

SHOW ME EXPRESS

State Library Newsletter

August 2026



Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State



State Library News

Battery-Free Engineering Kits added to the STEM Kit Collection

The Missouri State Library's STEM Kit collection now has five Engino STEM Kits available for loan. These battery-free, screen-free kits allow students and young patrons to explore engineering concepts as they build simple structures and machines. Public and school librarians can borrow up to two kits at a time for 45 days. The Missouri State Library assumes shipping costs. Check out the individual links below or visit the [STEM Kits page](#) for more information.



- [Buildings & Bridges STEM Kit](#)
- [Cams & Cranks STEM Kit](#)
- [Gears & Worm Drives STEM Kit](#)
- [Levers & Linkages STEM Kit](#)
- [Newton's Laws STEM Kit](#)



This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Fresh Book Content, Every Day TeachingBooks

Make [TeachingBooks](#) easier to discover by integrating resources directly on your library's website. When patrons browse your digital collections, they will have instant access to book-related content.

These simple [embed tools](#) help increase visibility and connect more readers with valuable

resources. Plus, the [widgets](#) automatically feature fresh content every day, making it easy to promote literacy, spark reading interest, and showcase engaging titles on your website.



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Missouri Collection Analysis Going Beyond America250 Webinar



Join us Aug. 18 at 2 p.m. for the Missouri Collection Analysis webinar Going Beyond America250: Analyzing Your Historical Fiction & Nonfiction.

Build on momentum from America250 celebrations to continue young readers' interest in history. Reach even more readers by using TeachingBooks to create targeted displays, expand on programs or lessons, and identify award-winning and acclaimed titles for a wide

variety of audiences. Analyze lists, and then search and filter to find graphic novels, engaging biographies, and both nonfiction and historical fiction to meet your readers' needs.

The Missouri Collection Analysis fall webinars are intended for both public library and school library staff. Visit the [Collection Analysis webpage](#) for more webinar descriptions and registration links. Contact Help@TeachingBooks.net for more information.



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2027 Summer Library Program Workshops – Save the Date!

The 2026 summer program is in full swing, but we're already thinking ahead to 2027 and the Mysteries Await at Your Library theme. Featuring presenter Will Stuck, we'll be offering FIVE in-person workshops and ONE virtual workshop, all at no cost to you. Dates are listed below and on the [2027 SLP Workshop Save the Date flyer](#).

Check your fall calendar to find the workshop date and location that works best for you! Registration opens Sept. 1.

- **Thursday, Oct. 22** – Cape Girardeau Public Library
- **Tuesday, Oct. 27** – Joplin Public Library

- **Thursday, Nov. 5** – Rolling Hills Consolidated Library in St. Joseph
- **Friday, Nov. 6** – Columbia Public Library
- **Tuesday, Nov. 10** – Texas County Library in Houston
- **Wednesday, Nov. 18** – Virtual workshop



The Inspector Whiskers image is a sneak peek and has not yet been finalized for the 2027 CSLPA Mysteries Await theme.

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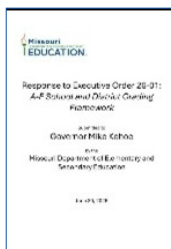
Reference Services for YOU: History of Service

As 2026 celebrates the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, many American government services are also highlighting their own significant histories and legacies that helped shape the United States.

- [250 Years of Stamps and Stories](#): The National Postal Museum provides virtual exhibits highlighting the United States Postal Service, which was founded in 1775. Read the [United States Postal Service: An American History](#) or [A Kids' History of the United States Postal Service](#) to learn more.
- [America Counts: 250 Years](#): The U.S.A Constitution mandated a census in 1789, and the first census was conducted in 1790 by [U.S. Marshals](#). Watch the [Census History video playlist](#) for a look back at its 236-year history.
- [History of U.S. Circulating Coins](#): The U.S. Mint was established in 1792, with coin production starting soon after. Learn about the history of American currency and explore this year's special circulating and collectible coins with [Semiquincentennial Coins and Medals](#).

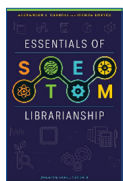
For more information on America 250 celebrations and exhibits, explore our [America 250 page](#). Questions? Contact Reference Services at (573) 751-3615, libref@sos.mo.gov, or mostate.libguides.com.

Featured Government Document from the State Library

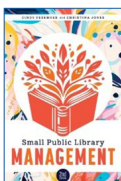


The [A-F School and District Grading Framework](#) report from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in response to [Executive Order 26-01](#) outlines an implementation plan and timeline for school and district grade card scoring. Discover more government publications in our [Missouri State Publications Collection](#) to share with patrons. For assistance accessing government information or publications, please contact the Reference Services staff at the [State Library](#).

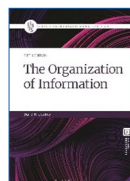
Featured Books from the State Library



[Essentials of STEM Librarianship](#)



[Small Public Library Management](#)



[The Organization of Information, 5th Ed.](#)



[Fundamentals of Library Supervision](#)

Discover more Library Professional Development titles on the [Missouri Library Staff Guide](#).

Directors and branch managers can sign up for a State Library card from the guide and are encouraged to borrow items for themselves or any of their library's staff. State Library books are also available for borrowing through both MOBIUS and WorldShare.

For assistance placing holds, requesting or replacing a card, or for additional information, please contact Reference Services by phone, email, or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and are always happy to help!



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Around the State

Welcome New Library Directors

Please join us in welcoming some new library directors! We are excited to see all the wonderful things they'll accomplish in these roles. If you'd like to congratulate them or reach out, you can find their contact information below.

If you're a new library director, please reach out to mostlib@sos.mo.gov to receive an official welcome and information from the State Library to help you thrive in your new position.

- **Judy Hinkle**, Bethany Public Library, library@bethanymo.com
- **Brooke Palmeri**, Lilbourn Memorial Library, lilbournmemoriallibrary@gmail.com

Schneider Foundation Grant Awarded to Springfield-Greene County Library

By Springfield-Greene County Library

The Springfield-Greene County Library Foundation was the proud recipient of a \$30,000 grant from the Schneider Foundation to support Maker Spaces at the Midtown Carnegie Branch Library and Republic Branch Library.

Our grant application focused on the growing demand for Maker Spaces at both branches, the need to upgrade some of our older Maker Space equipment, and plans for Maker in Residence programming for a variety of ages.

We received funding for an xTool Apparel Printer, a Janome MB-4S Embroidery Machine, a Bambu Lab P1S 3D Printer, a Cricut Venture Large Format Vinyl Cutter, and a utility sink to be installed at the Midtown Carnegie Library Maker Space.

The Midtown Carnegie and Republic Maker Spaces each received \$7,500 in additional funding to support in-house programming and bring in expert instructors to launch a Maker in Residence program. —→

J. Michael Schneider, president of the Schneider Foundation, told the [Springfield Daily Citizen](#) that the Schneider Foundation supports a wide range of educational initiatives, including gifted education, college and career readiness, as well as learning experiences that extend beyond the traditional classroom. "We are particularly interested in programs that challenge students academically, foster curiosity and problem-

solving skills, and provide opportunities that may not otherwise be available," Schneider said.

The Maker Space and Library staff thank the Schneider Foundation for its generous support. We look forward to continuing to provide quality Maker Space programming to patrons throughout Greene County.

Want to Be Featured in an Upcoming *Show Me Express* Edition? ---

If your library has a spectacular program, event, or collection, contact us at mostlib@sos.mo.gov, and we will gladly work with you to highlight your library and all the incredible work you do for your community!

Grant Opportunities – State Library Grants

[Technology Mini Grant](#) • **Deadline: Oct. 1**

The 2026–27 Technology Mini Grant will open mid-August. with applications due by Oct. 1. The maximum available per library system grant request is \$20,000. Please review the grant eligibility requirements and eligible costs in the award guidance and remember to print the award guidance for your grant file. Eligible costs are more limited than in previous years' grant offerings, but are similar to the prior year. A grant

overview session will be presented via webinar on Aug. 20 at 10 a.m.. The link will be sent out on Publibdir at a later date.

Please contact [Terry Blauvelt](#) or [Kathleen Schmidt](#) with questions.

All available grants are found in the [online grant management system](#) approximately 45 days prior to the application due date.



Missouri State Library grants are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Grant Opportunities – National Grants

[USDA Community Facilities Programs](#)

This United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program offers funding through loans, loan guarantees, and grants to public bodies, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized Native American tribes to construct, expand, or improve rural communities' facilities

that provide health care, education, public safety, and public services, including libraries. Contact the [USDA Missouri Rural Development Office](#) at rd.mo.general.inquiries@usda.gov or (573) 876-0976 for more information.

Grant Opportunities – Other Grants

[Missouri Library Association \(MLA\) Access and Innovation Fund](#) • **Deadline: Aug. 15**

The MLA Access and Innovation Fund provides funds to Missouri libraries to enhance, support, and develop library technologies and innovations that improve patrons' access to library services, such as hot spots, databases, technology training, furniture, renovation that improves patron access to service, and more.

Grants awards are expected to be between \$500 and \$2,500, but proposals are accepted up to \$5,000. Grant recipients will be announced at the MLA Awards Ceremony and funds will be distributed between Jan. 1–31. For more information and to apply, visit [MLA Access and Innovation Fund](#).

Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize for Public Libraries • Deadline: Sept. 11

Open to all public libraries in the U.S., the Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize, developed in partnership between Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation and Library Journal, recognizes public libraries as vital community assets, especially when they help their community thrive through strong partnerships. The winner

receives \$250,000 in unfettered monies for programs and services that benefit their communities and is featured in the March 2027 issue of *Library Journal*. To learn more about the application requirements and decision criteria, visit the [Library Journal's Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize Submission Guidelines](#).

Pilcrow Foundation's Children's Book Project Program Grants • Deadline: Oct. 1

Open to libraries in rural areas with a limited operating budget, active children's department, and ability to raise \$200–\$400 through a local sponsor. The Pilcrow Foundation will match 2-to-1 the local sponsor's funding to purchase up to

\$1,200 worth of new hardcover children's books from the provided list. For more information, visit the [Pilcrow Foundation's Children's Book Project Program Grants](#).



Professional Development Offerings

Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative

Trainings include:

- Going Beyond America250: Analyzing Your Historical Fiction & Nonfiction, Aug. 18, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Fitting Collection Analysis into Your Busy Work Day, Sept. 15, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Analyzing Big Lists for Big & Small Collection Decisions, Oct. 13, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Building a Reading Community with Collection Analysis, Nov. 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative Webinars](#).



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Amigos Library Services

All Amigos continuing education sessions are now free to Amigos members. Trainings include:

- The Essentials: Customer Service, Aug. 5, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Making Meetings More Effective, Aug. 6, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Introduction to Programming with Python and PyMARC, Aug. 11, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Shelving 101: Library of Congress, Aug. 12, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Excellence in Library Services to Older Adults, Aug. 18, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Bed Bugs in the Library, Aug. 19, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Know & Go: Shelving 101: Dewey, Aug. 26, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Website Accessibility for Everyone, Aug. 27, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Intermediate Cataloging: Subject Analysis, Sept. 10, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [Amigos Continuing Education Services Schedule](#).



The Association for Small and Rural Libraries (ARSL)

Trainings include:

- August Partner TRAIN: Hoopla Marketing Makeover Reveal, Aug. 6, 1 p.m.
 - August TRAIN: Building and Website Accessibility, Aug. 20, 1 p.m.
 - 2026 ARSL Conference, Sept. 16–19, Montgomery, AL
- For the complete training list, visit the [ARSL TRAIN Workshops & Roundtables](#).

Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Speakers and trainings include:

- The Legacy of Julia Child's Kitchen with Smithsonian Curator Paula J. Johnson, Aug. 4, 1 p.m.
- High Altitudes and High Stakes: A Miss Marple Mystery with Lucy Foley, Aug. 27, 1 p.m.

For the complete speakers list, visit [CSLP's Author Talks](#) and [Professional Development](#).

MALA (Mid-American Library Alliance)

Trainings include:

- e-Obsessed: Manage Resources, Expectations, and Demand for Libby Lovers, Aug. 11, 10 – 11 a.m.
- For the complete training list, visit [MALAPro Professional Development](#).

Missouri Library Association (MLA)

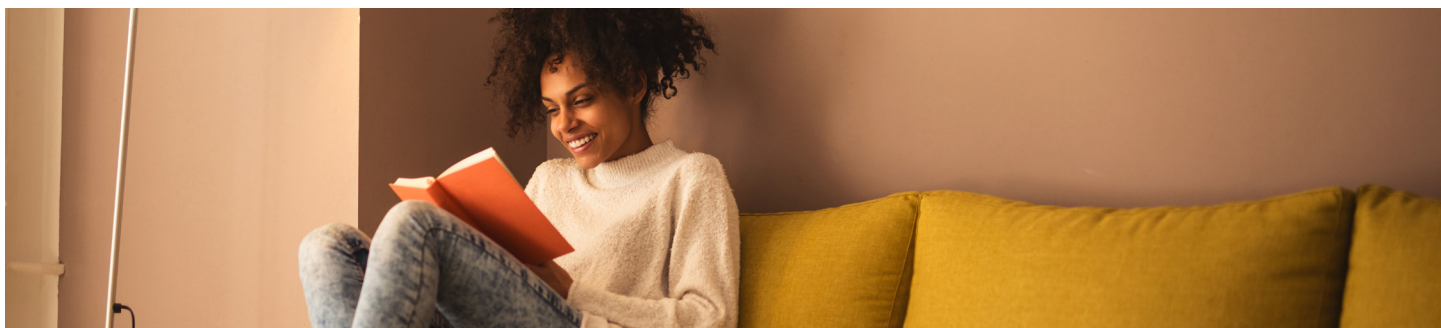
Events include:

- 2026 MLA Conference, Oct. 6–7, Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield
- For the complete event list, visit [MLA Events](#).

MOREnet

Trainings include:

- AI Literacy for Parents, Aug. 10, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., MOREnet Training Room, Columbia
 - Canva Design Made Simple, Aug. 26, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - Empowering Students with Rosen: Digital, Financial, and Health Literacy, Aug. 11, 10 – 11 a.m.
 - AI Foundations for Libraries, Aug. 31, 10 – 11 a.m.
 - EBSCO Resources for the At-Home Enthusiast; Hobbies & Crafts and Home Improvement Source, Aug. 13, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
 - WordPress WCAG/Title II Compliance, Sept. 8, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
 - EBSCO's Entrepreneurial Studies Source, Sept. 10, 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.
 - Unplugging Computer Science, Aug. 17, 9 – 10 a.m.
 - Libraries as Partners in Cyber Resilience, Sept. 24, 3 – 4 p.m.
 - Google NotebookLM (CS), Aug. 26, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., MOREnet Training Room, Columbia
- For the complete training list, visit the [MOREnet Training Schedule](#).



Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Providing Mental Health Resources at Your Library, Aug. 4, 1 – 2 p.m.
- ClinicalTrials.gov for Librarians, Aug. 20, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Health Programming at Your Library, Aug. 25, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Librarian's Guide to Consumer Health, Sept. 8 – Oct. 7, self-paced

For the complete training list, visit [NNLM Training](#).

Niche Academy

Trainings include:

- The Practice of Real Prioritization, Aug. 19, 1 p.m.
- Helping Students and Patrons Reach Available Mental Health Care, Aug. 26, 1 p.m.
- Using Cross-Training to Develop Your Employees and Strengthen Service Excellence, Sept. 2, 1 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [Niche Academy Upcoming Webinars](#).

Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Strategies for Born Digital Collections, Aug. 6, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Thinking Outside the Box when Boxing, Aug. 11, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Exhibiting Your Collections, Aug. 25, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Disaster and Emergency Planning Refresher, Sept. 22, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [NEDCC Current Training Programs](#).

St. Louis Regional Library Network (SLRLN)

Events include:

- SLRLN Networking Event, Aug. 20, 4 – 6 p.m., Webster Groves

For the complete event list, visit [St. Louis Regional Library Network Events](#).

TeachingBooks

Trainings include:

- Supporting & Engaging Adolescent Readers with TeachingBooks, Aug. 5, 1 – 1:20 p.m.
- TeachingBooks Essentials, Sept. 2, 1 – 1:20 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [OverDrive's Resource Center: K-12 Schools Staff Training](#).



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WebJunction

Trainings include:

- Messy on Purpose: The Power of Playful Learning for Children, Aug. 13, 2 – 3 p.m.
- The Potential and Peril of Generative AI, Sept. 10, 2 – 3 p.m.
- How Gen Z Use and Don't Use Public Libraries: New Data and Analysis, Sept. 22, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [WebJunction Webinar Calendar](#). Create a free account to access webinar archives and training in the [WebJunction Course Catalog](#).



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