

SHOW ME EXPRESS



State Library Newsletter

January 2026



Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State

State Librarian Message

With winter in full swing, staying indoors with a cup of hot chocolate watching the snow fall becomes one of my treasured moments. When you're outdoors on a walk, bringing in groceries from the car, or shoveling the driveway or sidewalk, take a moment to pause and enjoy how the world quiets with a fresh blanket of snow. Find the peace in a world slowed by weather.

These wintery days create a perfect opportunity to spot bird prints in the snow surrounding their feeders or animal tracks leading home to their cozy dens. Even with the dreaded ice, I find joy in the way the pines outside my window sparkle and shine in the sun. Though the start of the new year is cold, cloudy, and full of inclement weather,

take time to appreciate this season's beauty and unique offerings. Whether you stay warm indoors or take a trip into the snow, gather together with your loved ones to share your latest reads, winter observations and stories, and new year reflections.

This past year, I hope you have enjoyed increasing your community's access to information. I extend sincere gratitude to all our Missouri State Library staff and to you all for your contributions to Missouri libraries.

Wishing you well in the new year,



Janet Caruthers

Missouri State Library News

Public Domain Day

Jan. 1 of every year is Public Domain Day, and this year, copyrighted works from 1930 and sound recordings from 1925 enter the US public domain, meaning they can be used and shared freely without permission or fees.

While copyright laws protect works from being used without the creators' permission, US copyright laws also recognize that as time passes, there is a point at which works should no longer have strict rules against their use by others. Most works reach that time after 95 years. This gives the public free access to works created a lifetime ago as well as the ability to make old works new again without limitations, costs, or restrictions.

Some notable works that entered the public domain this Jan. 1 include:

Literature

- *As I Lay Dying*, by William Faulkner
- The first four Nancy Drew books: *The Secret of the Old Clock*, *The Hidden Staircase*, *The Bungalow Mystery*, and *The Mystery at Lilac Inn*, by Carolyn Keene
- *The Murder at the Vicarage*, by Agatha Christie
- *The Little Engine That Could*, by Watty Piper
- *Ash Wednesday*, by T.S. Eliot

Film and Television

- *Dizzy Dishes*, produced by the Fleischer Studio's (first introduction to Betty Boop)
- *The Chain Gang* and *The Picnic*, produced by Disney (first introduction to Pluto, originally named Rover)
- *All Quiet on the Western Front*, directed by Lewis Milestone
- *King of Jazz*, directed by John Murray Anderson

Music

- "Embraceable You," musical composition by Ira Gershwin and George Gershwin
- "Georgia on My Mind," musical composition by Stuart Gorrell and Hoagy Carmichael

- "Dream a Little Dream of Me," musical composition by Gus Kahn, Fabian Andre, and Wilbur Schwandt
- "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen," recorded by Marian Anderson
- "The St. Louis Blues," recorded by Bessie Smith, featuring Louis Armstrong
- *Composition No. II* by Piet Mondrian

Learn more about Public Domain Day and more works entering the public domain at Duke University Law School's [Center for the Study for the Public Domain](#).



Coming Soon! TeachingBooks Webinars

Summer Reading with TeachingBooks

Save the date for Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 3 p.m. for our next TeachingBooks webinar! Join TeachingBooks Implementation and Training Specialist Danielle Burbank and Missouri State Library Youth Services Consultant Katie Dunne to learn more about how you can use TeachingBooks to prepare for your 2026 Summer Library Program! The webinar registration link will be sent over the MOYAC listserv, so if you are not already receiving MOYAC emails, make sure to join now on the [MOYAC Listserv Info Page](#) to get the latest children's and youth services information from the Missouri State Library.

Collection Analysis Initiative Webinars – Spring 2026

Now is a great time to join the TeachingBooks Collection Analysis Initiative before we kick off our spring 2026 webinar series. Like TeachingBooks,



TeachingBooks®

the Collection Analysis Initiative is free to you. By joining the initiative, you have access to:

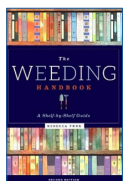
- Tools within TeachingBooks to analyze the titles in your collection, ensuring that they meet the needs of your students or patrons
- Information to help you make decisions about book promotions, displays, and orders
- Ongoing professional development and technical assistance to help with your analysis

Register using the [Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative Registration Form](#) and stay tuned for upcoming information about our spring webinar series.

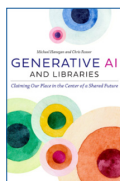


This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

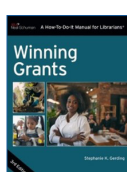
Featured Books from the State Library



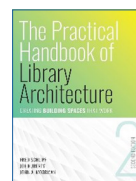
[*The Weeding Handbook*](#)



[*Generative AI and Libraries*](#)



[*Winning Grants*](#)



[*The Practical Handbook of Library Architecture*](#)

Discover more of our Library Professional Development titles as well as recorded webinars, government publications, and more 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 to New Library Director

Please join us in welcoming a new library director! We are excited to see all the wonderful things she'll accomplish in this role. If you'd like to congratulate her or reach out, you can find her contact information below.

- **Aimee Kenagy**, Director of Mercer County Library, mercoulib@gmail.com

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.



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

If your library has a spectacular program, event, collection, or anything else you want to share in a future Show Me Express edition, 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

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

This open-call grant from the Missouri State Library provides funds for libraries to bring an author or educational presentation to their community. This application is open to Missouri

public libraries certified to receive FY26 state aid, Missouri school libraries publicly supported and publicly controlled, and Missouri academic libraries supported publicly or privately.



Show-Me Steps To Continuing Education • Deadline: Ongoing

This open-call grant from the Missouri State Library provides financial assistance for library staff and trustees to participate in continuing education and training opportunities when local funds cannot finance the entire cost. Continuing education events can be for individuals or groups but must be pertinent to the operational

or service needs of the applicant's library. This application is open to Missouri public libraries certified to receive FY26 state aid, Missouri school libraries publicly supported and publicly controlled, and Missouri academic or special libraries supported publicly or privately.

Digital Imaging Grant • Letter of Intent Deadline: Jan. 15; Application Deadline: March 15

The Digital Imaging Grant (DIG) FY26 requires a [letter of intent](#) to be submitted to the Missouri State Library by Jan. 15. Digital Imaging grants provide funding for eligible libraries and their partners in the cultural heritage community to carry out projects involving the selection, digital capture, storage, and provision of Web access to their important historical and cultural collections. These grants support creation of digital collections at institutions while at the same time adding expanded access to those collections via the Missouri Digital Heritage database and web site. The proposal must demonstrate the

unique nature of the materials to be processed, show how they can be characterized as original source materials, and explain what value or benefit will accrue to the citizens of Missouri and other patrons by making them available in digital format via the Web. Collections should be generally representative of Missouri history and culture. It is important to demonstrate what demand exists for these collections already. The DIG application is available in the [online grant system](#). Institutions receiving approval of their letters of intent will have until March 15 to apply.

Spotlight on Literacy Grant • Deadline: Feb. 28

Spotlight on Literacy grant applications will open in mid-January. This program-centric grant is used to improve literacy through community partnerships. Libraries can apply for funds to create new or improve current programs to serve patrons of all ages. Libraries will focus on

a single target audience, as well as a specific literacy area to address, such as civic literacy, cultural literacy, career literacy, early literacy, digital literacy, STEM literacy, health literacy, or financial literacy. Applications are due by Feb. 28.

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



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Grant Opportunities – National Grants

NEA Big Read • Deadline: Jan. 29

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read is a matching grant that provides \$5,000 to \$20,000 to awarded libraries for America250 programming inspired by a book from their list. Funded programs center around applicant's chosen book and its themes between Sept. 2026 and June 2027. Funds may be used for

books, tools to support partner work, public relations strategies, meaningful book discussion programs, and other programs related to the chosen book. NEA Big Read grant applications require an Intent to Apply by Jan. 15 and a final application by Jan. 29. Learn more at [NEA Big Read – Arts Midwest](#).

USDA Community Facilities Programs

This United State 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 Grant Opportunities

Snapdragon Book Foundation • **Deadline: Feb. 8**

The Snapdragon Book Foundation provides funding to schools in the U.S. to improve school libraries for children through increased access to books. Grant funds range from \$2,500 to \$10,000 per applicant, and funding may be used to purchase books that will be repeated used by school-aged children, processing or cataloguing

fees from book vendors, reference materials for use by students, and magazine or newspaper subscriptions. If Snapdragon cannot award the total requested amount, they may offer a partial grant. Eligible organizations include public, private, and experimental schools.



Professional Development Offerings

CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop

The Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) is holding their 2026 Virtual Winter Workshop on Feb. 4, 2 – 4:30 p.m., and Feb. 5, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop is designed for practical content geared toward

rural communities. [Registration](#) is open now until Jan. 30 for \$25, and registration gives you access to the live sessions as well as the recordings for one year. If you have any questions, contact clichelp@clicweb.org.

Amigos Library Services

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

- The Essentials: Conducting the Reference Interview, Jan. 15, 1 – 3 p.m.
- AI Prompting with Purpose: Building, Refining, and Testing AI Prompts for Library Work, Jan. 22, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Collaborating with Faculty, Jan. 27, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Authority Control: Creating and Maintaining Consistency, Jan. 29, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- The Essentials: Library Values, Feb. 3, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Trauma-Informed Design for Libraries, Feb. 5, 12 – 1 p.m.
- Electronic Resource Management: Micro-Credentialing & Capstone Project, Feb. 10, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., self-paced
- Electronic Resource Management 1: Acquisition and Implementation, Feb. 10, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Electronic Resource Management 2: Maintenance and Troubleshooting, Feb. 12, 1 – 3 p.m.

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

The Association for Small and Rural Libraries (ARSL)

Trainings include:

- January TRAIN Roundtable: Programming Ideas for Older Adults, Jan. 15, 1 p.m.
- February TRAIN Roundtable: HR for Small Libraries, Feb. 19, 1 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [ARSL TRAIN Workshops & Roundtables](#).

Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Speakers and trainings include:

- The Creative and Compassionate Art of Seeing Others Deeply with David Brooks, Jan. 13, 1 p.m.
- Swashbuckling Heroines and High Seas Adventures with Novelist Vanessa Riley, Feb. 5, 6 p.m.
- Nature, Art, and Service as Medicine with Journalist Julia Hotz, Jan. 20, 1 p.m.
- Mojos, Mermaids, Medicine, and 400 Years of Black Women's Magic with Dr. Lindsey Stewart, Feb. 12, 1 p.m.
- Secrets and Second Chances with Liz Moore, Jan. 28, 6 p.m.

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

Colorado State Library

Webinars include:

- Seeing Our Unseen Caregiving Youth, Jan. 13, 12 p.m.
- How Could We Serve Caregiving Youth?, Jan. 20, 12 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [Libraries Learn Calendar](#).

LibraryWorks

Trainings include:

- FREE WEBINAR: Brainfuse's HelpNow, JobNow, VetNow, and CollegeNow plus Pronuciator and Barron's, Jan. 7, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Healing Burnout: Incorporating Resilience to Refocus Stress and Workload Demands, Jan. 22, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Communicating with Elected Officials and Library Stakeholders, Jan. 15, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Social Media Update for 2026, Jan. 29, 1 – 2 p.m.

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

MALA (Mid-American Library Alliance)

Trainings include:

- "Teens Don't Read"... Or Do They? Rethinking What 21st Century Teen Literacy Might Look Like, Jan. 15, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Hand in Hand: Strategic Planning and Grant Writing, Feb. 10, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Stay Interviews: A Method to Maintain Employee Retention in Libraries, Jan. 27, 10 – 11 a.m.

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

Missouri Library Association (MLA)

Events include:

- Library Advocacy Day, Feb. 3

For the complete event list, visit [MLA Events](#).



Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)

Events include:

- MASL Message Live: 2025 Dogwood Readers List Author Candance Fleming, Jan. 12, 6 p.m.
- New Librarian Workshop – Advocacy, Jan. 26, 6 p.m.
- MASL Program Standards Virtual Sessions, Jan. 29, 6 p.m.
- Winter Meeting Executive Council – Virtual, Feb. 7, 9 – 11 a.m.
- [MASL Annual Conference: Creating Communities](#), April 19–20, Tan-Tar-A Conference Center in Osage Beach

For the complete event list, visit [MASL Community Calendar](#).

MOREnet

Trainings include:

- GPN 2026 January Meeting, Jan. 13, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Hilton Kansas City County Club Plaza
- AI Literacy for Parents (CS), Jan. 13, 10 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Foundations for Libraries (CS), Jan. 20, 10 – 11 a.m.
- E-Rate Training: All Things E-Rate, Jan. 22, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Google Gemini (CS), Jan. 22, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Cybersecurity Proactive Defense (CPD), Jan. 26, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., MOREnet Columbia
- Bring the Arcade to the Library: Designing Retro Games With Microsoft MakeCode (CS), Jan. 27, 9:30 – 11 a.m.
- Using Scratch to Enhance All Content Areas (For Libraries and Classrooms) (CS), Jan. 27, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Digital Accessibility (CS), Jan. 28, 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Foundations: AI Literacy (CS), Feb. 3, 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Foundations: AI Practice (CS), Feb. 6, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Mastering EBSCOhost: A Comprehensive Research Guide, Feb. 9, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Unearthing Missouri's Past: A Historical Research Guide, Feb. 9, 10 – 11 a.m.
- 2026 Technical Training Summit, Feb. 17, 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Wyndham Hotels Columbia

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

Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Telehealth 101: What Libraries Need to Know, Jan. 5, self-paced
- Health Programming at Your Library, Jan. 14, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- ClinicalTrials.gov for Librarians, Jan. 15, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Health Statistics on the Web, Jan. 21, 2 – 3:30 p.m.
- Keiki Heroes: Health Activity Materials for Children, Jan. 28, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) Presents Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, Jan. 29, 12 – 4 p.m.

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



Niche Academy

Trainings include:

- Telling Your Library's Story, Jan. 7, 1 p.m.
- Welcoming All: Inclusivity in Library Spaces, Jan. 14, 1 p.m.
- Giving Effective Feedback, Jan. 21, 1 p.m.
- Purpose, People and Partners: A Practical Framework for Nonprofit Leadership, Jan. 28, 1 p.m.
- Thriving Amidst Bureaucratic Distress: Tools to Help Everyone Involved, Feb. 4, 1 p.m.
- Library Trustees and Advocacy, Feb. 11, 1 p.m.

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

Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Starting an Archive: Preservation Basics, Jan. 6, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Caring for Paper-Based Collections, Jan. 8, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Digitizing Scrapbooks, Jan. 13, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Digitization: Planning for Success, Jan. 15, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Archives 101: Getting Started, Jan. 27, 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.
- Fundamentals of Photograph Preservation, Jan. 26 – March 9, Mondays 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Preservation 101, Jan. 29 – April 16, Thursdays, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Handling Books and Paper-Based Collections: A Primer for Staff, Interns, & Volunteers, Feb. 4, 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:

- Winter Networking Happy Hour, Jan. 29, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., 2nd Shift Brewing
- SLRN Annual Conference, March 25, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Clark Family Branch – St. Louis County Library

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



TeachingBooks

Trainings include:

- Timesaving Tips from TeachingBooks, Jan. 21, 1 p.m.
- And the Winner Is... 2026 Award-Winning Books and Resources, Feb. 17, 1 p.m.

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

WebJunction

Trainings include:

- Generative AI and Collection Development Policies: A Proactive Approach, Jan. 8, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Creating a Culture of Trust and Bridgebuilding: One Library's Transformation Story, Jan. 29, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Inviting Emerging Adults into the Library: Lessons from El Paso's Centre Future, Feb. 9, 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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