Missouri State Library News

Three New STEM Kits Now Available

Three new STEM kits have been added to the MOSL collection and are ready for checkout. There are three of each of the new kits available. The Be a NASA Detective, Sun-Earth-Moon Connections and Cardboard Challenge Engineering Kit can be checked out through the Kit Keeper site to public and school libraries for forty-five days. You can view all kit contents and choose your checkout window here. Contact Lysha Thompson, Youth Services Consultant, at lysha.thompson@sos.mo.gov with any questions.

Workforce Development Webinar Series is back!

The Missouri State Library-Library Development Division has once again collaborated with the University of Missouri Extension to continue our webinar series on workforce development. The series started on Nov. 3 and will run through May 2022. It focuses on how to help local libraries tackle workforce issues in their communities. These 30-minute webinars will cover a variety of topics such as COVID-19 and its impact on the workforce, developing strategies to effectively retain your workforce, remote work, the role of libraries in supporting remote workers and the impact of opioids on Missouri’s economy and workforce. To register, please click here. For questions, contact Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.

New Grant Program featuring Next Chapter Book Club!

The Missouri State Library has collaborated with Next Chapter Book Club to offer an exciting new grant. NCBC is an organization that helps train libraries to create weekly, bi-weekly or monthly community based book clubs for adolescents and adults with Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. NCBC helps their members have interactions that are more social, focus on community inclusion and foster enjoyment of the library as a whole. This book club is open to readers of all levels, including those who cannot read at all. NCBC has implemented 300 book clubs in multiple countries. NCBC, endorsed by the National Book Foundation, was featured in the June 2019 issue of American Libraries and highlighted on WebJunction.

MOSL will be hosting a 30-minute, prerecorded introductory webinar on Next Chapter Book Clubs with a live Q/A session and introduction.
to the grant. The entire webinar will be recorded and posted online in the Missouri State Library’s webinar archive. This training will coincide with a LSTA Inclusive Libraries Grant to be offered in 2022 that will help library districts buy supplies to successfully implement a Next Chapter Book Club. To find information regarding this program, click here. You can apply for the grant using our online grant management system.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services supports these grants under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library. If you have questions about this grant opportunity, please contact Merideth Johnson at merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov or call (573) 751-1822.

Upcoming Amigos Training

Reference and Information Services on Dec. 13 and 16. We will study and discuss approaches to reference and information services; become knowledgeable about the application of core reference principles and information

Catching Up with Technology on Dec. 20. It is a challenge to keep up with technology trends. It is time to revisit the technology trends of 2021 and look at predictions for 2022. We will discuss technologies as they relate to daily activities of library and information providers; explore and analyze real-world reference issues as they pertain to resource selection, user privacy and confidentiality.

Documenting Library Work: Lessons We Can Learn from Technical Writers on Dec. 7 at 1:30 p.m. Have you ever tried to write a how-to manual or other documentation for your library’s processes? Stop waiting for a “slow period” that never comes around - join us to get started!

Changing Standards, Local Choices: Navigating the Current Cataloging Landscape on Feb. 10. Save the date for the first Amigos online conference of 2022!

Technology Books From The Missouri State Library

- New Top Technologies Every Librarian Needs to Know
- Library Technology Companion
We are pleased to offer direct borrowing from the Missouri State Library to Missouri public library directors and branch managers for continuing education and professional development.

State Library cards are issued in the name of the library director or branch manager and they are encouraged to borrow items for themselves or any of their library’s staff with this card by placing a request in our catalog.

To sign up for a card, visit our guide for Missouri library staff. The guide also features new books, recorded webinars, government publications, and resources that are more helpful.

For assistance with placing holds, requesting a card, 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!

Phone: (573) 751-3615
Email: libref@sos.mo.gov
Chat: visit mostate.libguides.com and click the “Ask Us” tab on the right.
Grant Opportunities

Show Me Steps Grants • Deadline: Ongoing
Interested in attending a professional development opportunity, but need additional funds? Show Me Steps to Continuing Education grants to provide reimbursement for up to 75% of the cost of eligible, non-credit continuing education event. The grant may be used to send an individual to a training or to bring a trainer to a group. Applications are accepted year-round.
Upcoming eligible conferences include, but are not limited to:

- Missouri Association of School Librarians, Tan Tar-A Conference Center, April 10-12

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Educational Presenter Grant • Deadline: Ongoing
This open call grant is a mash up of the previously offered Author Visit Grant and the Bicentennial Programs Grant and will replace the two separate grants. Libraries can apply to bring an author or educational presentation to their community. This application is open to Missouri public libraries certified to receive FY22 State Aid, Missouri school libraries that are publicly supported and publicly controlled and Missouri academic libraries, either publicly supported or private.