

Information Services staff are continuing to provide public service at the Arkansas State Library despite COVID-19. As a precaution, we continue to provide the public with anti-bacterial hand sanitizer and face masks as needed. We also continue to operate with minimal staffing during normal hours by rotating the number of staff members working at home and working at the office.

We will return to normal levels beginning on Monday, May 17, 2021.

Patent and Trademark Training and Meetings

In February 2021, I met virtually with Jacob Choi, the assistant director of the Texas Regional Office of the USPTO.

March 22-25, 2021, reference librarian Jessica Kirk and I attended the virtual 2021 Patent and Trademark Training Session hosted by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USTPO).

On April 16, 2021, Jessica Kirk and I met virtually with Professor Kimberly Vu-Dinh, Director of the Business Innovations Clinic at the UALR Law School. We discussed ways we can work together this fall to better promote patents and trademarks as well as provide better legal assistance to independent inventors and entrepreneurs.

ASL Information Services Facebook Page

The Arkansas State Library, Information Services Facebook page continues to grow. The numbers for this quarter are:

1605 **Likes**

1880 **Follows**

Meetings/Training:

**In-person training and meetings of 10 or more were cancelled or re-scheduled this quarter in response to the COVID-10 pandemic.

Division Manager of Collection Management – Sarah Lipsey

On-Going Projects:

Division Personnel

The vacant Librarian position in Digital Services will be filled soon. Interviews for the position took place the week of April 26th. The Librarian position works exclusively with the State Documents Depository program and was vacated by Jennifer Razer's promotion to Senior Librarian last year.

ASL Website

The Executive Committee has created a new section on the ASL website dedicated to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The new section will be updated periodically to provide the most current information available on all aspects related to the State Library's administration of ARPA funds. Although specifically geared toward library directors, the page also provides information to any interested members of the public.

Additionally, the website has been updated to reflect the latest staff contact information due to the recent email migration to Arkansas Department of Education.

All previously reported issues concerning user management, user permissions and site navigation have been corrected by INA to our satisfaction. There are no more pending issues affecting the public-facing website or the content management system.

SirsiDynix: Migration from eLibrary to Enterprise

The migration to the new online public catalog is complete; Enterprise went live to the public on March 15 and our instance of eLibrary is now retired.

Collection Development Year-end Acquisitions

Approximately \$20,000 worth of funds were unblocked in mid-April from the annual resource budget. The bulk of these funds will be spent to acquire books for the State Library collections. To ensure that any unblocked funds are spent in a targeted and thoughtful manner, Acquisitions staff members maintain a running bibliography of materials to purchase throughout the year.

The Acquisitions unit is now quickly and diligently placing orders to spend the unblocked funds to ensure that all procurement deadlines related to fiscal year close are met.

Upcoming Bibliographic Projects

A number of special cataloging projects are being planned to correct issues exposed during the implementation of Enterprise. Issues to be corrected include:

- Typos in the format field of bibliographic records; identifiable because the typo shows up as a field value of "Other" in Enterprise's advanced search screen;
- Requesting SirsiDynix add several three-character foreign language codes to their system database;
- Planning for consistent input between Type/Format/Location fields

- Planning for consistent treatment of bibliographic records for serials that are treated as monographs; these show up on occasion in the Arkansas and documents collections
- Correcting broken URLs in digital federal document records; breaks occur when the Government Publishing Office changes a URL

Additionally, we have discovered multiple issues that need to be addressed concerning URLs in digital documents' records. When OCLC decommissioned its content digital import (CDI) tool, it apparently broke the URL for all records created using CDI. This will affect a significant number of state documents' digital records, as most were created using the CDI. We've decided to treat the project as an opportunity to add a new 856 field to reflect an item's Preservica URL, and also to check for and correct input errors in the 856 field's \$y and \$3 subfields that impact a number of records.

Many of the preceding issues will likely be large-scale and long-term projects that will involve a number of Collection Management staff and units, including the use of extra help where possible. Where feasible, the projects will be planned to coincide with weeding, shifting and inventory projects to optimize staff time and efficiency.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 1 Arkansas Department of Education Focus Group, Virtual.
Mandatory small group session facilitated by Kristina Hancock to allow all employees an opportunity to give feedback on ADE's proposed strategic plan. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey.

March 5 Arkansas Department of Education First Friday, Virtual.
Monthly ADE-wide planning meeting; session included information about the new ADE mission and strategic planning activities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey.

March 17 ARPA Meeting, Virtual.
Meeting with Executive Committee and Library Development staff to discuss ideas and first steps regarding the upcoming receipt and distribution of ARPA funds. Participants: State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Administrative Services Manager Brooke Crawford, Manager of Grants and Special Projects Debbie Hall, Manager of Library Development Jennifer Wann and Manager of E-Rate Services Amber Gregory.

March 24 SirsiDynix Conference Call.
Design consultation for Enterprise implementation. Participants: Felipe Portus of SirsiDynix and Division Participants: Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey.

March 31 ARPA Meeting, Virtual.
Meeting with Executive Committee and Library Development staff to further discuss administration of the upcoming ARPA funds. Participants: State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Administrative Services Manager Brooke Crawford, Manager of Grants and Special Projects Debbie Hall, Manager of Library Development Jennifer Wann and Manager of E-Rate Services Amber Gregory.

April 21 Depository Library Council, Virtual Conference.
Annual spring conference hosted by the Federal Depository Library Program's Depository Library Council, with attendance by GPO representatives. ASL Participants: Division Manager of Collection Development Sarah Lipsey.

Manager of Digital Services – Danielle Butler

Ongoing Projects

State Documents Depository

The State Documents staff continues to work to keep digital submissions up to date, as well as working with agencies to ensure we are receiving all pertinent documents. Senior Librarian, Jennifer Razer, also prepared and disseminated the depository shipping list 396.

With state government directed to resume normal onsite operations this May, Razer will begin to visit depository libraries and agencies onsite to assist with deposits and weeding. Razer also spearheaded a reorganization of the local storage of digital state documents.

Razer, will also be presenting at the Arkansas Department of Education Summit on how to use State Documents in the classroom.

Federal Documents Depository

Library Coordinator, Wendy Briley, will be presenting at the Arkansas Department of Education Summit on how to use State Documents in the classroom.

After 41 years of service to the Arkansas State Library, Jean Ann Slavings retired at the end of January 2021. She was the longest term employee at the Arkansas State Library at the time of her retirement. She demonstrated her dedication to the Regional Depository in her work for more than a decade.

Preservica Implementation

Danielle Butler, Manager of Digital Services, has successfully built a workflow for migration from the current digital asset management system, CONTENTdm, to Preservica. One collection from CONTENTdm has been migrated to Preservica, and content has been scheduled to be shifted in the coming month.

Butler has also completed draft workflows for uploads into the Preservica system. State Documents staff will be trained on simultaneous upload. The system will serve as a robust digital preservation tool for digital state documents. CONTENTdm continues to serve as the dissemination tool for the time being.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

January 21 Preservica Tech Futures, OPEX Implementation
Participants: Digital Services Manager, Danielle Butler

Feb 1-5 Arkansas Department of Education Strategic Plan Focus Groups
Participants: Digital Services Section Manager, Danielle Butler; Library Coordinator, Wendy Briley; Senior Librarian for Digital Services, Jennifer Razer; Librarian for Digital Services, Tina Youngblood

March 5 Arkansas Department of Education ‘First Friday’ and Strategic Planning Breakout
Participants: Digital Services Section Manager, Danielle Butler

March 25, 30 Preservica System Administration/ UA Fundamentals
Participants: Digital Services Section Manager, Danielle Butler

Acquisitions Manager –Katie Walton

On-Going Projects:

Acquisitions

Acquisitions staff are busy placing book orders before end-of-year closeout. The Office of Budget released \$20,243 in blocked book budget funds in mid-April. In previous years, Acquisitions staff purchased books throughout the year, and used the blocked funds to pay for database renewals with subscription periods beginning in May and June. The unexpected events of 2020 proved that this is a risky endeavor because the blocked funds remained blocked due to pandemic budget cuts. Had we not cancelled an expensive database earlier in the year, we would have been forced to cut necessary digital resources simply because we would not have had enough in the budget to pay for them. This year, Acquisitions staff decided it was more important to cover the cost for all print and digital subscription renewals with available funds first, and any excess funds or blocked funds would go towards books or new subscriptions. This will lead to a push at the end of the year to spend the previously blocked funds, but it guarantees that staff will have more control over their purchasing decisions and will not have to cancel any indispensable subscriptions.

In addition to ordering and processing materials, Acquisitions staff have also been completing OPM's Procurement Training. Senior Librarian Elizabeth Clements and Librarian Lanette Madison have both finished all nine courses and assessments. Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton and Librarian Reba Driver are both about halfway through the training courses but will be finished by OPM's July 1 deadline.

Arkansas Traveler Statewide Resources

All of the contracts and license agreements for the new 3-year subscription period have been signed. InfoBase is the only new vendor, and discussions are well underway regarding implementation and training timelines. InfoBase will provide several training opportunities this fall. Katie Walton will offer a webinar on all the Traveler resources on August 12 at 2pm. As a reminder, the following resources will run from August 1, 2021- July 31, 2024.

- ProQuest (does not include Public Video Online/Alexander Street)
- World Book Online
- Mango Languages
- InfoBase's Science Bundle

In addition to the resources listed above, the Department of Education will also continue funding LearningExpress Library through May 2024 and ABC Clío's School Library Connection and 12 social studies databases through November 2025.

Arkansas Digital Library Consortium

There are currently 86,240 titles in the shared collection- 66,137 eBooks, 17,430 audiobooks, and 2,673 magazine titles. As of April 20, there have been 250,199 checkouts during the last quarter by 21,075 users. Fulton County Library and Tri-County Regional Library System both joined ADLC in April bringing the total number of member libraries to 33 library systems and 118 library branches.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

February 4

Hoopla Vendor Call

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton discussed subscription benefits and logistics for consortia access with Hoopla's Jeff Clark.

February 4 Flipster Demo

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton and Saline County Library's Patty Hector attended a demo with EBSCO's Wendy Lyon and Alejandro Rojano on EBSCO's magazine subscription service Flipster.

February 18 Kanopy Demo

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton attended a demo with Hoopla's Laura Swanson and discussed subscription benefits and logistics for consortia access.

February 24 OverDrive Conference Call

Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher and Kristin Milks of OverDrive and Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton.

February 25 ArLA Nominating Committee Meeting

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton attended a meeting to discuss potential ArLA leaders.

March 19 HathiTrust Demo

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton attended a demo hosted by ArkLink with HathiTrust's Jessica Rohr and Melissa Stewart.

March 24 OverDrive Conference Call

Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher and Kristin Milks of OverDrive and Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton.

March 25 InfoBase Implementation Meeting

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton met with InfoBase's Michelle Faber and Chris Plapp to discuss an implementation and training timeline for the addition of InfoBase's Science Bundle to the Traveler Resources.

April 1 InfoBase Conference Call

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton spoke with Michelle Faber from InfoBase to discuss Traveler's authentication methods and technology needs.

April 7 Arkansas Gems Selection Meeting

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton met with Library Development staff to discuss potential titles for the 2021 Arkansas Gems poster.

April 20 Core webinar

Acquisitions Librarian Lanette Madison attended the webinar "Global Standard, Local Choices - The New RDA Toolkit."

April 22 Procurement Forum

Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton attended OPM's virtual procurement forum covering the Procurement Certification Training, OSP training webpage, and RFP MAP approach.

April 28 OverDrive Conference Call

Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher and Kristin Milks of OverDrive and Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Editor: Please do not edit out ALA credit in the last paragraph.

Contact:

Audra Bell, Director

Elkins Public Library

479-643-2904

audrabell@elkins.arkansas.gov

ELKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY RECEIVES NATIONAL GRANT FOR SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES
\$3,000 Grant Will Help the Library Work with Teens

Elkins, Ark. — Elkins Public Library has been selected as one of 200 libraries to participate in Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that helps library workers better serve their small and rural communities.

The competitive award comes with a \$3,000 grant that will help the library use books to facilitate social-emotional learning conversations for teens. More than 300 libraries applied for the grant, according to ALA.

“I am so excited to meet more teens in our community,” said Children’s Librarian Abby Grimsley. “This grant presents a great opportunity to create student centered conversations around topics that matter to them.”

As part of the grant, Elkins Public Library staff will take an online course in how to lead conversations, a skill vital to library work today. Staff will then host a monthly online conversation with local teens and use the grant funds to help tackle difficult social problems presented in popular young adult fiction and how it translates to real life situations.

“Using books, the Elkins Public Library strives to create an atmosphere where authentic conversations about common social problems for youth can occur,” said Audra Bell, library director. “According to the youth.gov website, some of the subjects that benefit from more communication with teens are bullying, incarceration of parents, dating violence, disabilities, homelessness/runaway, sexuality, pregnancy, substance abuse, and suicide. These can be difficult to address as an adult authority figure or teen.”

Anyone interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, should contact Audra Bell at 479-643-2904 or audrabell@elkins.arkansas.gov, or visit <https://elkins.arkansas.gov/city-departments/elkins-library> for more information.

This is not the library’s first foray into digital offerings. A previous award from IMLS assisted the library in expanding weekly robotics clubs for elementary, junior high and high school, offering virtual business webinars for community entrepreneurs and creation and curation of an online database of local history.

About ALA

Since 2014, ALA’s Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and

resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

"Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)."

About Elkins Public Library

As a small library in a rural town, the Elkins Public Library has limited resources but a large reach. With population estimations at approximately 3,000 in 2018, our library currently has 1,735 registered users. Elkins Public Library serves as one of the city's institutions leading the way in digital inclusion, small business education, and robotics.

###

Thank
you!!!
-Amanda

Thank you!
Bailly

Thank you!
Eden

Thank you
Jennifer
Suzanne (11)

Thank you!
Valerie Schrier

Love,
Cory!

Jennifer,

Thank you so much for
fighting for librarians to get
the vaccine in phase 1-B!!!
we are lucky to have you as
our state librarian!



The Bella Vista Public Library Staff



Contact: Hadi Dudley, Director
Phone: (479) 271-3194

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 04/2/2021

Library Programs Highlight American Art in April

Bentonville, Ark.— Interested in American art? Bentonville Public Library (BPL) is celebrating American art during the month of April.

BPL Director Hadi Dudley and Jeanne Besaw, Director of Library Services at Crystal Bridges, will host *Welcome to Your Library: A conversation about American Art books*. The virtual program is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 2PM. Anyone interested in art, books, libraries and community culture is invited to attend and join the conversation during the Q&A session. Participants should [register in advance](https://bentonvillelibrary.org/register-in-advance) at bentonvillelibrary.org.

BPL Librarian Heather Hays will share her perspective during a book talk featuring *Makers: A History of American Studio Craft* / Janet Koplos. The title and library book talk complements CBMAA's current exhibit, *Crafting America*. Watch for the video to be shared mid-April on Facebook at [bplfriendsfoundation](https://bplfriendsfoundation.org).

BPL's Teen Advisory Board will debut an art scavenger hunt that promotes exploration of some public art in Bentonville. And during the last week of April, Stories Online with BPL will feature good books that celebrate art.

These programs support the Arkansas Library arts book distribution pilot program that was made possible through a gift by the Alice L. Walton Foundation through the Arkansas State Library and Arkansas Center for the Book in collaboration with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art.

Several new books about American art were donated to Bentonville Public Library as part of a unique pilot project to distribute art books to sixteen Arkansas libraries. The purpose of the gift is to increase access to content about American Art.

Over twenty beautiful works, valued at more than \$1,400, are featured through a special display and are available for checkout at BPL. Each book contains a special bookplate acknowledging the donation.

###

The Great Rural *Heart of the community*

Scrappy rural librarians find the gaps and fill them

Roughly 4,000 rural library systems in the U.S. supply a varied lifeline of services for their patrons, from broadband internet connections and coding camps to bicycle repair stations.

Published on March 1, 2021





Young library patrons engineer and create a gnome village in the garden on June 27, 2020, at Berryville Public Library in Arkansas. (Photo courtesy of Berryville Public Library)



Written By

Diane Bacha

 Did You Know?

Tap to expand

When an Arkansas-based meat processing plant expanded operations in an Ozark Mountain region, a local librarian seized the

opportunity to educate the rural community about the sudden influx of Marshallese workers and their families.

Expecting maybe 25 people at a library-sponsored workshop focused on the cultural traditions of the Marshall Islands, about “55 came from the school, from the health department and several different nonprofit organizations. We learned so much that day,” said Julie Hall, director of the Berryville Public Library, which services about 10,000 people in a rural region nestled between the Missouri and Oklahoma state lines.

Rural libraries “really do provide some resources that aren’t readily available anywhere else, and certainly not for free,” said Hall. “I’ve come to realize that (we) are basically filling the gaps that exist, whatever those gaps are.”

Cultural workshops. Community gardens. Bilingual storytimes. Coding camps. Movie clubs. These are just some of the services that 30 million Americans seek at rural libraries. In communities that often have limited access to resources, librarians in thousands of small towns are finding ways to fulfill needs and often doing so with scant resources and limited staffing.

Fleeing high unemployment and climate change in the North Pacific archipelago, Marshallese immigrants have been resettling in Northwest Arkansas since the 1980s, mainly to work for Tysons Foods’ poultry processing plants. The company’s headquarters is in Springdale, which is about 51 miles from Berryville, (population 5,300) in Carroll County. In turn, the county’s largest employer is Tyson Foods.

Today, Arkansas has the largest concentration of Marshallese people in the continental United States.



Children and parents listen to a story on Feb. 27, 2020, during a weekly program for preschoolers at Berryville Public Library in Arkansas. (Photo courtesy of Berryville Public Library)

Nearly 500 miles from Berryville is Princeville, Illinois. Beth Duttlinger, director of the Lillie M. Evans Library District, wanted to promote healthy habits and lifelong learning while helping her small town, located 25 miles from Peoria, become “an attractive place to live, visit or work.”

Noticing a lack of services on a local bike trail, Duttlinger recruited businesses to sponsor bike repair stations at her library and four

others along the 38-mile trail built on the old Rock Island Trail railroad line. The librarian's goals: Offer services the cyclists need, welcome them to the library, and promote local businesses.

"Smaller communities don't have anybody to fill those gaps," said Duttlinger, whose library district serves more than 4,000 people within a 121-square-mile region. "So a lot of times, I'm trying to find out what needs to be done."

If the needs in a rural community are numerous and ever changing, then the small town librarian's job is, too. Consider some of the items rural libraries loan or supply, depending on community need, funding and the librarian's imagination: Craft kits. Science kits. Tax forms. Wi-Fi hotspots. Laptops. Scooters. Bicycles. Food. Fishing poles. Tackle boxes. Museum passes.

"Go to any rural library, and they're doing something innovative and smart for their community," said Brian Real, an assistant professor of Information and Library Science at Southern Connecticut State University. He co-wrote a 2017 report for the American Library Association about the challenges rural libraries are tackling and facing.

Real describes a scrappy, resilient network of librarians who might operate out of a bookmobile or a traditional structure, belong to a regional library system or operate on their own, receive funds through local property taxes or a statewide mechanism. What they all have in common: Tight connections with their communities and the ability to focus on specific needs.

"Rural libraries are almost terra incognita (unknown territory)," said Noah Lenstra, an assistant professor of Library and Information

Science at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. “There’s an extreme lack of understanding of what they actually encompass and what they do.”

Lenstra has firsthand experience. He’s the founder and director of Let’s Move in Libraries, an initiative to support health and wellness programs at public libraries.

From larger calls to action, such as Lenstra’s initiative, to the more mundane, small town libraries are connection points for many community members.

At the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library, located in Maricopa, Arizona, the Movie Club is a popular draw for many tribal members who lack internet service and phone lines.

The club teaches children to make videos, said Melanie Toledo, manager of the library. Each of the club’s groups create a storyboard and a script, then acts, edits and posts a short video on the library’s YouTube channel.



A preschooler uses an “AWE machine,” an early-learning tool, at the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library in Maricopa, Ariz., in February of 2020. Photo courtesy of Ak-Chin Indian Community Library

Toledo has seen children from the Movie Club grow older and drift away, only to reemerge in a school theatrical production or as tribal youth council members. “Native people, we’re kind of shy,” she said. “This helps them with self-esteem.”

Rural librarians, said Lenstra, illustrate the “thousand different stories to tell about how rural libraries function and the roles they have in their communities.”

One critical gap is broadband access. The computers, laptops and Wi-Fi service that patrons access at libraries are a critical lifeline. Only 77.7% of rural Americans and 72.3% of Tribal Americans have access to fixed broadband internet, the benchmark level set by the Federal Communications Commission. That compares to 98.5% of urban-dwelling Americans.

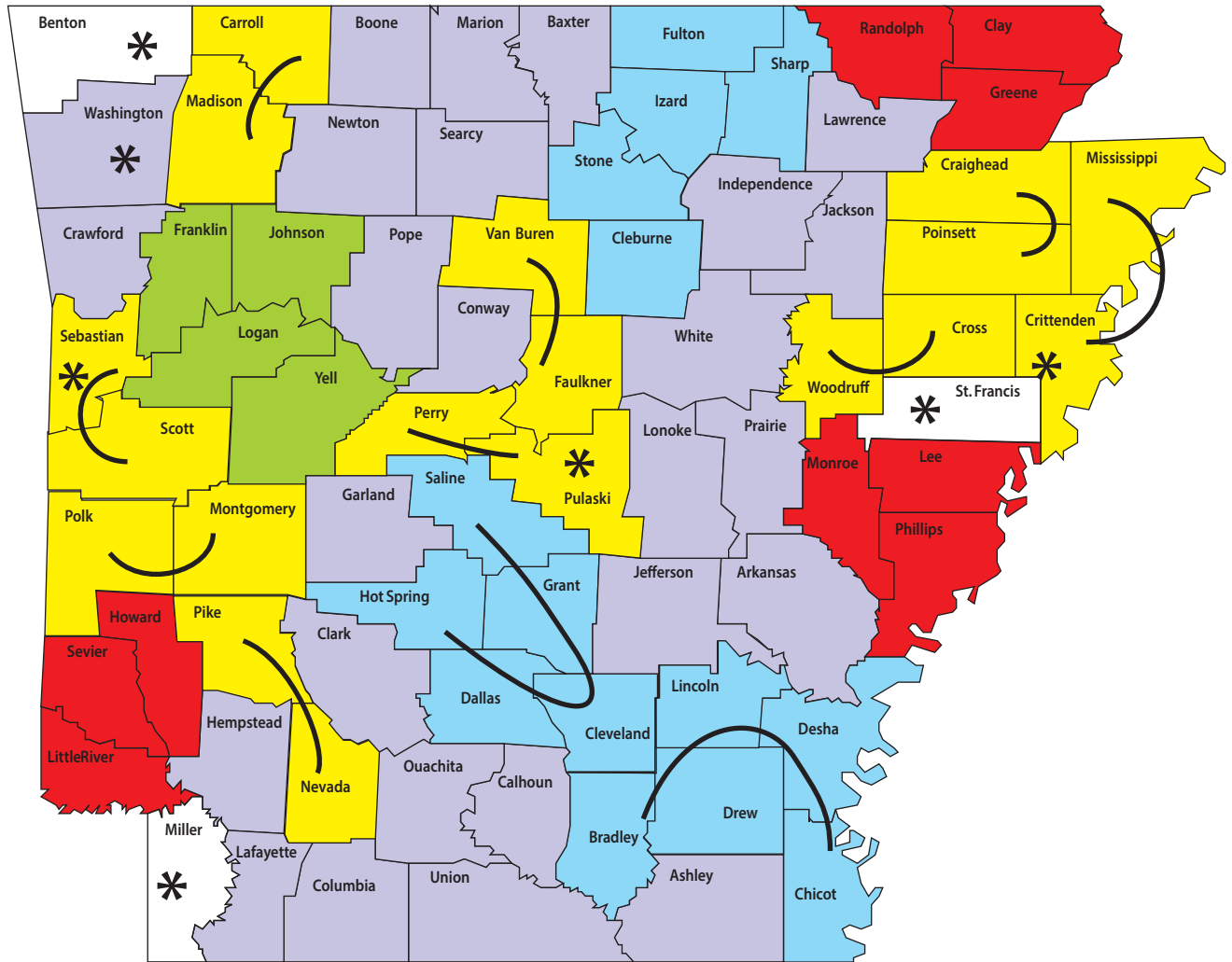
For many people in rural America, libraries are the only way to fill out an online job application, take an interest-based course, or have a telehealth video session.

But perhaps even more important than a broadband connection is that libraries, but especially rural ones, are safe gathering spaces. Everyone is welcome. You don’t have to buy anything.

“They can be the one place in the community where everyone goes,” said Hall. “It’s a uniquely American thing that we have these public libraries. The library is still a melting pot.”



Arkansas Public Library Systems



26  One-County System

1  Four-County System

9  Two-County System

3  Five-County System

3  Three-County System

3  No Countywide Library Tax

7 - * Independent City Library

Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
LDD I			
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library	501 North Front Street	Dardanelle	72834-3507
Donald W. Reynolds Library	300 Library Hill	Mountain Home	72653
Bella Vista Public Library	11 Dickens Place	Bella Vista	72714-4603
Bentonville Public Library	125 West Central	Bentonville	72712-5298
Boone County Library	221 West Stephenson Avenue	Harrison	72601-4225
Carroll & Madison Library System	106 Spring Street	Berryville	72616-3846
Crawford County Library	1409 Main Street	Van Buren	72956-4503
Fayetteville Public Library	401 West Mountain Street	Fayetteville	72701-5819
Fort Smith Public Library	3201 Rogers Avenue	Fort Smith	72903-2953
Gentry Public Library	105 East Main Street	Gentry	72734-0803
Gravette Public Library	119 Main Street NE	Gravette	72736-9363
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	P. O. Box 247	Decatur	72722-0247
Marion County Library	P. O.Box 554	Yellville	72687-0554
Newton County Library	HCR 31, Box 8	Jasper	72641-9401
Pea Ridge Library	P. O. Box 9	Pea Ridge	72751-0009
Pope County Library	116 East Third Street	Russellville	72801-5198
Rogers Public Library	711 South Dixieland Road	Rogers	72758-4513
Scott-Sebastian Regional Library	P. O. Box 400	Greenwood	72936-0400
Searcy County Library	202 East Main	Marshall	72950-9502
Siloam Springs Public Library	205 East Jefferson Street	Siloam Springs	72761-2677
Sulphur Springs Public Library	P. O. Box 275	Sulphur Springs	72768-0275
Washington County Library System	1080 West Clydesdale Drive	Fayetteville	72701-8211
LDD II			
Crowley Ridge Regional Library	315 West Oak Avenue	Jonesboro	72401-3594
East Central Arkansas Regional Library	410 East Merriman	Wynne	72396-2947
Forrest City Public Library	421 South Washington	Forrest City	72335-3839
Independence County Library	267 East Main Street	Batesville	72501-5605
Jackson County Library	P. O. Box 748	Newport	72112-0748
Lawrence County Library	115 West Walnut Street	Walnut Ridge	72476
Mississippi/Crittenden County Library	200 North Fifth Street	Blytheville	72315-2712
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library	120 North Twelfth Street	Paragould	72450-4103
Trumann Public Library	P. O. Box 73	Trumann	72472-0073
West Memphis Public Library	213 North Avalon	West Memphis	72301-2995
White River Regional Library	P. O. Box 1107	Mountain View	72560
Woolfolk Library	100 North Currie Street	Marion	72364-1858

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
LDD III			
Central Arkansas Library System	100 Rock Street	Little Rock	72201-1624
Conway County Library	101 West Church	Morrilton	72110-3399
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library	1900 Tyler	Conway	72032-3240
Lonoke County Library	204 East 2nd Street	Lonoke	72086-2858
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library	202 East Third Street	Malvern	72104-3910
Prairie County Library	P. O. Box 428	Hazen	72064-0423
Saline County Library	1800 Smithers Drive	Benton	72015-3108
White County Library System	113 East Pleasure Avenue	Searcy	72143-7709
William F. Laman Public Library	2801 Orange	North Little Rock	72114-2296
LDD IV			
Barton Library	200 East Fifth	El Dorado	71730-3897
Calhoun County Library	P. O. Box 1162	Hampton	71744-1162
Clark County Library	609 Caddo Street	Arkadelphia	71923-0609
Columbia County Library	2057 North Jackson Street	Magnolia	71753
Garland County Library	1427 Malvern Avenue	Hot Springs	71901-6316
Hempstead County Library	500 South Elm Street	Hope	71801-5222
Lafayette County Library	219 East 3rd Street	Lewisville	71845-8075
Montgomery County Library	P. O. Box 189	Mount Ida	71957-0189
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library			
Polk County Library	410 8th Street	Mena	71953
Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County	120 Harrison Avenue	Camden	71701-3968
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library	129 Meadow Ridge Lane	Hope	71801
Texarkana Public Library	600 West Third Street	Texarkana, TX	75501-5054
Tri-County Regional Library System	200 W. Stillwell	DeQueen	71832
LDD V			
Arkansas County Library	2002 South Buerkle Street	Stuttgart	72160-6508
Ashley County Library	211 East Lincoln	Hamburg	71646-3217
Crossett Public Library	1700 Main Street	Crossett	71635-2962
DeWitt Public Library	205 West Maxwell Street	DeWitt	72042-1942
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library	702 Porter	Helena	72342-3142
Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County	600 S. Main St.	Pine Bluff	71601
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System	114 West Jefferson	Monticello	71655-4933

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
				LDD I
479-229-4418	479-229-2595	arvls.director@gmail.com	Misty Hawkins	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
870-580-0987	870-580-0935	kim.c@baxtercountylibrary.org	Kim Crow Sheaner	Donald W. Reynolds Library
479-855-1753	479-855-4475	sadams@bellavistaar.gov	Suzanne Adams	Bella Vista Public Library
479-271-3192	479-271-9051	Hdudley@bentonvillear.com	Hadi Dudley	Bentonville Public Library
870-741-5913	870-741-5913	ginger@boonecountylibrary.org	Ginger Schoenenberger	Boone County Library
870-423-5300	870-423-7117	glisson@camals.org	Johnice Glisson	Carroll & Madison Library System
479-471-3226	479-471-3226	gfowler@crawfordcountylib.org	George Fowler	Crawford County Library
479-856-7000	479-571-0222	djohnson@faylib.org	David Johnson	Fayetteville Public Library
479-783-0229	479-782-8571	jgoodson@fortsmithlibrary.org	Jennifer Goodson	Fort Smith Public Library
479-736-2054	479-736-8567	lcume@gentrylibrary.us	Linda Crume	Gentry Public Library
479-787-6955	479-787-6955	kbenson@gravettear.com	Karen Benson	Gravette Public Library
479-752-7323	479-752-8366	ijppublib121@yahoo.com	June Walls	Iva Jane Peek Public Library
870-449-6015	870-449-5808	dana.librarydirector@gmail.com	Dana Scott	Marion County Library
870-446-2983	870-446-2983	director@newtoncountylibrary.org	Kenya Windel	Newton County Library
479-451-8442		pearidgecommunitylibrary@gmail.com	Alex Wright	Pea Ridge Library
479-968-4368	479-968-3222	ssimpson@popelibrary.org	Sherry Simpson	Pope County Library
479-621-1152	479-621-1165	judyc@rogersar.gov	Judy Casey	Rogers Public Library
479-996-2856	479-996-2236	rmyers@co.sebastian.ar.us	Rene Myers	Scott-Sebastian Regional Library
870-448-2420	870-448-5453	path353@yahoo.com	Pat Halsted	Jim G. Ferguson/Searcy County Library
479-524-4236	479-524-3908	library@siloamsprings.com	Dolores Deuel	Siloam Springs Public Library
479-298-3753	479-298-3515	sspringslib@yahoo.com		Sulphur Springs Public Library
479-442-6253	479-442-6812	glendaa@wcls.lib.ar.us	Glenda Audrain	Washington County Library System
				LDD II
870-935-5133	870-935-7987	david@libraryinjonesboro.org	David Eckert	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
870-238-3850	870-238-5434	jpaul@ecarls.org	John Paul Myrick	East Central Arkansas Regional Library
870-633-5646	870-633-5647	fcpl@forrestcitylibrary.org	Arlisa Price Harris	Forrest City Public Library
870-793-8814	870-793-8896	vanessa@indcolib.com	Vanessa Adams	Independence County Library
870-523-2952	870-523-5218	director@jacksoncolibrary.net	Jennifer Ballard	Jackson County Library
870-886-3222	870-886-9520	akburris@hotmail.com	Ashley Burris	Lawrence County Library
870-762-2431	870-762-2442	lwalters@mclibrary.net	Lowell Walters	Mississippi/Crittenden County Library
870-236-8711	870-236-1442	pdpcomposing@yahoo.com	Mike Rogers	Northeast Arkansas Regional Library
870-483-7744	870-483-6833	teaguejanie@hotmail.com	Janie Teague	Trumann Public Library
870-732-7590	870-732-7636	osfrank1969@gmail.com	Rebecca Bledsoe	West Memphis Public Library
870-269-4682		wrrlibrary@yahoo.com	Debra Sutterfield	White River Regional Library
870-739-3238	870-739-4624	casseywoolfolklib@gmail.com	Cassey Clayman	Woolfolk Library

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
				LDD III
501-918-3000	501-375-7451	ncoulter@cals.org	Nate Coulter	Central Arkansas Library System
501-354-5204	501-354-5206	jay.carter@conwaycountylibrary.org	Jay Carter	Conway County Library
501-327-7482	501-327-9098	john@fcl.org	John McGraw	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
855-572-6657	501-676-0557	dmoore@lonokecountylibrary.org	Deborah Moore	Lonoke County Library
501-332-5441	501-332-6679	clare.graham@arkansas.gov	Clare Graham	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
870-255-3576	870-255-1212	ahighfill.prairiecountylibrary@gmail.com	April Highfill	Prairie County Library
501-778-4766	501-778-0536	pattyh@salinecountylibrary.org	Patty Hector	Saline County Library
501-279-2870	501-268-5682	darla.ino@arkansas.gov	Darla Ino	White County Library System
501-758-1720	501-753-0524	crystal.gates@lamanlibrary.org	Crystal Gates	William F. Laman Public Library
				LDD IV
870-863-5447	870-862-3944	moconnell@bartonlibrary.org	Michael O'Connell	Barton Library
870-798-4492	870-798-4492	calcolib@gmail.com	Allie Stevens	Calhoun County Library
870-246-2271	870-246-4189	Clarkcountylibrary@gmail.com	Betsy Fisher	Clark County Library
870-234-1991	870-234-5077	rhonda@cocolib.org	Rhonda Rolen	Columbia County Library
501-623-4161	501-623-5647	gcl@gclibrary.com	Adam Webb	Garland County Library
870-777-4564	870-777-2915	hempcolib@gmail.com	Courtney McNiel	Hempstead County Library
870-921-4757	870-921-4756	lewisvillelibrary2004@yahoo.com	Rosey Byrd	Lafayette County Library
870-867-3812	870-867-3812	montlibrary@hotmail.com	Phyllis Davis	Montgomery County Library
870-867-3812	870-867-3812	omreglibrary@hotmail.com	Brenda Miner	Ouachita Mountains Regional Library
479-394-2314	479-394-2314	polkcountylibrary@yahoo.com	Mary Renick	Polk County Library
870-836-5083	870-836-0163	lrpickett@hotmail.com	Lisa Pickett	Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County
		swarlib@gmail.com	Courtney McNiel	Southwest Arkansas Regional Library
903-794-2149	903-794-2139	jstrayhorn@txar-publib.org	Jennifer Strayhorn	Texarkana Public Library
870-584-4364	870-642-8319	tri-countyreglibsystem@hotmail.com	Marilyn Archer	Tri-County Regional Library System
				LDD V
870-673-1966	870-673-4295	asst.director.arco@gmail.com	Clara Jane Timmerman	Arkansas County Library
870-853-2078	870-853-2079	ashcolib@gmail.com	Holly Gillum	Ashley County Library
870-364-2230	870-364-2231	david@crossett.lib.ar.us	David Anderson	Crossett Public Library
870-946-1151	870-946-1151	dewittpl@yahoo.com	Sarah Beth Cole	DeWitt Public Library
870-338-7732	870-338-8855	ral72342@yahoo.com	Linda Bennett	Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library
870-534-4802	870-534-8707	rwilliams@pineblufflibrary.org	Ricky Williams (Acting)	Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County
870-367-8584	870-367-5166	director.searl@gmail.com	Judy Calhoun	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System
				updated May 2021

Arkansas State Library Board

Donna McDonald*

10020 Highway 217
 Charleston, AR 72933
 Home Phone: (479) 965-6124
 Work Phone: (479) 229-4418
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax: (479) 229-2595
 E-mail: arkansasrivervalleyregional@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2023
 Congressional District: 4

Jo Ann Campbell**

2711 Reeder
 Fort Smith, AR 72901
 Home Phone: (479) 782-7314
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail:
 Home E-mail: joann@mynewroads.com
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2025
 Congressional District: 3

Jo Ann Cooper

1818 Pickering Lane
 Little Rock, AR 72211-
 Home Phone: (501) 747-2256
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: cooper.jo7439@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2021
 Congressional District: 2

Deborah Knox

519 Driftwood Drive
 Mountain Home, AR 72653
 Home Phone: (870) 424-3776
 Work Phone: (870) 424-3400
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: deborah62875@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: 870-404-1470
 Term: 10/18/2027
 Congressional District: 1

Pamela Meridith

56 McClellan Drive, Box 3712
 Walnut Ridge, AR 72476
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone: (870) 759-4137
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: pmeridith@williamsbu.edu
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2026
 Congressional District: 1

Joan O'Neal

3 West Lawson Drive
 Greenbrier, AR 72058
 Home Phone: (501) 840-2071
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: Joneal5@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2022
 Congressional District: 2

Donnette Smith

P.O. Box 205
 Harrison, AR 72602
 Home Phone: (870) 429-5617
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: donnette172@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: (870) 704-9561
 Term: 10/18/2024
 Congressional District: 3

* Chairman 11/2019 - 11/2020

**Vice Chairman 11/2019 - 11/2020

Rev May 7, 2021

Arkansas Department of Education

Johnny Key, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Education

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Four Capitol Mall, Room 304-A

Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: 501-682-4203

Johnny.Key@arkansas.gov

Gina Windle, Chief Operating Officer

Gina.windle@arkansas.gov

501-682-0205

Greg Rogers, Chief Fiscal Officer

Greg.rogers@arkansas.gov

501-682-4476

Gayle Morris, Public Information Manager, Communications

Gayle.Morris@arkansas.gov

Sarah Linam, Chief Legal Counsel

Sarah.linam@arkansas.gov

Taylor Dugan, ADE Office of Legal Services

Taylor.dugan@arkansas.gov

Erin Franks, Chief Legislative Affairs Director

Erin.franks@arkansas.gov

501-804-3648

Dr. Eric Flowers, Chief Opportunity Officer

Eric.flowers@arkansas.gov

501-682-4251

Governor's Office:

Allison Roberts, Ed.D.

Education Liaison

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson

State Capitol, Room 120

Little Rock, AR 72201

Office: 501.683.6434

allison.roberts@governor.arkansas.gov

Attorney General's Office:

Lacie Kirchner

Assistant Attorney General

Arkansas Office of Attorney General

323 Center Street, Suite 200

Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: 501.682.1089

Fax: 501.682.7371

Email: lacie.kirchner@arkansasag.gov

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD
BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD as created by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979.

Section 2. The organization shall hereinafter be referred to as the “Board.”

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1. The Board shall name the State Librarian.

Section 2. The Board shall act as the policy-making and responsible body for the Arkansas State Library and its functions as defined by Act 489 of 1979.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Board shall be composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate, for their interest in libraries and statewide library development.

Section 2. Appointments made from congressional districts and at-large shall be made in accordance with Ark. Code Ann §13-2-205 (3) or other controlling statutes. **

*** Approved 02-09-2018 by Arkansas State Library Board*

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers of the Board shall consist of a Chairman and Vice Chairman. The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary.

Section 2. Nomination and election of officers, with the exception of executive secretary, shall take place at the annual meeting.

Section 2a. Officers shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee of members named by the Chairman. Opportunity shall be given for additional nominations to be made from the floor.

Section 2b. Consent of all nominees shall be procured prior to nomination.

Section 2c. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. No officer shall serve for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 2d. Election of officers shall be by written ballot, show of hands, voice vote, or acclamation and counted by the executive secretary. **

Section 3. Duties of the officers shall be defined by members as need arises.

Section 3a. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and perform the duties generally assigned to this office.

Section 3b. The Vice Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, shall preside over meetings and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 3c. The State Librarian, serving as executive secretary, shall keep the minutes of the Board meetings, attend all committee meetings, and perform duties generally assigned to this office. The executive secretary shall serve without vote in meetings of the Board or committees.

Section 4. Absences of officers or vacancies of office shall be filled by members as need arises.

Section 4a. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall preside over the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 4b. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, when a quorum is present, the members shall elect a temporary chairman to preside at the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 4c. When the office of Chairman is vacated during the year, the Vice Chairman shall serve as Chairman for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 4d. When the office of Vice Chairman is vacated during the year, the Nominating Committee shall nominate a replacement who shall be duly elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chairman shall name members of the following STANDING COMMITTEES at the annual meeting.

Section 1a. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall consist of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, and the executive secretary. This committee shall prepare the agenda for all meetings, call special meetings when deemed necessary, and perform interim duties as assigned by the Board.

Section 1b. The NOMINATING COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members appointed by the Chairman by September 1 each year. (The Chairman shall be excluded from membership.) The Committee shall prepare a slate of officers who have consented to serve if elected. **

***Section 1c.** the POLICIES AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Vice Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. This Committee shall review all policies and bylaws each year and recommend changes or additions where needed.

Section 1d. The GOVERNMENTAL LIASON COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. The duty of this Committee shall be to work with the State Librarian on all matters concerning local, state, and federal legislation and funding.

**Approved 02-01-80 by Arkansas State Library Board*

Section 1e. The PERSONNEL COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members named by the Chairman to serve with the Chairman to solicit and review applications and make recommendations to the Board for consideration for the position of State Librarian when a vacancy exists and to serve with the State Librarian to solicit and review applications and make recommendations to the Board for consideration for the managerial positions of associate or deputy directors when a vacancy exists.

Section 2. The Chairman shall name such AD HOC COMMITTEES as needed to carry out the functions of the Board.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Arkansas State Library Board shall be held on the second Friday of February, May, August, and November.

Section 2. The annual meeting of the Board for organizational purposes shall be held at the time of the regular meeting in November.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Executive Committee. Upon written request from three members of the Board, the Executive Committee shall be required to call a special meeting. The notices of such special meetings shall state the specific business to be transacted and no business shall be transacted except that stated in the call.

Section 4. Notices of all regular meetings and special meetings, when possible, shall be mailed by the State Librarian at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 5. The order of business for regular meetings shall be:

1. Call to order
2. Reading of the minutes
3. Unfinished business
4. New business
5. Reports
6. Adjournment

ARTICLE VII

QUORUM, VOTE

Section 1. A majority (four) of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chairman shall count as a member for quorum.

Section 2. All business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members. The Chairman shall vote to confirm unanimity, in case of tie vote or when needed for quorum.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members at any regular meeting of the Board provided the amendment was stated in the call for the meeting or had been presented in writing at the previous regular meeting.

ARTICLE IX

POLICIES, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS

Section 1. The Board shall establish by majority vote such policies as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the state library agency and to promote statewide library development.

Section 2. Proposed policies or policy changes must be submitted in writing to the members and discussed at a meeting prior to the regular meeting when the vote on the question is to be recorded.

Section 3. The Arkansas State Library through majority vote of the Board shall enter into such contracts and agreements with other libraries, institutions, and agencies as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of Act 489 of 1979.

ARTICLE X

STATE LIBRARIAN

The State Librarian shall be responsible to the Arkansas State Library Board for the proper management of the Arkansas State Library, for the administration of the policies to carry out the functions of the agency, for the preservation and care of its properties, and for the efficiency of its services.

ARTICLE XI

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND AUTHORITY

Section 1. Except when in conflict with the provisions of Act 489 of 1979 or these Bylaws, Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the proceedings of this Board.

Section 2. Act 489 of 1979, is the authority for these bylaws.

“**Section 1.** ... The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary of the State Library Board, but without vote thereon, and shall attend all of the Board meetings and keep records thereof. The State Librarian shall have charge of the work of the State Library, and shall perform such other duties as the State Library Board may prescribe...”

“**Section 2. (a)** There is hereby created the State Library Board, hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, to consist of seven (7.) members to be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate ...

(b) The members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor for reason of their interest in libraries and statewide library development.”

“**Section 3.** ... The Board shall meet at such place or places and shall keep such records as it may deem to be appropriate. The Board shall select annually a Chairman and such other officers as it deems necessary and shall adopt policies and bylaws governing its meetings, the conduct of its business, and the business of the State Library. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members.”

ASL Board Standing Committee Assignments -- 2021

Executive Committee: Chair; Vice Chair, and Chilcoat

Nominating Committee: Knox and Smith

Policies & By-Laws Committee: Vice Chair; O'Neal and Meridith

Government Liaison Committee: Chair; Cooper and O'Neal

Personnel Committee: Chair; Cooper and Knox

[In accordance with the By-Laws, the Chair shall name members of these standing committees at the annual meeting held in November.]

Map of Arkansas Congressional Districts

2020

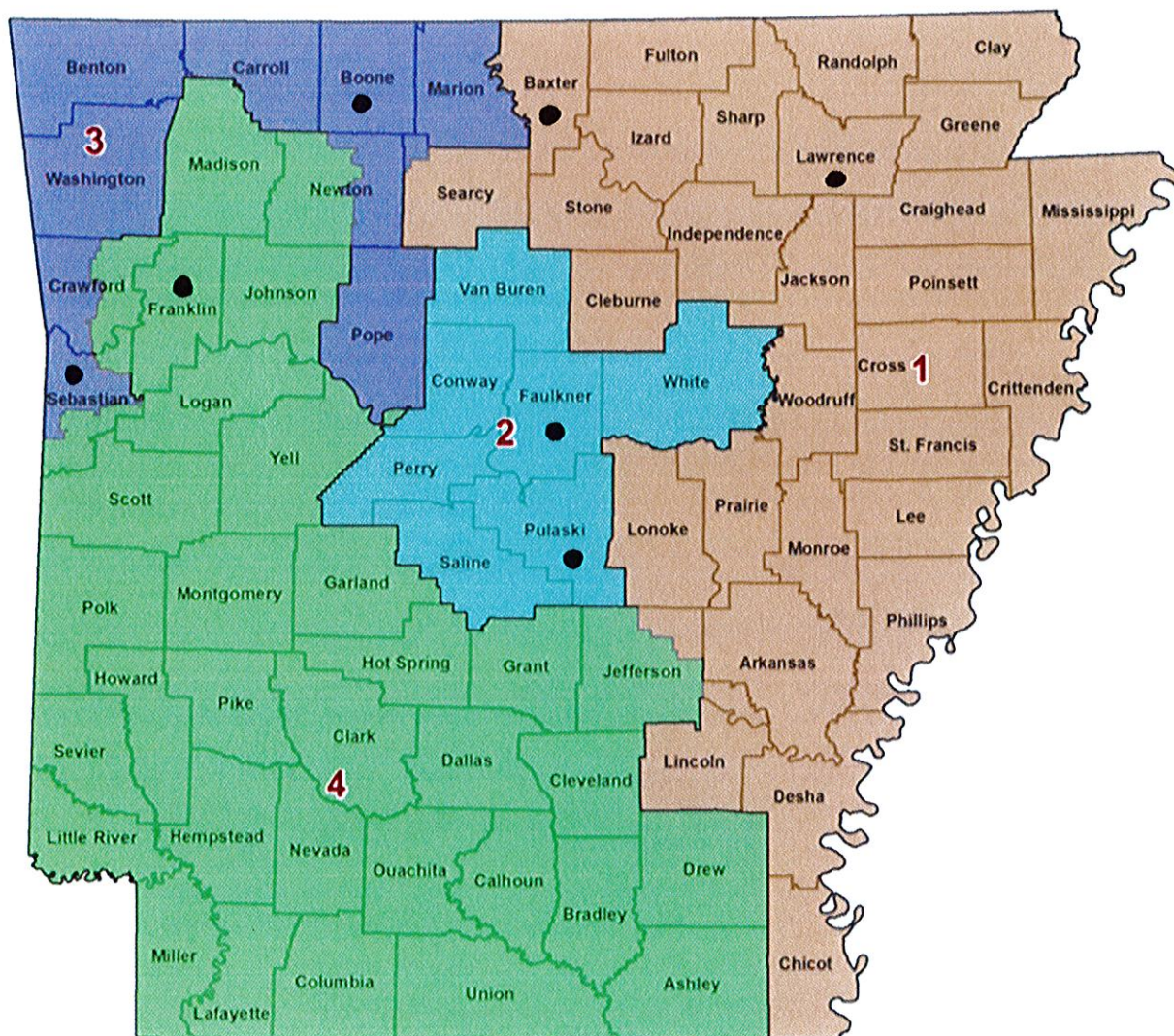
State Library Board Members:

District 1 – Knox and Meridith

District 2 – Cooper and O'Neal

District 3 – Campbell and Smith

District 4 -- McDonald



Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

5/1/2021

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
Office of the State Librarian			501-682-1526 / 501-682-1533 FAX	
JENNIFER	CHILCOAT	STATE LIBRARIAN		jennifer.chilcoat@ade.arkansas.gov
APRIL	MURPHY	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III		april.murphy@ade.arkansas.gov
DEBORAH	HALL	MANAGER OF GRANTS & SPECIAL PROJECTS		debbie.hall@ade.arkansas.gov
DANNY	KOONCE	PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST		danny.koonce@ade.arkansas.gov
Deputy Director			501-682-2863 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
KRISTEN	COOKE	DEPUTY DIRECTOR		kristen.cooke@ade.arkansas.gov
Library for the Blind & Print Disabled			501-682-1155 / 501-682-1529 FAX	
KRISTINA	HANCOCK	MANAGER OF LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND & PRINT DISABLED	1-866-660-0885 Toll Free	kristina.hancock@ade.arkansas.gov
JEFFERY	KERSEY	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		jeff.kersey@ade.arkansas.gov
NORMAN	VANDERBILT	LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT		norman.vanderbilt@ade.arkansas.gov
SEARCY	EWELL	LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT		searcy.ewell@ade.arkansas.gov
KELLY	SMITH	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		kelly.smith@ade.arkansas.gov
NATALIE	MARLIN	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		natalie.marlin@ade.arkansas.gov
THOMAS	SEPE	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN		thomas.sepe@ade.arkansas.gov
		LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		MAIL CLERK	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
Library Development			501-682-1693 FAX	
JENNIFER	WANN	MANAGER OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT	501-682-5288	jenn.wann@ade.arkansas.gov
RUTH	HYATT	COORDINATOR OF YOUTH SERVICES	501-682-2860	ruth.hyatt@ade.arkansas.gov
KAREN	O'CONNELL	COORDINATOR OF THE ARKANSAS CENTER FOR THE BOOK	501-682-2874	karen.oconnell@ade.arkansas.gov
AMBER	GREGORY	MANAGER OF E-RATE SERVICES	501-682-8576	amber.gregory@ade.arkansas.gov
		MANAGER OF TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	VACANT	
		ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	VACANT	
Information Services			501-682-2053 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
MICHAEL	STRICKLAND	MANAGER OF INFORMATION SERVICES		michael.strickland@ade.arkansas.gov
JESSICA	KIRK	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		jessica.kirk@ade.arkansas.gov
AVA	CONWAY	LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT		ava.conway@ade.arkansas.gov
WIN	GATES	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN		win.gates@ade.arkansas.gov
SHERRY	CHASTAIN	LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT		sherry.chastain@ade.arkansas.gov
JUDI	KING	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN		judi.king@ade.arkansas.gov
		SENIOR LIBRARIAN - OUTREACH SERVICES	VACANT	

Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

5/1/2021

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
Collection Management			501-682-1899 FAX	
SARAH	LIPSEY	DIVISION MANAGER OF COLLECTION MANAGEMENT	501-682-2862	sarah.lipsey@ade.arkansas.gov
DANIELLE	BUTLER	MANAGER OF DIGITAL SERVICES	501-682-2840	danielle.butler@ade.arkansas.gov
KATIE	WALTON	MANAGER OF ACQUISITIONS	501-682-2266	katie.walton@ade.arkansas.gov
		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
WENDY	BRILEY	LIBRARY COORDINATOR - DIGITAL SERVICES/FEDERAL DOCS		wendy.briley@ade.arkansas.gov
REBA	DRIVER	LIBRARIAN - ACQUISITIONS		reba.driver@ade.arkansas.gov
TINA	YOUNGBLOOD	LIBRARIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES		tina.youngblood@ade.arkansas.gov
JENNIFER	RAZER	SENIOR LIBRARIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES/STATE DOCS		jennifer.razer@ade.arkansas.gov
ELIZABETH	CLEMENTS	SENIOR LIBRARIAN - ACQUISITIONS		elizabeth.clements@ade.arkansas.gov
CHERIE	MADARASH-HILL	SENIOR LIBRARIAN - CATALOGING		cherie.madarash-hill@ade.arkansas.gov
LANETTE	MADISON	LIBRARIAN - ACQUISITIONS		lanette.madison@ade.arkansas.gov
		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN	VACANT	
		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		LIBRARIAN	VACANT	
		LIBRARY COORDINATOR - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		MANAGER OF NETWORK SERVICES	VACANT	
Administration			501-682-1527/ 501-682-1533 FAX	
BROOKE	CRAWFORD	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER		brooke.crawford@ade.arkansas.gov
TRISH	LUCKADUE	BUYER/HR		trish.luckadue@ade.arkansas.gov
DENISE	WHITMORE	FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR		denise.whitmore@ade.arkansas.gov
		FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	VACANT	
TOSHONA	CARTER	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST		toshona.carter@ade.arkansas.gov
KEN	GIESBRECHT	INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR		ken.giesbrecht@ade.arkansas.gov
		COMPUTER SUPPORT ANALYST	VACANT	



2021

January						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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31						

February						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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28						

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
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May						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
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30	31					

June						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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July						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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August						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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29	30	31				

September						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
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26	27	28	29	30		

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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31						

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



State Library Board Meetings, as scheduled



State Observed Holidays

Jan 1 - New Year's Day; Jan 18 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (Observed); Feb 15 - George Washington's Birthday and Daisy Gatson Bates Day (Observed); May 31 - Memorial Day (Observed); July 5 - Independence Day (Observed); Sept 6 - Labor Day; Nov 11 - Veterans Day; Nov 25 - Thanksgiving Day; Dec 23 - Christmas Eve (Observed); Dec. 24 - Christmas Day (Observed)