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State Library Newsletter

Missouri State Library News

Athletes & Entertainers Tax Fund and Equalization Use of Funds Reports Due Feb. 15

The annual use of funds reports for both State Fiscal Year 2023 Athletes & Entertainers (A&E) and Equalization funds will be due Feb. 15, 2024. This is the first year that libraries will be filing the use of funds report for A&E funds, and it is important to remember this is a requirement to receive these funds in the future. Libraries will report total funds spent by budget category and attach a brief narrative explaining how the funds were spent by the library. The completed form and narrative can be emailed to mostlib@sos.mo.gov. Please remember to submit the library information page and narrative by Feb. 15, as failure to submit the report may result in your library being ineligible for payments in the future. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cory Mihalik at cory.mihalik@sos.mo.gov or (417) 895-5000.

New Collection in Missouri Digital Heritage

A new collection is now available through Missouri Digital Heritage. The Missouri Appeal Reports collection contains the published opinions of cases argued in front of Missouri Appellate courts from 1876 to 1954. The Appeal Reports do not include all opinions issued by the Appellate Court, only those selected by the judges as "important or of special interest."

The collection serves as a complement to the existing Missouri Supreme Court Reports collection, which includes select opinions of cases argued in front of the Missouri Supreme Court from 1821 to 1955.

Explore more Missouri history collections at http://www.MissouriDigitalHeritage.com. Institutions wishing to participate in Missouri Digital Heritage may contact mdh@sos.mo.gov.

Public Domain Day

Many events and national days occur on Jan. 1 including National Ellis Island Day, Polar Bear Plunge Day, Rose Bowl Game, and, of course, New Year's Day. Did you know it is also Public Domain Day?

Jan. 1 is the day works protected by intellectual property rights, such as literature, music, and film, become freely accessible for the public. On Jan. 1, works from 1928 and sound recordings from 1923 enter the United States public domain.

Let's celebrate some of those works!

Books

- *Dark Princess* by W.E.B. Du Bois
- *The House at Pooh Corner* by A. A. Milne, illustrations by E. H. Shepard
- *Lady Chatterley's Lover* by D. H. Lawrence
- *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gág (the oldest American picture book still in print)
- *The Mystery of the Blue Train* by Agatha Christie
- *Orlando: A Biography* by Virginia Woolf
- *Peter Pan; or the Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up* by J. M. Barrie

Films

- *The Cameraman* (directed by Edward Sedgwick and Buster Keaton)
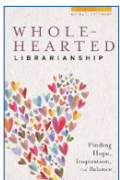- *The Circus* (directed by Charlie Chaplin)

- *Should Married Men Go Home?* (directed by Leo McCarey and James Parrott; the first Laurel and Hardy film to bill them as a team)
- *Steamboat Willie* (directed by Walt Disney; the first film to feature Mickey and Minnie Mouse)

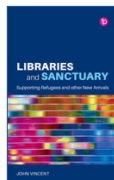### Musical Compositions & Sound Recordings

- *Animal Crackers* (musical starring the Marx Brothers)
- *I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby* (lyrics by Dorothy Fields and music by James Francis)
- *Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)* (Cole Porter; from the musical Paris)
- *Southern Blues and Moonshine Blues* (recorded by Ma Rainey)
- *Yes! We Have No Bananas* (recorded by Billy Jones; Furman and Nash; Eddie Cantor; Belle Baker; The Lanin Orchestra)

Learn more about Public Domain Day and works entering the public domain on Jan. 1 at the Center for the Study of the Public Domain at Duke University Law School. An advent-style calendar in *The Public Domain Review*'s article "What Will Enter the Public Domain in 2024? A Festive Countdown" is a fun way to learn about some specific works entering the public domain in 2024.

Featured Books from the State Library

Wholehearted Librarianship

Libraries and Sanctuary

Reference and Information Services

How to Create Free Digital Breakouts for Libraries

Discover more of our new Library Professional Development titles as well as recorded webinars, government publications, and more on the Missouri Library Staff Guide.

Directors and branch managers are able to 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.

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!

Reference Services for YOU: State Budget Watch

It's time for Missouri's budget-planning process to begin for the next fiscal year. Below are several resources to assist patrons with reviewing past budgets and tracking current budget work throughout the process.

- House Operating Budget Process: A tracker for Missouri budget bills as they progress through the legislative appropriations process.

- Missouri Budget Explorer: A transparency tool for department budget summaries, performance measures, priorities, and additional budget information.

- Missouri Accountability Portal (MAP): Detailed information on tax dollars spent via department expenditures, state employee pay, budget restrictions, tax credits, federal grants, and more.

- State of Missouri Daily Spending: The daily activity and cash balance from the General Revenue Fund by the Missouri State Auditor.

- Show-Me Checkbook: The financial data transparency portal from the State Treasurer utilizing historical budget information. Explore datasets from expenditures and liabilities to state employee payroll.

- Appropriation Activity Reports: Comparative analyses of revenues to expenditures and appropriations to expenditures detailed by the Office of Administration.

Questions? Contact Reference Services at (573) 751-3615, libref@sos.mo.gov, or mostate.libguides.com/lpdc.

Ploud Project Staff Changes

Nora Wesselmann has left the Missouri State Library after 2 years of working as the Ploud Project (Public Libraries in the Cloud) coordinator and trainer. Nora has been an integral part of the State Library's Ploud Project success. She trained staff at 38 public libraries to create and maintain a Ploud website, recorded 15 support videos, and wrote training procedures and documentation. Nora created a solid foundation to continue building this project. Missouri Ploud is very appreciative of all the hard work Nora has done for the Library Development and Reference Services divisions of the Missouri State Library. She will be missed! Nora is working at the St. Charles City-County Library as a library assistant and graduated in December 2023 with a master's degree in library science from Emporia State University.

Gloria Fordyce, library administration and management consultant, will be the new Ploud trainer for the Missouri State Library. For the past two months, Gloria has sat-in on library trainings and received one-on-one training from Nora. The Ploud team asks for your patience as they continue to learn the processes Nora so ably setup. Gloria can be contacted by email at gloria.fordyce@sos.mo.gov or phone at (573) 526-6734. For all other questions, please contact janet.caruthers@sos.mo.gov or (573) 526-1087. We look forward to working with staff at current and new Ploud libraries in the New Year.

Revolutionizing MOREnet Member Libraries: REAL Funding Success Story

Every day, libraries serve their communities by providing an Internet connection that grants patrons access to a wealth of information that can be found across the world wide web. More than just information, however, patrons use that same connection to access personal health and financial data or to conduct business. One challenge that library systems face is how to protect patron and organizational data, manage bandwidth and access usage statistics in a user-friendly manner. Additionally, libraries are challenged to find the funding to set up and oversee a complex network and security system for multiple branches. Thanks to funding from HB12 and the Remote Electronic Access for Libraries (REAL) program through Missouri State Library, nearly one-hundred libraries in the state of Missouri are now using new network and security solutions to improve their bandwidth and protect their locations from data breaches and cybersecurity attacks. The Missouri State Library reached out to MOREnet, who managed the assessments and upgrades while collaborating with Fortinet, a global leader of cybersecurity solutions and services.

The Challenge Facing Missouri Libraries

In areas of rural Missouri, there are very few technological consultants available to help libraries build safe and effective networks. Frequently, it has been up to the library director or volunteer staff to manage and secure Internet infrastructure. Additionally, smaller communities face digital equity issues; numerous library patrons and community members rely heavily on libraries for an Internet connection. Beginning in 2022, the Missouri State Library designated REAL program funding to specifically aid in the improvement of library technology. MOREnet was tasked with identifying the greatest technological deficits of Missouri libraries, and it quickly became apparent that libraries needed updated switches, access points and firewalls to safely provide connectivity for their patrons. "Many of the library systems did not have an adequate firewall, if any firewall at all, and their networks were very vulnerable," noted Adam Boley, a network engineer with MOREnet.

Transforming Library Network Quality and Control

Salem Public Library shared similar struggles, confirmed library director Kate McBride. The library, built in an old bank with many building additions and modifications over time, had an ineffective firewall and network. MOREnet network engineers Josh Noble and Alex Gray helped to install the new access points, switches and a firewall. The library staff did not understand how the Salem network was pieced together, and it took multiple trips from MOREnet experts to inspect and fix the issues. "The tremendous thing that this REAL Funding did for Salem was give us control of the Internet. Before this, only one third-party vendor knew how to access the info on the firewall, access points or switches. Before Josh and Alex, we only knew how to open the closet where they were located. Because of MOREnet, we know more and feel more in control." Not only did these REAL-funded improvements give Salem Library control and visibility, but they created a drastic improvement to the network itself. "We are now confident that our services are not substandard," shared McBride.

Revitalizing a Missouri Library Riddled with Connectivity Issues

One such library system in Texas County "was a poster child for this funding, "shared Janet Fraley, library board member. Located in rural southern Missouri, the system was plagued by slow connection bandwidth and minimal malware protection. Texas County was one of the first local providers of Internet twenty years prior, however, "Over the years, things were just cobbled together," explained Fraley. Users were able to access unsafe and illegal content across their four branches, which triggered DMCA notices to the library system. Due to the high volume of unmanaged traffic and many modifications over the years, the connection was riddled with problems. Although Texas County Library knew they needed help, funding was an issue. Library leadership learned about REAL funding and immediately jumped at the opportunity. Fraley stated, "We qualified for $44,000 in funding, which was more money than we ever would have been able to come up with on our own."

MOREnet technical expert Alex Gray visited the library and completed a full network assessment, recommending a series of repairs and solutions to fix Texas County's network challenges. After the items were ordered and delivered, MOREnet engineers returned to the library to install and configure the new solutions, which included access points, switches and firewalls, along with MOREnet and Fortinet management for five years. "We are so thankful for the network assessment and installation. We, being so rural, could not find someone to install our products. We didn't even know who to ask," said board member Fraley. The Texas County library patrons are now able to access the Internet easily and safely. Businesses utilize the library connection to conduct business, and the four-branch system has had no complaints from patrons, who log on through a secure sign-in system. Library director Louise Beasley appreciates that she can easily access the user statistics and what is happening at each of the different branches' connections. Even more so, Beasley appreciates the support from MOREnet, stating that "…they are just right there with us."

Revitalizing a Missouri Library Riddled with Connectivity Issues

Another common challenge for rural library systems are multiple branches spread across a large geographical area. One of those systems, Ozark Regional Library, has four branches spanning over two counties. This made management difficult for the head of technical services, John Jones, as he or a member of his team would need to drive more than an hour between branches if there were any issues or concerns. "It's so helpful to have the singular platform. I can log into any of the routers remotely," said Jones. Reynolds County Library Director, Megan Bishop shared similar struggles with distance. "We are an eighty-six-mile round trip drive between branches. This new technology has made my job easier. I am able to access and share the information I need from one location," said Bishop. "Working with Dave Kessler of MOREnet was easy. What we had worked, but we needed better, and that is what we got."

Empowering Missouri Libraries: The Ongoing Commitment of MOREnet's Network Team

MOREnet's network team will continue to work with Missouri libraries that qualify for these upgrades as long as possible. "Ideally we keep it going as long as the budget allows,"shared Adam Boley. "Right now, the money is here and it is a great value for our library members. We are using an RFP for Fortinet to provide better security and filtering, all managed through one common interface," said Boley. "Our goal is to empower the libraries, if they want that," he continued. Kate McBride believes that the goal of empowering libraries is being attained, as she noted, "I find the entire process empowering, our

staff understands more about our technology than we did before because MOREnet took the time to explain what was needed, why we needed it and where it was going. We feel more confident when we explain our system to our patrons. It's wonderful to know we have MOREnet just a call or email away."

(MOREnet blog article, December 4, 2023, by Sarah Pierce (https://www.more.net/revolutionizing-morenet-member-libraries-real-funding-success-story/). Reprinted with permission.

Around the State

On Dec. 3, 2023, the St. Joseph Public Library held their Excel Adult High School Graduation for graduate Hannah Dixon. The ceremony was held in their meeting room at their East Hills location, and a reception was held following. Hannah worked tirelessly and devoted all her time to

this endeavor and was able to complete the program in two months. "My goal was to finish high school before my sister, it was really hard and I must have 500 notecards made, but I did it! I am so grateful to St. Joseph Public Library for this opportunity, and I tell everyone I meet how amazing this program is." Excel Adult High School offers a fully accredited high school diploma that is made for adults 21 and over that can be done completely online. If your library is interested in more information regarding this program, please reach out to Adult Services Consultant, Merideth Johnson at (573) 751-1822 or merideth.johnson@sos.mo.gov.

Grant Opportunities

US Congress has not established a budget for FY24 which stops the allocation and distribution of IMLS funding. At this time, the State Library does not foresee an issue with any of the grants, but a prolonged delay in enacting a federal budget could result in delays in first payments of the three upcoming long-term grants. Since the

long-term grants come earliest in the Missouri State Library grant cycle, these are most likely the only grants affected. However, all future grants potentially can be susceptible to this funding allocation. The grant call schedule lists the application due dates and report due dates of all scheduled grants.

The Digital Imaging Grant (DIG) is currently viewable in the online grant management system. This grant requires a [Letter of Intent](#) be submitted by Jan. 15 as one of the eligibility requirements for this grant. If you have any questions on the DIG, please contact Matt at matthew.butler@sos.mo.gov.

The Spotlight on Literacy grant will open mid-January.

Upcoming grant application due dates:

- Spotlight on Literacy application is due Feb. 28.
- Digital Imaging Grant application is due March 15.
- Technology Ladder application is due April 1.

With the exception of the DIG, all other scheduled grant applications open approximately 45 days prior to the due date.

[Educational Presenter Grant](#) • **Deadline: Ongoing**

This open-call grant is a combination 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 FY23 state aid, Missouri school libraries publicly supported and publicly controlled, and Missouri academic libraries supported publicly or privately.

Professional Development Offerings

Amigos Library Services

January trainings:

- Entrepreneurial: Supporting Small Business Development in Libraries, Jan. 18, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: What's New in Science Fiction and Fantasy, Jan. 29, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

- Library Management: Workplace Communication, Jan. 30, 2 – 4 p.m.

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

CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop

The Colorado Library Consortium is holding their Virtual Winter Workshop on Thursday, Feb. 1, 1 – 3:30 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 2, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The hallmark of CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop is practical content geared for rural communities.

[Registration](#) is open now. Convenience and great content for just $25 *including* access to recordings for one year. Registration deadline is Friday, Jan. 26.

MALA

January trainings:

- Winter 2024 Readers' Advisor, Jan. 10, 10 – 11 a.m.
- AI-Assisted Libraries: Synergistic Solutions for the Digital Era, Jan. 25, 10 – 11 a.m.

For the complete webinar list, visit the [MALAPro Professional Development Schedule](#).

MOREnet

January trainings:

- Training Those Who Are Just Getting Started with Technology, Jan. 8, 9 a.m. – noon
- Getting Started with Artificial Intelligence, Jan. 10, 9 a.m. – noon
- All things E-rate, Jan.19, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- Bringing Augmented and Virtual Reality into the Classroom or Library, Jan. 22, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Artificial Intelligence Primer, Jan. 31, 2 – 3 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the MOREnet Training Schedule.

Northeast Document Conservation Center

January trainings:

- Creating Preservation-Quality Oral Histories, Jan. 9, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Fundamentals of Photograph Preservation, Jan. 22, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

- Caring for Vellum-Bound Books, Jan. 23, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Caring for Paper-Based Collections, Jan. 25, 3 – 5 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the NEDCC Current Training Programs.

MOREnet's Technical Training Summit

Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia, MO., Feb. 5 – 6. Join MOREnet for a high-tech training summit that will include in-depth sessions on various topics that are important to those responsible for implementing and managing technology in K-12 schools, libraries, and higher education institutions. Each training will either be conducted by MOREnet staff or a hand-picked expert, with topics based on feedback from our members. Over the course of two days, you can stay in one track or hop between the three: cybersecurity, system administration, and networks. Each track has invited speakers who will conduct hands-on, interactive learning sessions. The agenda and registration are available now.

WebJunction

January trainings:

- Libraries Foster Social Connection: Responding to the Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation, Jan. 4, 4 – 5 p.m.
- Building Authentic Relationships with Underserved Communities, Jan. 30, 3 – 4 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.

Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft

John R. (Jay) Ashcroft is Missouri's 40th secretary of state. Each year Secretary Ashcroft travels to all of Missouri's 114 counties to talk with local officials, students, library executives, and business owners to promote Missouri and learn how he can help make Missouri even better.

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