

TRaILS

My Letter to Library Students

by Tammi Thiem



I get emails from the University of Nebraska at Kearney students each year when they are assigned to reach out to their system office to learn about available resources. These students are usually working towards their library endorsement for school librarianship. I appreciate the platform to share what the Three Rivers Library System has to offer, and this also makes me take a hard look at the goals and resources of the regional office. I always welcome feedback, recommendations, compliments, and (kind) criticisms. Here is a copy of the letter I send:

Hello _____!

Congratulations on furthering your education and thank you for your question!

I do work mostly with public libraries, but I always try to find ways to be of assistance to school, academic, and special libraries, as well. I feel the most important services I offer are information and support. When a librarian is seeking advice, I am able to help them or guide them to someone who does have the answers.

[Here](#) is a link to the Three Rivers Library System's website. [Here](#) is the "About Us" link. [Here](#) is a page that describes the offered services. TRaILS has a collection of [book sets](#) to lend to librarians. These are mainly [Golden Sower](#) nominees and [One Book One Nebraska Kids and Teens](#) selections. These are normally lent for a six-week period, I believe (my [assistant](#) takes care of this aspect), but we are VERY flexible - especially if there are no other librarians waiting for that title. We are also always open to [recommendations](#). TRaILS also offers some [STEAM kits](#). TRaILS provides a [newsletter](#) every month. TRaILS offers [scholarship](#) opportunities for conferences and continued education events. TRaILS has a [YouTube Channel](#) where we save recorded webinars and workshops. [Here](#) is a link to a short video that shares information about the four library systems. I started a [Facebook](#) group in an attempt to have an interactive platform, and it has been successful for sharing information. If you ever have a project that you need help with, such as weeding, give me a call, as I will be happy to help!

If you are not yet a member of the [Nebraska School Library Association](#), I recommend that you do so. They are a great source of information! [Nebraska Educational Technology Association](#) (NETA) provides excellent spring and fall conferences with amazing sessions and networking opportunities. The [Nebraska Library Association](#) (NLA) hosts a conference each fall, and this is another terrific way to gather information and meet other library professionals.

The [Nebraska Library Commission](#) (NLC) is the state agency in support of libraries. I constantly find something new on their website, as they are continuously adding material to all of the terrific information already available! They host weekly [NCompass Live](#) webinars featuring all things library.

I am certain you are familiar with the [American Library Association](#) (ALA) and all of their committees, divisions, and round tables.

Please contact me if there is anything I can ever do to help. I am an excellent cheerleader, but I am also a terrific listener. I may not have all of the answers, but sometimes a safe and understanding sounding board is just as effective.

Best of luck with your class and future endeavors!

Tammi Thiem
TRLS Director



At the TRails Office

Figure out the code and send it to Chelsea at trls.assistant@gmail.com by December 20th to be entered into a drawing for a prize!

6 8 2 6 1 4
One is right and in the right place. One is right but in the wrong place.

2 0 6
Two are right but in the wrong place.

7 3 8 7 8 0
None are right One is right but in the wrong place.

? ? ?

Book Kit Record Highs

by Chelsea Morlan

In the last few years our [book kit program](#) has exploded! I've been tracking some basic stats since 2016 and I'm happy to announce this year we've checked out the most titles **ever**. As of writing this, we have checked out **1161** copies of books. Our second highest year was in 2018 when we checked out **894** copies. This year we've also added more titles than ever before, a whole **61** new titles. We added **45** new titles last year and I thought that was a huge number. I write all this as I'm starting at another pile of books that have yet to be processed. It makes me happy to send books to the public and school libraries in our system. I love getting the feedback that the reading groups loved the book and they're excited for their next pick. I love getting notifications about [book kit suggestions](#). It's all thanks to our region for being such active participants in our program. So, it looks like my 2024 will wind down just as busy as it started. Which is such an exciting way to ring in the new year. Will we break another record in 2025?

At the TRails Office

Kaleidoscope of SKILLS Workshop

by Tammi Thiem

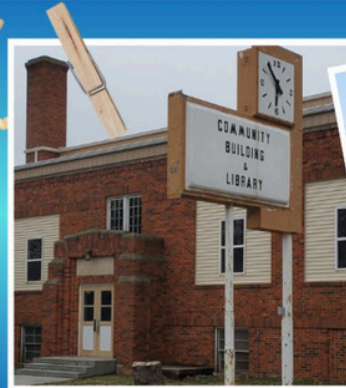
The Keene Memorial Library in Fremont was a terrific place for over 25 librarians to gather for the latest Kaleidoscope of Skills workshop! There were great discussions about Workplace Allies, Creative Displays, Community Partnerships, Dealing with Patrons, Exploring AI, and Policy Writing. Who better to learn from than other librarians, right? Watch for the date and location for the next Kaleidoscope of Skill workshop coming in May!



Call for Speakers: Big Talk From Small Libraries 2025!



Submit your proposal by Friday,
December 13, 2024 at
nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk



Small Libraries Doing Big Things!
February 28, 2025 #BTSL2025 nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/bigtalk/

Basic Skills

(* Required Class)

[Library Services to Children & Youth](#) with Sally Snyder

Registration Dates: 21 October 2024 - 15 November 2024

Class Dates: 2 - 13 December 2024

Upcoming NCompass Live

[To Librarianship and Beyond: What's It Like Being a Corporate Librarian?](#)

Date: 4 December 2024

[Best New Children's Books of 2024](#)

Date: 11 December 2024

NLC Book Club Spotlight

Book Club Spotlight:
[The Twilight of the Sioux](#)
by John G. Neihardt

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](#).

Twilight of the Sioux is a masterpiece in poetry and prose. But it's also an important history lesson in the latter half of [Native American Heritage Month](#). It's fascinating to read an artistic account of the American Frontier Wars, penned by a contemporary only a few dozen years later. Wanting to write on the human condition, especially the social and emotional change of coming into adulthood, Neihardt found that America was also in a world of change and growth, describing it as a "strange new world that is being born in agony". Though there are no specific discussion questions regarding this title for Book Club Groups, Twilight of the Sioux is considered an educational staple, filled with opportunities to learn and discuss the history of Westward Expansion and Neihardt's particular writing style.

Even though this tale ended in bloodshed, Neihardt knew the story wasn't over, believing that "All spiritual truths triumph in this world through apparent defeat" (x). He had faith in the continued spirit of the Native American people and their perseverance after the end of the American Frontier Wars. Today, the Nebraska Library Commission sits on the ancestral land of the [Pawnee](#) and [Otoe-Missouria](#), and despite the systemic and brutal erasure of their lives and homeland, Native Americans were and still are stewards of this land; with Indigenous lead movements today like [The Water Protector Legal Collective](#), [NDN Collective](#), and a continued push for [sovereignty](#).

Calendar of Events

[SKILLS Meeting](#)

Online

17 December 2024

10:00 am - 11:00 am

[Building Hope in Yourself and Others Workshop](#)

La Vista Public Library

17 January 2025

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

[Summer Reading Workshop](#)

Norfolk Public Library

24 February 2025

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

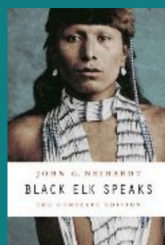
[Summer Reading Workshop](#)

Blair Public Library

28 February 2025

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

More by John G. Neihardt



Available at TRaiLS

PLACE HOLDS AT:
LIBIB.COM/U/TRAILS



Library News

Fullerton Public Library's Coffee & Conversations

by Laurel Marlatt



The Fullerton Public Library started Coffee and Conversation this fall. The second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 we invite the community to the library for coffee and homemade goodies. The idea launched when someone said that there just wasn't any place to gather because the senior center in town had closed. I said "Yes, you do!"

This program is exactly what I feel like our library should be about... A place for the community to gather! We are enjoying having so many wonderful ladies in the library for this program each month.

Clarkson Public Library's Soups On

by Debra Nadrchal

Tuesday, November 21 was a cold, windy, and rainy evening in Clarkson, Nebraska, but everyone was toasty warm at the library enjoying soup! Doris Studnicka, a long-time resident of this city came to the library to show how she makes delicious soup, some that she learned in her extensive travels, and everyone surely agreed.

Tomato basil, chicken gnocchi, vegetable beef, chicken with rice, or barley and beef stroganoff were center stage for the night. Also, there was rice, egg noodles, barley and gnocchi choices for the bowls of soup. It was fabulous and along with all of that, Doris gave the attendees many great tips for cooking, using substitute ingredients, adding or subtracting not-so-favorite ingredients and even where to purchase them.

Such a fun time... can't wait for the next one, Doris!!!



Library News

Northeast Community College Library Honors Native American Heritage Month

by Jennifer Ippensen

The Northeast Community College Library and partners across the college featured [a video](#) along with the book display in honor of Native American Heritage Month. Jeffrie Mesteth shares his beadwork and discusses this traditional art form.



TRLS History Treasure Hunt

by Kurt Bogner

My wife and I were in a small Iowa town. While I was busily snapping photos of the local library, my wife struck up a conversation with a young skateboarder. "This is a Carnegie library" my wife told him. He answered back, "What's that?"

Between 1883 and 1929, Andrew Carnegie funded 1,689 libraries across the United States. Carnegie provided funds to communities to build libraries, with the stipulation that the local government provide free service to all, provide the property for the building, and commit to the perpetual upkeep and maintenance of the facility. Alaska and Delaware are the only states that never had a Carnegie Library.

Nebraska had 68 Carnegie Libraries, over 20 of which were located in the 21 counties that comprise the Three Rivers Library System. Not all of the TRLS Carnegie's still exist (Blair, Fremont, Randolph are gone), and many buildings no longer serve as libraries. But current library or not, the buildings stand as a testament to Carnegie's legacy of public library philanthropy.

Carnegie library buildings are very distinctive. Generally, each building is a floor and a half design, with large windows (to allow natural light in for the readers), and stairs that lead up to the entrance. This last design element reflects Andrew Carnegie's belief that when a person entered the library, they were elevating themselves.

"I choose free libraries as the best agencies for improving the masses of the people, because they give nothing for nothing. They only help those who help themselves. . . . I prefer the public library to most if not any other agencies for the happiness and improvement of a community."

Carnegie Centenary, November 25, 1935

Take some time and travel to the towns in the Three Rivers Library System and search out and appreciate these historical, architectural treasures - perhaps even in your own town!



Library News

Lied Pierce Public Library's Big Changes

by Jennifer Thomsen

Since our computer lab wasn't being used it was time for a change -- I haven't even turned the lights on in that room since the end of June. I talked to staff and patrons and we decided to make it a Youth Reading Room. After talking to a local carpenter he got started and made oak shelves to match what is in the rest of the library. The best part is we had a sizable donation from the Susan Brodhagen estate to fully cover the costs of everything. All of the juvenile books and Graphic Novels have been moved into this room. This also allowed us to move and spread out a few other areas. We also kept 2 of the computers in here and there were already 3 in another area. In the last week I have had more kids in this area than in the last 6 months and they are loving the beanbags to sit and hang out after school.



Hartington Public Library's Halloween Story Walk

by Tami Anderson

It was a beautiful October night for the Hartington Public Library StoryWalk in Felber Park on Monday Oct. 28th. Over 120 kids in costume and adults enjoyed Pig the Monster story along with a scavenger hunt. Halloween treats handed out by the Friends of the Library members.



Library News

Tilden Public Library's Balloons

by Cindy Lee Simeon

On Tuesday, November 19th the Tilden Public Library in Tilden hosted the bi-monthly meeting for both the ACLA (Antelope County Library Assoc) and the MCLA (Madison County Library Assoc). Following the meeting, presenter Doris O'Brien instructed the group in the skill of animal balloon making, a fun activity that could be taken back to their libraries and used or taught to others.



Bellevue University's Nature Smart Library

by Kit Wells

In July the Freeman Lozier Library at Bellevue University created a new committee to implement a newly adopted Nature Smart Library initiative on campus. So far, the committee has a dedicated display area to showcase the library's books on environmentalism, sustainability, and ecology, as well as nature-themed objects in our library of things, like our birdwatching kit. A hiking kit and seed library are currently in the works, and we hope to collaborate with other University departments, local organizations, and other Nature Smart Libraries to develop exciting programming options for our patrons! For more information about the Freeman Lozier Nature Smart Library, check out our [website](#) and follow us on [social media](#).



Library News

Return of the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Keene Memorial Library

by Laura England-Biggs

Fremont enjoys lighting a holiday tree at Keene Memorial Library to help the community kick off the holiday season. The tradition dates back at least 15 years, when it was a live tree by the west entrance of the building. Over the years, the tree began to show its age and has been replaced by a 50' tall metal tree. Similar to the Salvation Army tree at 90th & Dodge in Omaha, Fremont's tree is decorated in blue and white snowflakes and features a five-pointed star at the top.

We took two years off from celebrating the tree lighting due to the construction project in 2022 and 2023. This year, a crowd of more than 130 heard the Clef Dwellers from Midland University perform for about 15 minutes. A special poem was read aloud (see below) and then the crowd headed outside for the countdown. After the tree was lit, folks returned to the library to enjoy some hot cocoa and cookies provided by the Friends of Keene Memorial Library and decorate holiday cards. Library staff will distribute those cards to our homebound patrons throughout the next month.

The Metal Tree's Glow

Tonight, beneath the moon's soft gleam,
We light the symbol of our dream.
A tree of metal, bold and bright,
Awakens in the quiet night.
No need for wood or leafy green,
This shining metal stands serene.
Its snowflakes stretch, a work of art,
Reminders of a timeless heart.
With every spark, a glow ignites,
Transforming dark to sparkling lights.
The stars above and lights below,
Together in a quiet glow.
Though forged in steel, it still can sing,
Through all the joy its boughs will bring.
For light and love can always find,
A way to warm both heart and mind.
So here we gather, standing near,
To celebrate this time of year.
A metal tree, so bright, so true,
A light for me, a light for you.
With beacon star upon its crest
Our silent nights are humbly blest.

(The poem was a "collaboration" between ChatGPT and Dale S. Biggs, husband of KML Library Director Laura England-Biggs.)



Library News

Presenting at Bellevue University

by Alicia James

The Bellevue University Library believes that one of the best ways that we can support our students' education is to provide them with extracurricular presentations to help aid in a continuous journey of learning beyond just course material. As such we were proud to present the first half of our annual Lunch and Learn event series this fall. We kicked off the year with a presentation in September by the University's Security team that covered information on how to best keep yourself and others safe on campus. Then in October we had Laura Casne from the Nebraska Games and Parks Commission come teach us about urban wildlife- what types exist, how they interact with human communities, and what we can do to help protect them. For our November presentation, we were able to utilize the Humanities Nebraska Speakers Bureau to have Broc Anderson teach us about the history and impact of Wounded Knee and specifically focusing on the perspectives of Northwest Nebraska. We can't wait to bring even more lectures to our campus community this spring but, in the meantime, these three lectures (and many more!) are available to watch through the [digital archive collection](#) available on our website.



(Living with Wildlife - Laura Casne)



(Wounded Knee and Impact on Northwest Nebraska - Broc Anderson)

Scholarship Experiences

Nebraska Library Association Annual Meeting

by Wendy Ketelsen

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Nebraska Library Convention in Kearney, Nebraska, thanks to a scholarship from the Three Rivers Library System. Over the two days, I participated in several insightful sessions.

On Thursday, October 10th, I attended sessions on NAC Creative Aging Arts Program, Hosting a ComicCon at your library, Teen Science Cafe, Succession Planning, and How to get materials from UNL. Two sessions stood out as particularly valuable: the ComicCon session, where I learned how to improve the Free Comic Book Day event I already host at my library, and the Succession Planning session, which highlighted the key information I need to document for future librarians.

On Friday, October 11th, I attended a session on Nebraska Overdrive and had the pleasure of hearing from keynote speaker Lydia Kang. Lydia's talk on publishing was both engaging and inspiring, and I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about her writing journey.

Throughout the convention, I took extensive notes and look forward to implementing the new ideas I gathered. I am deeply grateful to the Three Rivers Library System for making this enriching experience possible.

Scholarship Experiences

2024 Youth Services Retreat

by Tamela Korth

I attended the 2024 Youth Conference at the Joy Holling Retreat Center. I received a scholarship this year to pay for my stay at the retreat and my attendance to the conference.

To begin with, the conference center is a beautiful, clean, and refreshing place to stay. The center lies in the woods near Ashland, Nebraska. Often, a deer, a black tailed squirrel, or other forest creatures will stop by to visit. The rooms are relaxing and I slept very well; one might say too well as I fell asleep after supper the first night and didn't wake up in time for breakfast.

The conference was filled with wonderful ideas, great conversations, and the ability to link up with other youth librarians. Ideas were plentiful, such as finding grant monies, how to work with teens and tweens, and new books for libraries to order. Networking with other librarians from both small and large libraries led to conversations about both things that work and things that didn't work in children's programming.

Meals were incredible and sharing mealtime with other librarians was the best experience. We shared family struggles, exciting and upcoming news, and best of all, we left our problems behind.

In all, the conference was a great success. Youth librarians in Nebraska are fortunate to have this opportunity to come together and find new friends and old ones and share our experiences as librarians working with children.

Humanities Nebraska: Nebraska's Outlaws

by Gabby Mahon

On Tuesday, October 1st at 6pm Tekamah Public Library welcomed sisters Marci Broyhill and Teri Orr to showcase their program "Riders of the Hoot Owl Trail- Nebraska's Outlaws". Program attendees were entertained with poems and songs about outlaws and crimes from Nebraska's past.

Broyhill & Orr, who grew up along the Outlaw Trail, introduced many historical outlaws through cowboy poems and enhanced their research through songs they have written. The audience learned about cowboy poetry and how the stories are told through rhythm and rhyme. For example, Doc Middleton, also known as "The King of Horse Thieves", was Nebraska's Robin Hood. He hustled in cards and smuggled hooch to earn his riches. Overall, the program was enjoyed by all who attended and was very informative about figures from our state's past.

This program was made possible through the Three Rivers Library System, Tekamah Library Foundation, Humanities Nebraska, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and the Johnny Carson Fund at the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Scholarship Experiences

ARSL Conference in Springfield, Massachusetts

by Wendy Ketelsen

I had the privilege of attending the ARSL (Association for Rural and Small Libraries) conference in Springfield, Massachusetts. The event provided a great mix of educational sessions, networking opportunities, and fun activities that will greatly benefit our library.

The conference began on Wednesday evening with a welcome reception, followed by a film screening of the documentary *Free For All*. The film offered an insightful look into the history of libraries and the challenges libraries are currently facing. It was a thought-provoking way to set the tone for the rest of the conference.

Thursday: The day started with a welcome breakfast, featuring keynote speaker Celeste Ng. I attended the following sessions throughout the day:

- *Farm to Library:* This session focused on the growing trend of libraries supporting local agriculture and community partnerships with local organizations like Farm Bureau.
- *Funding, Sustainability & the Future of Public Libraries:* This session explored ways to secure funding and ensure the long-term sustainability of libraries.
- *Small Libraries Take the Lead in Open Data:* This session highlighted how small libraries are leveraging data to improve services and engage their communities.

After the sessions, I joined a group of librarians for dinner and later participated in the ARSL Trivia Night fundraiser, which was a fun and engaging way to support a good cause.

Friday: The day started with a breakfast keynote by Emily Nagoski on the important topic of burnout. Her insights were invaluable in helping attendees think about ways to manage stress and prevent burnout in library work. The sessions I attended were:

- *Spark Talks: Programming Ideas:* A fast-paced session full of creative ideas for library programming.
- *Strategic Planning for Every Library:* This session offered strategies to help small libraries develop effective strategic plans by partnering with other libraries and sharing ideas.
- *Advance Creative Aging: Serving Seniors Through the Arts:* This session focused on providing meaningful programs for older adults through the arts.

In the afternoon, I joined a group for a tour of the Springfield Public Library, which was an excellent opportunity to see how another library system operates. That evening, I tried Indian food with some fellow librarians, but it wasn't my favorite.

Saturday: On the final day, I attended two more sessions:

- *Citizen Science at the Library:* This session showcased how libraries can engage the community in scientific projects and research.
- *Dungeons, Dragons, & More: Community Engagement & RPGs at Your Library:* This session was a personal favorite, as it delved into using RPGs (role-playing games) as a programming idea for all ages.

The day concluded with a midmorning brunch, featuring a panel of three kidlit authors: Tracy Baptiste, Hannah Moushabeck, and Maria Scrivan, who shared their experiences and insights into children's literature. After the closing events, a group of us visited the Springfield Museums, including the art museums and the Dr. Seuss Museum. Overall, this was a wonderful conference and I am very grateful to the Three Rivers Library System and Tammi Thiem for the opportunity to attend. I look forward to bringing back the ideas and strategies I learned to improve our library and its services.

Library and Information Services

Spring 2025 Online Course Offerings

January 13, 2025 – May 8, 2025

Enrollment for Spring Semester 2025 opens

Monday, Nov. 18, 2024



LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

- Professional competencies including legal and ethical responsibilities
- Reference interview process
- The Reference collection
- Evaluation and use of digital resources, including databases, and websites

LIBR 2150 Develop and Organize Collections

Patty Birch, Instructor

- Basics of collection management including terminology and models
- Community and collection analysis
- Selection, Acquisition, Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom and Copyright
- Cataloging instruction including classification systems, subject headings, MARC records, and RDA

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



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 msetlik@cccneb.edu, 402-461-2538 or Toll Free at 308-398-7341

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

Three Rivers Library System Presents:



Building Hope in Yourself and Others Workshop

17 JANUARY
2025

- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Trauma and Resilience
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Lunch
- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Building Hope



“Everyone is born resilient. Even more so, anyone can learn to adapt better, bounce back stronger, and rebound healthier than ever. It’s not an easy thing to rebuild after trauma, and it’s a different journey for every individual. But with the right amount of support, time, and hope, survival is not only possible, it’s within sight.”

Learn more from Dr. Suzi Yokley-Busby!

\$5 per person


4 CE Available

Register Online:

<https://bit.ly/PositivityWorkshop>

at La Vista
Public Library

“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:

SUMMER READING WORKSHOP: COLOR OUR WORLD

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Welcome and Registration

9:30 AM - 10:20 AM

Sally Snyder

10:20 AM - 10:30 AM

Break

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Nebraska Game & Parks

11:20 AM - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Nebraska Public Media

1:50 PM - 2:00 PM

Break

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Nebraska Extension

2:50 PM - 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Sharing Ideas

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM

Farewells and Doorprizes

24 FEBRUARY 2025

NORFOLK PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$5 per person

5 CE Available

Register online at:

<https://bit.ly/trlsSRP>

Three Rivers Library System Presents:

SUMMER READING WORKSHOP: COLOR OUR WORLD

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Welcome and Registration

9:30 AM - 10:20 AM

Sally Snyder

10:20 AM - 10:30 AM

Break

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Nebraska Public Media

11:20 AM - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Nebraska Extension

1:50 PM - 2:00 PM

Break

2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Nebraska Game & Parks

2:50 PM - 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Sharing Ideas

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM

Farewells and Doorprizes

28 FEBRUARY 2025

BLAIR PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$5 per person

5 CE Available

Register online at:

<https://bit.ly/trlsSRP>



TEDDY BEAR WORKSHOP KITS

Hand Stuff a Furry Friend • Place a Wish Star Inside • Name It • Love It FUR-ever



Color Burst Teddy
(paintable bear)

Summer
Reading
Program Theme:
Color Our World

Order tie-dye bears through Three Rivers Library System for a discount *only* for librarians of the TRaiLS Region. The price of each bear is \$13 and will be distributed around the end of May. All orders must be in increments of ten. You will get ONE dye kit per TEN bears.

**DEADLINE TO
ORDER:**
10 January 2025

Sign up at:
<https://bit.ly/TRLSorders>

Would you like to join our training session?

The Omaha Public Library will begin programming for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in 2025. Staff from the Autism Action Partnership will lead a training for some of our staff on **January 8**. Although the training is specific to adults with autism, the principles and practices can be applied to many adults with other intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We are inviting library staff from TRLS to attend for a \$50 fee to help us offset the cost of training.

This training session is for anyone offering community programs/activities interested in learning how to welcome and support individuals with ASD. Pre-program activities help prepare leaders and participants for the experience, and planning for alternate ways to engage and maintaining flexible expectations will help ensure all participants thrive.

Attendees will:

1. Learn facts and characteristics associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder
2. Understand how autism might present during adult programming
3. Learn best practices for welcoming and supporting individuals with ASD in community programs/activities

January 8 , 2:00 - 4:00

Omaha Public Library Administration Office
3020 South 84th Street, Omaha, NE 68124

(very close to the 84th Street exit on I-80, next door to Pizza Ranch)

If you would like to join us, please email Nancy Novotny, nnovotny@omahalibrary.org, by December 18th.

**APPLY FOR A
SCHOLARSHIP
FOR THIS
TRAINING!**

**Choose the Continuing
Education Scholarship
and 'other' option. There
you can add mileage,
training fee, etc.**


Apply for TRaILS Scholarships Online

TWO SCHOLARSHIP OPTIONS:

- Continuing Education Scholarship
 - To attend regional, state, or nationwide conferences.
 - Apply online at: <https://bit.ly/trlsScholarshipApp>
- Humanities Nebraska Scholarship
 - To bring a Humanities Nebraska Speaker to your library.
 - Apply online at: <https://bit.ly/HNScholarship>



Questions? Email us!

 Tammi.Thiem.TRLS@gmail.com

Nebraska Public Media Family Engagement

Plan a Celebration with **Molly of Denali** Family Engagement Kits



Nebraska Public Media presents a new PBS KIDS family engagement electronic resource kit featuring *Molly of Denali*! Join us to “Plan A Celebration” with *Molly of Denali* and learn about functional literacy skills for early learners. Together, we will put the fun in functional literacy with exciting games and activities. This electronic resource kit supports partners as they plan family engagement events for children ages 4-8, and their parents and caregivers.

This event resource kit will reinforce key literacy skills through curated, playful activities such as creating a banner, hat and maze. Included activities are available in English and Spanish. 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 at acassner@nebraskapublicmedia.org.

The 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 lists for extended learning
- Pre-event training and support via Zoom with our qualified education staff



The Ready To Learn Initiative



NebraskaPublicMedia.org/education