

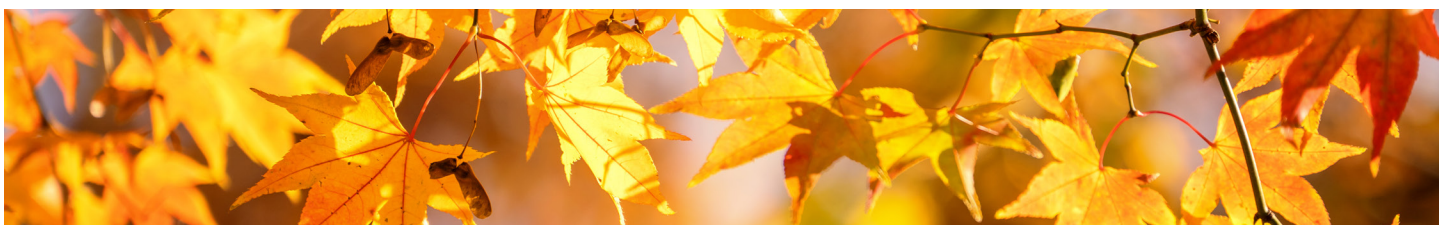
SHOW ME EXPRESS

 **State Library Newsletter**

October 2025



Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State



State Librarian Message

Fall Greetings

As cool breezes and crisp leaves arrive, the outdoors calls us to gather with friends and enjoy all nature has to offer. Take a walk in the woods with your loved ones to find the perfect spot to peacefully sit near the skittering squirrels hiding nuts for the winter. I plan on walking through a creek and waves of colorful leaves, which could be perfect for little ones to leap into.

Several bonfires are in order as well this fall. You could tell scary stories or listen to a ghastly tale around the flickering light. Make sure to enjoy a s'more for me, though I argue they're not just a fall

treat! At my bonfires, I'll try to spot our neighbor possum, who is likely looking for any scraps we leave behind.

Maybe you could throw on some football and check how the Chiefs are faring this season or maybe sit in the stands to keep up with your local sports teams. You could make some chili, bake a pie, or drink some apple cider.

No matter what you decide to do this fall, we hope you have a lovely autumn with your friends and family.

—Janet Caruthers

Missouri State Library News

CSLP Summer Symposium – Save the Date!

UNEARTH
A STORY™

The dinos are coming! Join us on Thursday, Dec. 4 for the Collaborative Summer Library Program's [Summer Symposium](#)! This free, virtual event is open to all and runs from 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.. [Author Dan Santat](#) will be the keynote speaker and attendees will have the opportunity to explore programming ideas for the *Unearth a Story™* theme. Registration coming soon!



MOREnet Classes to Support Summer 2026 Program Planning

Looking for some outside the box ways to support your 2026 summer program? Consider a class with MOREnet. See the [MOREnet Workshops to](#)

[Prep for Summer 2026 Programming](#) for their offerings related to summer programming.

Lifetime Art's Creative Aging in Libraries

Through the [Creative Aging in Libraries Project](#), several Missouri libraries have successfully completed their Creative Aging programs and saw firsthand how art can be the facilitator to something greater. Lifetime Arts led this project in collaboration with the Califa Group, Wyoming State Library, and Missouri State Library funded by a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Each participating public library delivered high quality arts programming for older adults led by an expert artist over several weeks, culminating in a showcase of their newfound skills. Although the classes focused on honing skills for a particular art style, the programs also fostered deeper connections and promoted cognitive health of their attendees.

The eight participating libraries across Missouri each had a different art program for their patrons. Some libraries hosted a memoir writing series, some a watercolor course, some basket weaving lessons, and others mosaics classes.

Individuals who participated in the Creative Aging programs in Missouri created friendships that grew beyond the classes. Many made plans to meet outside of the classes and after the program ended. Some even made deeper connections with their family members. At Springfield-Greene County Library District, a father and daughter completed the mosaics class together and used their late wife and mother's wedding china for their project, cultivating a deeper relationship with one another.

Attendees hoped for more programs like this, not just for themselves, but so others can also experience the joy of creating art and developing meaningful connections with like-minded peers. Participating libraries hope to continue these multi-week programs; some already have plans to continue implementing Creative Aging or similar programming for their community's seniors.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library Visits

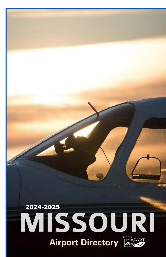
Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library staff is available for public library programs. Please contact Jami Livingston, Wolfner Adult Services Librarian, for more information and to schedule a visit. Wolfner staff also can send each library building a demonstration talking book machine and a sampler cartridge. This equipment can

be demonstrated to potential Wolfner patrons, to encourage them to sign up for services. Remember patrons can be your and Wolfner patrons at the same time! For more Wolfner supplies, please email Jami at (573) 522-2768 or jami.livingston@sos.mo.gov.



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 Government Document from the State Library



The [2024-2025 Missouri Airport Directory](#) by the Missouri Department of Transportation provides general flying and airport information for public and private airports in Missouri. Discover more government publications in our [Missouri State Publications Collection](#) to share with patrons. For assistance with government information or publications, please contact the Reference Services team at the [State Library](#).

Reference Services for YOU: Delicious Finds

While the government may not be a source patrons often use for recipes, both state and federal government entities offer a surprisingly wide variety of easily accessible recipe resources to inspire their next culinary creation:

- [Browse recipes](#) for Missouri's wild game and edibles from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Recipes can be filtered by main ingredient or course.
- The Department of Veterans Affairs offers a [recipe library](#), downloadable cookbooks, and educational cooking videos.
- The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute provides [recipes](#) by type, ingredient, style, and community, along with video recipes and cookbooks for download. Patrons can register for free to create a personalized recipe box.

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture offers a [database](#) of recipes searchable by government program, course, nutrition focus, food group, and cooking equipment. Patrons can browse trending and seasonal recipes as well as recipes of the month.

Patrons can even discover recipes in unexpected places, such as between pages 430-431 of Justice Breyer's [dissenting opinion](#) in *U.S. v. United Foods, Inc.* or from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with "[What Your Birth Month Says About Your Next Seafood Recipe](#)." Patrons may also enjoy the historical nature of government cookbooks, such as the 1902 U.S. [Navy General Mess Manual and Cook Book](#).

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

Featured Books from the State Library



[Strengthening Library Ecosystems](#)



[Metadata in the Digital Library](#)



[The Kind Librarian](#)



[101 Seeds for Library Joy](#)

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 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.

- **Will Blydenburgh**, Director of Christian County Library, wblydenburgh@christiancountylibrary.org

- **Ken Kelly**, James Memorial Public Library, kkelly@stjamesmo.org

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.

Zombie Doll and Haunted Doll at Riverside Regional Library



Zombies like brains, and what better place to find those than the library?

At Riverside Regional Library's Zombie Doll and Haunted Doll programs, tweens and teens had a riotously good time destroying the beloved children's figurines. They zombified everything from the hair, to the skin, to the clothes with tie-dye, markers, and scissors. Glitter, dried moss, and faux flowers gave the doll some glam; fake blood, skulls, and bones made her Halloween ready. If a patron wanted to make a ghost or a mummy instead? White temporary hair color spray from the Halloween section and toilet paper did the trick!



An enthusiastic parent brought in a whole gaggle of teens and supplied the library with fake eyelashes that could be applied with hot glue. This parent also used her own drill and wood board, so that teens could make holes in the dolls, allowing for a fake bone to stick out of the doll's head or other such terrifying creations.

All dolls were purchased from thrift stores and garage sales, with many participants even bringing their own, making for a very affordable and popular teen program!

To learn more, contact Riverside Regional Library's Children's Librarian Samantha Buchheit at (573) 243-8141 or sbuchheit@rrlmo.org.

Top: Dolls transforming to zombies with makeovers and haircuts at Riverside Regional's Zombie Doll event. Image provided by Samantha Buchheit.

Middle: Zombie Doll attendees dying doll clothing and adding red paint and glitter to their dolls at Riverside Regional Library. Image provided by Samantha Buchheit.

Bottom: A Haunted Doll attendee hot gluing a bone sticking out of a doll's head at Riverside Regional Library. Image provided by Samantha Buchheit.

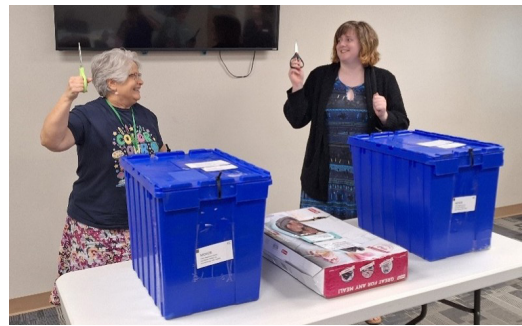




Trails Regional Library Receives Kitchen in a Box Donation

The Trails Regional Library recently received a Kitchen in a Box donation from the Missouri State Library. Missouri libraries with a current or planned ongoing food literacy program for patrons submitted a proposal outlining how their library would use the donation. The Trails Regional Library proposal was chosen at random from all submitted proposals. The kit was originally purchased with LSTA funds.

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, Trails Regional Library staff unboxed the donation at their programming meeting, alongside Missouri State Library staff. They unveiled pots and pans, a blender, graters, a griddle, colanders, cookbooks, and more, which they plan to use to grow their food literacy programs and provide patrons even more opportunity to learn and love cooking.



Top: Trails Regional Library staff with their scissors at the ready to unbox their Kitchen in a Box donation.



Bottom: Trails Regional Library staff posing with Adult Services Consultant Merideth Johnson with the contents of the Kitchen in a Box kit.

We'd love to highlight your library's food literacy programs in an upcoming Show Me Express edition. Contact mostlib@sos.mo.gov to be featured.



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MAYPL's 2025-2026 Meetings for Greater St. Louis Area Youth Library Staff

MAYPL (Metropolitan Area Youth Public Librarians) would like to invite you to our 2025-2026 meetings. Each meeting, youth library staff meet to share their knowledge about topics pertaining to youth services in public libraries. All youth library staff are encouraged to attend MAYPL meetings. If you're in the Greater St. Louis area, please consider joining us and feel free to share this schedule with others who are interested.

Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2 – 4 p.m.

Location: St. Louis Public Library - Buder Branch

Topics: STEAM Programming & Homeschoolers

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2 – 4 p.m.

Location: Ferguson Municipal Public Library

Topics: America 250/Summer Programming & Non-Traditional Funding Sources/Budgeting Tips

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 3 p.m.

Location: Virtual Presentation (link to come)

Topics: Internet Safety as Library Employees presented by The Covering House

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2 – 4 p.m.

Location: University City Public Library

Topics: Makerspaces & Older Teen Programming

Wednesday, April 22, 2 – 4 p.m.

Location: Morrison-Talbott Library

Topics: Reading for Fun/Promoting Literacy at Home & Tech in Libraries

All meeting reminders and minutes will be sent out on the MAYPL mailing list. If you're unable to join us in person, please consider [subscribing to our listserv](#).

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.

Summer Library Program Grant • Deadline: Dec. 1

The Summer Library Program grant will open for applications in mid-Oct. with a due date of Dec. 1. This literacy-based grant requires a minimum of an eight-week reading program during the summer months when local schools are not in regular session. Maximum grant award amounts are based on the population of the library service

area (tax district). Please contact [Katie Dunne](#) or [Terry Blauvelt](#) with any questions.

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



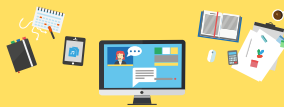
Missouri State Library grants are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Grant Opportunities – National Grants

USDA Community Facilities Programs

This 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.



Professional Development Offerings

Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative

Trainings include:

- Celebrating Holidays and Heritage Months with Collection Analysis, Oct. 14, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- Analyzing Picture Books to Support Early Literacy, Nov. 18, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

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



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Amigos Library Services

Trainings include:

- Dealing with Difficult Interactions, Oct. 7 or 9, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Managing Workplace Conflict, Oct. 13, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Metadata Principles and Practices: Metadata Basics, Oct. 15, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Building Some Truly Bodacious Book Displays, Oct. 20, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Book Repair Basics, Oct. 22, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 1 – 4 p.m., Midwest Genealogy Center
- Metadata Principles and Practices: Metadata Standards and Types, Oct. 22, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Elevating the Library's Voice in Emergency Response, Oct. 27, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Metadata Principals and Practices: Metadata Customization, Exchange, Transformation and Migration, Oct. 29, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Metadata Principals and Practices: Micro-Credentialing & Capstone Project: Nov. 5, self-paced
- Metadata Principals and Practices: Metadata Relationships, Nov. 5, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Practical AI Prompting, Nov. 10, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Serving the Neurodiverse Library User, Nov. 11, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Interlibrary Loan Policies, Nov. 17, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [Amigos Continuing Education Services Schedule](#). All Amigos continuing education sessions are free to Amigos members.

MALA (Mid-American Library Alliance)

Trainings include:

- Alternative Literacy: What is It and Why is It Important to Implement, Oct. 16, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Boost Attendance at Programs: How to Increase Awareness of and Attendance at Library Programs, Oct. 22, 10 – 11 a.m.

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



Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)

Speakers include:

- 10 Years of Daring Heists and Lovable Outcasts in YA Fantasy with Leigh Bardugo, Oct. 9, 6 p.m.
- Finding My Way with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai, Oct. 22, 6 p.m.
- Courtley Intrigue and Whispers as Weapons with Historical Fiction Queen Philippa Gregory, Oct. 29, 1 p.m.
- Community, Power, and the Search for Indigenous Identity with Award-Winning Journalist Joseph Lee, Nov. 5, 1 p.m.
- The Search for Truth and the Persistence of Love Across Time with Novelist Amanda Peters, Nov. 13, 6 p.m.
- Unlock the Secret Language of Connection with Supercommunicator Charles Duhigg, Nov. 18, 1 p.m.

For the complete speaker list, visit [CSLP's Author Talks](#).



LibraryWorks

Trainings include:

- Design for Libraries: Apply Principles of Design that Allow Your Library to Flourish, Oct. 9, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Creating More Joy & Resilience in the Library, Oct. 16, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Sparking Change: Powerful Strategies for Influencing Action in the Library!, Oct. 29, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Managing the Talent: A Holistic Approach to Library Personnel Management, Oct. 30, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Talk the Talk: Mastering Communication Skills for Positive Library Relationships, Nov. 6, 2 – 3 p.m.
- Engagement Beats Promotion: Using Partnerships to Raise Awareness, Nov. 19, 2 – 3 p.m.

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



Missouri Library Association (MLA)

Events include:

- 2025 MLA Conference: The Joy of Libraries, Oct. 8 – 9, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel – St. Louis
- 2025 MLA Performers Showcase, Oct. 8, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., Doubletree Hilton Hotel – St. Louis

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

Niche Academy

Trainings include:

- Training That Works: A Simple Guide for Nonprofits, Oct. 8, 1 p.m.
- Working Well with Your Team: How to Manage Your Staff, Oct. 22, 1 p.m.
- Figuring Out Fair Use, Oct. 29, 1 p.m.
- Creating Thriving Workplaces: Mental Health & Well-Being, Nov. 5, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Telling Your Library's Story, Nov. 12, 1 p.m.

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



MOREnet

Trainings include:

- Coding the Future: Empowering Young Minds with Code.org in Schools and Libraries (CS), Oct. 7, 10 – 11 a.m.
- E-Rate Training: New Eligible Services in FY26, Oct. 9, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Summer Library Program Ideas (5-11 Year Olds): Let's Catch A Dinosaur!, Oct. 10, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Intro to AI (CS), Oct. 14, 10 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Train the Trainer: From Learner to Leader (CS), Oct. 15, 1 – 2 p.m.
- 2025 MOREnet Annual Conference, Oct. 20 – 23, 7 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tan-Tar-A/ Margaritaville Lake Resort Osage Beach
- Pixel Art = Modern Mosaics: A Library Craft Activity for Teens (CS), Oct. 29, 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Foundations: AI Practice (CS), Nov. 3, 1 – 2 p.m.
- AI Foundations: AI Literacy (CS), Nov. 5, 1 -2 p.m.
- Read Around the World: Using Google Tools to Launch Books, Nov. 10, 10 – 11 a.m.
- Programming with Scratch to Enhance the Summer Library Program (CS), Nov. 11, 9 – 10:30 p.m.
- Bring the Arcade to the Library: Designing Retro Games for the Summer Library Program (CS), Nov. 11, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
- E-Rate Training: Category Two (C2) Budget Tools, Nov. 13, 9 – 10 a.m.
- Unearthing Missouri's Past: A Historical Research Guide, Nov. 17, 10 – 11 a.m.

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

Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Region 7 Presents: Building Recovery through Community, Oct. 7, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Providing Mental Health Resources at Your Library, Oct. 9, 12 – 1 p.m.
- Data for Everyone: An Introduction to Spreadsheets, Oct. 22, 1 – 2 p.m.
- Librarian's Guide to Consumer Health, Oct. 27 – Nov. 21, self-paced
- How PubMed Works: Introduction, Nov. 5, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- Rural Health Resources, Nov. 20, 1 – 2 p.m.

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

Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Digital Preservation Metadata Basics, Oct. 16, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Writing Your PAG, Oct. 29, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Personal Digital Archiving, Oct. 30, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Creating Preservation-Quality Oral Histories, Nov. 11, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Digitizing Photographic Materials, Nov. 13, 1 – 3 p.m.

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

St. Louis Regional Library Network (SLRLN)

Events include:

- Autumn Presentation with the Starkloff Institute: Beyond the ADA: Recognizing Barriers and the Beauty of Universal Design, Nov. 6, 3 – 4:30 p.m., St. Louis Public Library – Buder Branch

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

TeachingBooks

Trainings include:

- Introducing Sora Discover & Sora Wishlist, Oct. 8, 1 p.m.
- Supporting Early Literacy with TeachingBooks, Nov. 12, 1 p.m.

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

WebJunction

Trainings include:

- 10 Things Every Library Friend or Trustee Should Know, Oct. 28, 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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Missouri Secretary of State



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