

T R a i L S



Basic Skills Courses

by Tammi Thiem

The Nebraska Library Commission offers a series of Basic Skills courses for librarians. These are available only to Nebraska residents or to those who are employed by a Nebraska library. Public Library Certification requires training in the basic skills of librarianship. This can be done in a formal educational setting, or it can be done through these Basic Skills courses. These courses are to be done during the first three years of the certification period. They do not need to be repeated once completed. Each course is worth two continuing education credits.

The Basic Skills courses are free and are provided asynchronously on a rotating schedule. To complete the Public Library Certification, librarians need to complete thirteen courses within the first three years. There are six required courses and ten elective courses, of which librarians will choose seven:

- Collection Management
- The Community and The Library
- Communication
- Customer Service
- Intellectual Freedom and the Core Values of Librarianship
- Introduction to Cataloging (Organization of Materials)
- Leadership
- Library Finance
- Library Governance
- Library Policy Policies
- Library Services to Children and Youth
- Library Technology
- Management & Supervision
- Programming and Outreach
- Readers Advisory
- Reference

Experienced librarians, too, may wish to take one or more of these courses as a refresher or to learn what new information may be available. These courses contain lots of great information that is beneficial to everyone in the library field, and they are reviewed and updated regularly to ensure that the information is current and relevant.

You can find information about these courses [here](#). You can register for courses through the [NLC Training and Events Calendar](#). You can find the Basic Skills yearly schedule [here](#). You can reach me at tammi.thiem.trls@gmail.com or 402-910-7005 – just an email, call, or text away!



At the TRails Office

Welcomes New Board Members

Shannon McDonald is the new Library Resource Center supervisor at Central Community College-Columbus. She previously taught English for nine years at Columbus High School in Columbus, NE, and is working on her master's degree in education with a school librarian endorsement through the University of Nebraska Kearney. She enjoys reading, embroidering, and spending time with her husband, Sean, and their three cats (Buster, Brandy, and Alley).



Hi everyone! My name is Sami Stewart, and I have been the Library Director at Valley Public Library for 6 years. I've learned so much over the years, and I love sharing that knowledge with other libraries. At work, I love to write grants, try a good Pinterest craft, and catalog books. At home, I spend most of my time either working on a crochet project or planning my next Disney vacation. I can't wait to get to know more of our wonderful TRLS librarians! If there is any help I can provide, or you need a listening ear from someone who understands, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Find **EIGHT** words or word combinations of things you would find "In the Library"
Use every letter in the puzzle.

Send the two-word combination to Chelsea at trls.assistant@gmail.com by September 20th to be entered in a drawing for a prize.

E	R	C	E	D	E	S	K
F	E	N	O	C	S	N	C
E	R	S	M	R	A	A	H
I	E	U	P	B	R	I	A
V	O	T	E	I	L	S	I
S	M	S	R	I	N	E	R
E	L	S	A	Z	K	O	O
V	E	H	G	A	M	S	B

Basic Skills

(* Required Class)

Community & Library *

Registration Dates: 12 August 2024 - 6 September 2024

Class Dates: 16 - 27 September 2024

Management / Supervision

Registration Dates: 9 September 2024 - 4 October 2024

Class Dates: 14 - 25 October 2024

Leadership

Registration Dates: 23 September 2024 - 18 October 2024

Class Dates: 4 - 15 November 2024

Upcoming NCompass Live

Board Games & Computer Science in Libraries

Date: 4 September 2024 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Memory Care Initiative

Date: 11 September 2024 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Pretty Sweet Tech

Date: 25 September 2024 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Calendar of Events

Cricut Magic: Crafting for Enthusiasts!

North Bend Public Library

16 September 2024

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

SKILLS Meeting

Online via Zoom

24 September 2024

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Click here
to read our
Annual
Report and
see what
we've been
up to!

TRAILS

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year
2023 - 2024

NLC Book Club Spotlight

Book Club Spotlight:

[The Penderwicks](#)

by Jeanne Birdsall

Mackenzie Marrow is the librarian in charge of book clubs at the Nebraska Library Commission and wants to share with everyone the hidden gems in the [NLC's Book Club Collection](#). Below is an excerpt, but to read the full details go to [Mackenzie's blog post](#).

Mr. Penderwick, a mild-mannered botanist who frequently speaks in Latin to his four young daughters, has booked the clan a summer getaway to a cozy cabin in rural Massachusetts. After getting lost, the Penderwick sisters, Rosalind (12), Skye (11), Jane (10), and Batty (4), discover their small cottage is nestled in a grand estate named Arundel. The rambunctious children are told to behave as the owner, the stuffy Mrs. Tifton, doesn't take kindly to ruckus. But soon, they are out on an adventure of a lifetime-braving bulls, hiding in the expansive gardens, and enlisting Mrs. Tifton's son, Jeffery, in their daring escapades.

The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy is a delight that enchants 19 years later. It's not a tale of growing up but of the present. The responsibilities of an elder sister, young courage, individuality, and the unbreakable family bond. Birdsall revels in character and atmosphere, letting the sisters take her wherever they want to go next. Perfect for a book group of young readers wanting to hold onto the last bit of summer or adults who still feel the magic of inhibition and promise.

Hartington Public Library's Summer Reading Program

by Tami Anderson



Courtesy Photos | Cedar County News

To end this year's summer reading program, "Adventure Begins @ Your Library," the library hosted the Sioux Falls, S.D., Great Plains Zoo Mobile. Mason Newsam, Miss Kim's volunteer, Briar Rolfes, pets Lucky the Red Tortoise, August Lippert poses as a crab, and Jordy Feilmeier and Corrine Becker show off their passport suitcases.

You can always find adventure at the Library

HARTINGTON — "Adventure Begins @ Your Library," the Library's summer reading program, came to a close July 12 with a visit from the Great Plains Zoo Mobile from Sioux Falls, S.D., and their animal ambassador, Katie. Kids who participated in the program gathered each week to hear some adventurous stories, to giggle and wiggle and then whisk off to imagine visiting the rainforest, exploring tide pools, climbing the mountains and having a good old-fashioned camp out. Each child received prizes for logging books read,

entered our contests and took home a suitcase craft filled with treasures from all their library adventures. Everyone is invited to continue visiting the library for all your adventure needs.

The Friends of the Library hosted Adventures in Magic with magician Jeff Quinn July 25. All area children were welcome to join us at the City Auditorium basement.

Security Bank donated the grand prizes, tents, books and flashlights for our readers. Grand Prize Winners were Lilianna Rodriguez and Nora Hames.

Scholarship Experiences

La Vista Community Explores Nebraska's Past

by Cedate Shultz

La Vista Public Library was proud to host Historian and Author Jeff Barnes on April 6, 2024, as he presented the second installment in his Queen of the Prairies series. This program, titled *The Queen's Road: Nebraska's Bumpy Ride to Statehood*, expanded on our state's chaotic territorial years including the incident that gave birth to the legend of "Wild Bill" Hickok, the selection of Lincoln as the capital city, and (most interesting to this librarian) how Nebraska ended up with its present shape.

The audience's full attention was captured by the vibrant images found in the accompanying slide show and many were seen making notes of historical landmarks and important names. Both informative and entertaining, Barnes provided attendees with a lot of food for thought and topics for future research. The presentation was followed by a robust question and answer session before many in attendance headed South to prepare for viewing of the impending eclipse. We look forward to hosting another program in the future.

Funding for this program was provided by Humanities Nebraska and the Three Rivers Library System. The La Vista Public Library thanks them both for their support in serving our community. Humanities Nebraska receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and private donations.



Humanities Nebraska: Jolene McLaughlin

by Sami Stewart



Valley Public Library hosted our first Humanities Nebraska program in July! We welcomed speaker Jolene McLaughlin to do a presentation on Bess Streeter Aldrich. The presentation starts with an impersonation style performance with Aldrich talking about her life, and Jolene breaks character at the end to answer any and all questions about the author. It was so interesting, and Jolene knows so much about Aldrich, her life, her books, and the Bess Streeter Aldrich Museum in Elmwood. We asked our local historical society to co-present the program, and are looking forward to doing more programs with them and Humanities Nebraska in the future. Huge thanks to TRLS for the scholarship, and to Humanities Nebraska for making programs like these affordable for small communities!

THREE RIVERS LIBRARY
SYSTEM PRESENTS:

CRICUT MAGIC: CRAFTING FOR ENTHUSIASTS!

Beginner's Session with Kimberly Ellenwood



16 September 2024

9:00 am - Noon

North Bend Public Library

Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop designed for beginners! Learn how to use a Cricut machine to create stunning vinyl window decals. Whether you're personalizing your home, adding flair to your car, or crafting unique gifts, this class will teach you the basics of Cricut operation, vinyl cutting, and decal application. All materials are provided, and you'll leave with your own custom-made decal. Unleash your creativity and discover the magic of Cricut!

Register Online:
<https://bit.ly/TRaiLSTech>

3 CE Available

Limited to 12, so reserve your spot today
and start your crafting journey!
(Based on interest, there may be future
workshops offered.)

"This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission."

THREE RIVERS LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:

PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY

WITH SAM SHAW

Learn all the ins and outs of Bibliostat with Sam Shaw from the Nebraska Library Commission. Bibliostat reporting is important for libraries to be eligible for state aid and accreditation. Come early if you'd like to look around the library!

18 October 2024	MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY
10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Register online at https://bit.ly/Biblio Training
2 CE Available	

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.

TRaiLS Scholarships



In order to apply, you must be part of the Three Rivers Library System 21 county membership. Continuing education scholarships are available to attend state, regional, and nationwide conferences and events. These scholarships are available to any director, media specialist, staff member, or trustee at libraries in the TRaiLS service area. The list has some upcoming scholarships, but you are always able to apply for other conferences for the Scholarship Committee to deliberate on. All scholarship funds are allocated *after* the event and *after* the essay is submitted to the Library Services Assistant. The essay should focus on the experience of the event and only needs to be a few hundred words.

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

- Youth Services Retreat
 - Award: \$200
 - Ashland, NE from 29-30 August 2024
- ARSL (Association of Rural and Small Libraries) Conference
 - Award: \$1,500
 - Springfield, MA from 11-14 September 2024
- NLA (Nebraska Library Association) Conference
 - Award: \$600
 - Kearney, NE from 9-11 October 2024



Apply Online: <https://bit.ly/trlsScholarshipApp>

Library and Information Services

Fall 2024 Online Course Offerings

Aug. 19, 2024 – Dec. 13, 2024

Registration opens April 15, 2024



LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

This course, the recommended first in the Library and Information Services curriculum, provides introductory information in multiple areas.

- Library history and organizations
- Foundational Principles/Code of Ethics
- Information databases and Internet usage

LIBR 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies

Michael Straatmann, Instructor

This course includes the theories, concepts and activities integral to leading and managing 21st Century libraries and information agencies.

- Leadership principles
- Management strategies
- Policies and procedures

LIBR 2940 Library and Information Services Capstone Practicum

Patty Birch, Instructor

This capstone course is the last course in the Library and Information Services program. Students will complete 40 hours of service learning in a host library. The course also includes a review of the principal pieces of learning from the LIS program.

- Prerequisites: LIBR 1010, 2100, 2150, 2210, & 2250

<i>Fall 2024</i>	<i>Spring 2025</i>
Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services	Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services
Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies	Libr 2150 Develop and Organize Collections
Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum	

The Library & Information Services Certificate is a 15-credit hour program. All credits can be applied to a Central Community College associate degree.

For more information on the Library and Information Services program, see:

<https://www.cccneb.edu/lis/>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration,

contact: Michelle Setlik michellesetlik@cccneb.edu

402-461-2538 or Toll Free at 308-398-7341

Central Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



NEBRASKA SMART IS A FREE VIRTUAL TUTORING PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12.



Teacher education candidates from Chadron State, Peru State, and Wayne State Colleges remotely tutor students in rural Nebraska. This program is currently offering services to:

- All NRCSA member school districts
- Educational Service Unit 1
- Educational Service Unit 4
- Educational Service Unit 13
- Other select smaller rural school districts

Visit our website for the full list of school districts served.

HOW IT WORKS

Nebraska students in grades K-12 have free access to online tutoring with a qualified Tutor in English, math, science, and social studies. Parents must first register their child. Once registered, students can request pre-scheduled appointments with a Tutor or log in and request on-demand tutoring to be connected with the next Tutor available in the queue. Students should provide homework for which they wish to receive help or topics that they would like to cover.



TUTORING HOURS



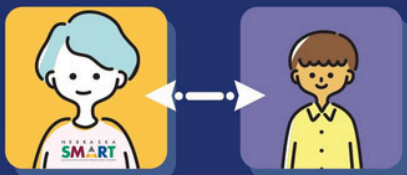
OUR PARTNERS

The Nebraska Department of Education has awarded a grant to the Nebraska State Colleges to develop a program that provides free online tutoring to K-12 students in rural Nebraska.



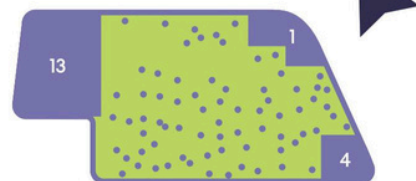
OUR TUTORS

Tutors are full-time students at Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State Colleges who have been admitted to the teacher education program, have completed background checks, and received training through their teacher education program coursework.



PLEASE VISIT

nscs.edu/NebraskaSMART



FOR THE FULL LIST OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS SERVED.



<https://smokeybear.com>

The Orphan Cub

One spring day in 1950, in the Capitan Mountains of New Mexico, an operator in one of the fire towers spotted smoke and called the location in to the nearest ranger station. The first crew discovered a major wildfire sweeping along the ground between the trees, driven by a strong wind. Word spread rapidly, and more crews reported to help. Forest rangers, local crews from New Mexico and Texas, and the New Mexico State Game Department set out to gain control of the raging wildfire.

As the crew battled to contain the blaze, they received a report of a lone bear cub seen wandering near the fire line. They hoped that the mother bear would return for him. Soon, about 30 of the firefighters were caught directly in the path of the fire storm. They survived by lying face down on a rockslide for over an hour as the fire burned past them.

Nearby, the little cub had not fared as well. He took refuge in a tree that became completely charred, escaping with his life but also badly burned paws and hind legs. The crew removed the cub from the tree, and a rancher among the crew agreed to take him home. A New Mexico Department of Game and Fish ranger heard about the cub when he returned to the fire camp. He drove to the rancher's home to help get the cub on a plane to Santa Fe, where his burns were treated and bandaged.

Rescued!

News about the little bear spread swiftly throughout New Mexico. Soon, the United Press and Associated Press broadcast his story nationwide, and many people wrote and called, asking about the cub's recovery. The state game warden wrote to the chief of the Forest Service, offering to present the cub to the agency as long as the cub would be dedicated to a conservation and wildfire prevention publicity program. The cub was soon on his way to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., becoming the living symbol of Smokey Bear.

Smokey received numerous gifts of honey and so many letters he had to have his own zip code. He remained at the zoo until his death in 1976, when he was returned to his home to be buried at the Smokey Bear Historical Park in Capitan, New Mexico, where he continues to be a wildfire prevention legend.

In 1952, Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins wrote the popular anthem that would launch a continuous debate about Smokey's name. To maintain the rhythm of the song, they added "the" between "Smokey" and "Bear." Due to the song's popularity, Smokey Bear has been called "Smokey the Bear" by many adoring fans, but, in actuality, his name never changed. He's still Smokey Bear.

[For Libraries!](#)



Three Rivers
Library System

Suggest a Book Kit

Suggest a title!

Wanna teach a specific book in your classroom? Does your book club want to read a certain title?

Do you wish TRaiLS had a specific book kit?

Fill out our form at: <https://bit.ly/SuggestBookKits> and we'll take it into consideration. If we add it, we'll let you know first!

2024 NLA CONFERENCE



Meet us in Kearney this October to convene with Nebraska's largest network of library professionals!

This year, we're celebrating the fact that Nebraska libraries are for everyone. Our industry will Thrive Together as we learn about community building, organizational excellence, intentional advocacy work, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

REGISTER ONLINE

Nebraska Public Media Family Engagement

Featuring

Exploring Art with Alma's Way

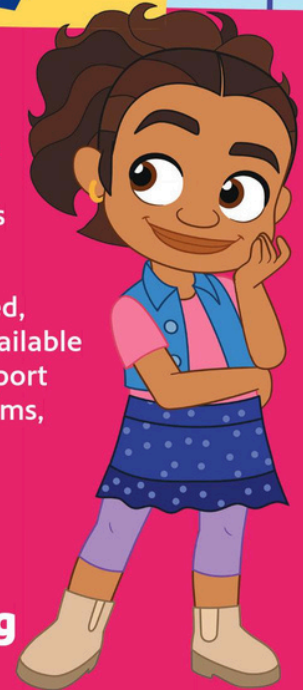
**PBS
KIDS**

Exploring Art with Alma's Way is a family engagement electronic resource kit that helps children and families learn together practicing creative thinking through artistic expression. This kit supports partners as they plan family engagement events for children ages 4-8 and their parents and caregivers.

This event will reinforce creative thinking skills through curated, playful activities. Included electronic resources and activities are available in English and Spanish when available. All resources and facilitator support are provided at no cost for early childhood education providers, programs, libraries, and community partners.

Partner with us to plan your family engagement event today!

To learn more contact Amy Cassner
acassner@nebraskapublicmedia.org



Nebraska Public Media Family Engagement initiative is a collection of curated high-quality, free, electronic resources to support early childhood education partners as they hold family engagement events or monthly family socializations. Our goal is to support Nebraska children, families, and caregivers as they learn and grow together through intergenerational play.

Audience: Libraries, early childhood education programs of all shapes and sizes, and other early childhood community organizations and community partners.

New family engagement resource kits are available seasonally and include:

- Event facilitator guide with learning goals that support intergenerational learning
- Event slides with detailed speaking notes and tips
- Electronic resources, games, and activities
- Suggested book list for extended learning
- Pre-event training and support via Zoom with our qualified education staff



NebraskaPublicMedia.org/education