

**NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY
STATE LIBRARIAN'S UPDATE
June 8, 2017**

The State Library has posted an “**Update from the New Jersey State Library on Proposed Federal Budget Cuts**” on its website (<http://www.njstatelib.org/news/update-new-jersey-state-library-proposed-federal-budget-cuts/>), which provides information on the current use of federal funding for libraries in New Jersey and states that: “these are not necessarily the projects and services that would go away if we lose our federal funding. With this kind of a seismic shift, all library programs and services would have to be reprioritized – including those that are not currently supported by federal funds.” Links for further information on the topic are provided to IMLS, ALA and NJLA.

New Jersey DPLA: Tom Claerson from LYRASIS and Liz Bishop are working with a ten member State Library team and LibraryLinkNJ in leading DPLA conversations, and planning a DPLA summit on **June 14, 2017**, at the Monmouth County Library. The purpose of the summit is to bring people up to date on DPLA, talk about the ways in which NJ organizations can engage and how to move forward in preparation for a NJ DPLA Service Hub application submission. Discussion topics for symposium:

Get buy-in from as many institutions as possible.

- Find out who wants to be further involved in DPLA.
- Give out information so they can go back and make a decision.

Possible outcomes at end of Symposium:

- Interested parties become involved and pick one or more model to explore more in-depth
- Interested parties become involved in metadata
- We learn what the barriers are to participation.

Technology Study: The State Library has contracted with Carson Block to conduct a Statewide Technology Study, assessing available resources in order to effectively plan for the future support of New Jersey libraries.

LIBRARY SUPPORT SERVICES:

NJSL worked with consultants (QualityMetrics, LLC) on the required **independent evaluation of the New Jersey LSTA Five-Year Plan 2013-2017**, which was submitted to IMLS in late March. Our consultants administered a statewide survey and conducted interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders including:

- LSTA Advisory Council
- Library Network Review Board
- Talking Book and Braille Center users and staff from affiliated organizations
- JerseyConnect customers

in order to gauge our progress towards meeting the goals and objectives outlined in our Plan and to help inform our next plan.

We are working with the same consultants who conducted the evaluation to finalize our **LSTA Grants to States Five-Year Plan FFY 2018-2022**, which is due to IMLS by June 30th. The Plan will be available on our website once it has been approved by IMLS.

NJSL has assembled a **Per Capita State Aid Minimum Standards Committee** to review PCSA minimum standards in NJAC 15:21 State Library Aid and Grants. In addition to technical changes to this chapter due to the consolidation of multiple regional library cooperatives into one statewide library cooperative, the State Library is proposing eliminating the requirements related to periodical holdings for indexes and back issues under 15:21-2.5 Library Materials. We stopped checking for compliance for periodical holdings several years ago, since all New Jersey public libraries already meet this standard by having “access to an on-line, full text database” through JerseyClicks statewide databases. We have asked committee members to suggest additional revisions to the minimum standards that they would recommend for the Committee to consider. The Committee’s first meeting was held on May 15th in Trenton.

Given both N.J.A.C. 15:21 and N.J.A.C. 15:22 Library Network Services expire on November 12, 2017, we will resubmit our revised proposal (taking into account recommendations by the PCSA Committee) for approval no later than early September in order to meet the deadline for submission to the Office of Administrative Law for publication in the New Jersey Register and for public comment.

The **Local Library Support Fund** payments (from 2015 NJ Income Tax returns) are currently being processed and should be sent out in the next few days. More information about this Fund can be found here: http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/resources/local-library-support-fund-state-income-tax-check-off/

The total donated to the Fund on 2015 returns was \$4,390. The average payment for each library is \$17. Funds donated will be distributed according to the same process used for Per Capita State Aid. Due to the language of the legislation, only Municipal, Joint Municipal, and County libraries are eligible to receive the payment.

LIFELONG LEARNING:

NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Adult Literacy and Community Library Partnership Pilot Program (FY2016) Grantee Libraries Forum: The forum took place on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at the New Jersey State Library. Eight grantee libraries (out of eleven) and three staff members from LWD got together to share experiences and knowledge gained from running the grant. Mimi Lee has been appointed to serve as the NJSL liaison for the next round of the Adult Literacy grant (FY2018) and will continue to facilitate communications between the two agencies.

Career Connections: June 1, 2017 began Year 2 of New Jersey Libraries Career Connections Grant for Uniform Career Guidance and Job Search Assistance Services. The nineteen libraries, including the New Jersey State Library, that were part of the first grant were given a renewal, and contracts have been sent out. At an event on May 10, 2017 at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Aaron Fichtner announced that additional training opportunities for libraries outside of the Career Connections grant would be provided. Further information about this training will be disseminated when it becomes available. Between April and May 2017, Andrea Levandowski

visited ten Career Connections libraries to observe Jersey Job Club training. She plans to continue more visits during the next grant cycle.

State Library Workforce Development Group: Andrea Levandowski will be the facilitator for the **June 13** online meeting of the State Library Workforce Development Group. The purpose of this group is to encourage communication and collaboration between staff at state libraries with an interest in workforce development.

NJCAR: The New Jersey Cultural Alliance for Response held its annual membership meeting on March 22, at the State Museum.

2017 Statewide Summer Reading Program: Public libraries across the state will soon be offering their annual summer reading programs for children, teens and adults. All public libraries in New Jersey are members of the national Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP). This year's theme and slogan for all ages is "*Build a Better World.*" The artist for the early literacy and children's program is Caldecott-Award winner David Macaulay, illustrator of many books, including the Caldecott-Award winning *Black and White* and *The Way Things Work Now*. The artist for the teen program is Scott Sosebee, a freelance graphic designer whose clients include Disney, Nickelodeon, McGraw-Hill, HarperCollins and others. The artist for the adult program is Larry Jones, whose clients include Random House, Harcourt Brace, National Geographic and Scholastic. All public libraries received manuals for all ages, a children's banner, and bookmarks and posters for all ages to help them promote this year's program. For information about the statewide summer reading program, visit their website at www.njsummerreading.org (access to the website is restricted to library staff only).

2017 Youth Services Forum, Monday, October 23, 2017: The 27th Youth Services Forum will be held on Monday, Oct. 23, 2017 at the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan. The Planning Committee is in the process of selecting the workshop sessions. For more information, please contact Project Manager Jen Schureman, jschureman@gcls.org, 856.223.6027, or Project Consultant Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library, srawlins@njstatelib.org, 609.278.2640 ext. 116.

Experienced Directors' Training: Beginning our planning with LLNJ. Date is **October 24, 2017**, at the Holiday Inn National Conference Center.

New Jersey Statewide Network for Cultural Competence (NJSNCC) Annual Conference-Improving Health & Mental Health Literacy in Diverse Communities: Why Partnerships Matter: Mimi Lee and Eileen Morales have been working together with the New Jersey Statewide Network for Cultural Competence (NJSNCC) for their annual conference and a symposium award application submission to NN/LM MAR. As a partnering organization, NJSL is advising on possible speakers, getting the word out to libraries, providing a support letter and information for the grant application. The conference will be held on **December 5, 2017** at the National Convention Center at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor.

Michele Stricker will be presenting two workshops at ALA, one on Strategic Planning for Small Libraries and a panel discussion on the Mental Health Matters initiative.

Libraries Selected to Host Math and Science Story Time (MASST) Program Series The NJ State Library and the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University are collaborating to offer ten public libraries the opportunity to participate in the *Math and Science Story Times (MASST) Series: Bringing math and science to life through reading and art for preschoolers in a community-based setting*, a STEM initiative that serves the Spanish-speaking community.

The public libraries selected to host this series are:

- Elizabeth Public Library
- Fairview Free Public Library
- Palisades Park Public Library
- Summit Free Public Library
- Twin Rivers Branch of the Mercer County Library System
- Union Public Library
- Van Buren Branch of Newark Public Library
- Nilsa Cruz-Perez Branch of Camden County Library System
- North Plainfield Memorial Library of the Somerset County Library System
- Sadie Pope Dowdell Library, South Amboy

They will receive resources kits, training, and a Spanish-speaking presenter, if needed, a total value of up to \$750.

INNOVATION & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS:

Fade to Books: The evaluation panel has completed reviewing the applications for the *Fade to Books* grant and notifications will be sent out to all applicants. Thank you to all who applied. *Fade to Books* recognizes the role of the barbershop as a community gathering space and the role of the barber as a mentor. It places books in the barbershop for kids to read when they come in for a haircut. The library and their partnering barbershops determine additional ways to encourage reading and potential incentives, such as tracking the number of books read to earn a free haircut. Thanks to our partner in this venture, the *Bridge of Books Foundation*, who has agreed to donate books to all the barbershops that are selected to participate in this program.

Naturalization Ceremony: A naturalization ceremony for 50 candidate will be held on **June 22, 2017**. The beautiful Trenton War Memorial, has been chosen as the new venue for this year's events which will feature a continental breakfast reception followed by the ceremony at 10 am. The Fifes and Drums of the Old Barracks will perform patriotic musical selections and the new citizens will receive a goodie bag and a keepsake photograph of themselves receiving their certificate.

Futures Conference: Planning continues for the Futures Conference scheduled for **September 25 –26** at the Borgata Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City. There are now 11 partner state libraries along with LibraryLinkNJ, partner and fiscal agent. Four keynote speakers, three breakout sessions and a hands-on Forecasting training workshop will offered. Speakers include Kevin

Mitnick, a hacker who was once on the FBI's Most Wanted list; James Hughes, Rutgers University, who will address changing demographics; David Pescovitz from the Institute for the Future; other speakers to be announced later.

JERSEYCONNECT:

Projects in the field: JerseyConnect staff recently completed a network upgrade with Mercer County Library to improve speed and reliability for all of the library's branches. We have also worked with Clifton Public Library to complete a Managed Wi-Fi deployment at both the main library and their branch.

Core network and services: JerseyConnect staff have deployed new backup software that is faster, more efficient with space, and offers more flexible policies. This software will allow the JerseyConnect server environment to responsibly handle systems with multi-terabyte disks. This software has been installed in both our Secaucus datacenter and at the State Library, and will allow us to pursue better disaster recovery scenarios for systems at both locations.

One system already taking advantage of the new backup software is JerseyConnect mail hosting, which has had extra disk space assigned as we prepare to rollout a **mailbox size increase to all JerseyConnect customers**. Customers will receive a minimum of 5 GB of email space for each account, and JerseyConnect will continue its policy of providing extra mailbox space on demand.

We are also working to improve core bandwidth and server access speed by deploying **new firewalls, and increasing our server network connections to 10 Gbps**. These improvements will be completed sometime this summer. We also continue to work with Comcast to increase our ISP bandwidth, an increase that improves fault-tolerance and connects libraries more directly to their customers.

Finally, as part of our new system upgrade schedule JerseyConnect will be completing a **web server upgrade** in the coming weeks. This upgrade brings improved speed and usability for the web control panel, along with security improvements. As a reminder, security issues do not wait for these big upgrades - our web services receive daily updates for the web server software, database, and scripting languages, and system-level vulnerabilities are fixed within hours.

STATE LIBRARY INFORMATION CENTER:

NJ Career Connections: SLIC continues to offer Jersey Job Club Workshops each month. *Pathways to Employment* will be held on June 23 and will be followed by a different workshop each month through October. *The Right Career for You* will be held on July 19.

Monthly Lunchtime Classes and Programs: The following classes are scheduled for June: *Sit and Knit at the State Library*, *Useful New Jersey Genealogy Electronic Resources* and *Get Ready for Summer eBook Reading with Overdrive eBooks from the New Jersey State Library*. On June 6, author and historical interpreter David Price will present a program about unsung heroes of the ten crucial days of the Revolution, December 25, 1776 - January 3, 1777.

C-Span Visit: As part of their Cities Tour series featuring Trenton, C-Span visited the State Library. The segment aired on May 21 and 22 and may be viewed on their website at <https://www.c-span.org/video/?427606-1/new-jersey-state-library-rare-books>. The State Library's New Jersey Collection Librarian, Deborah Mercer, displayed and explained the history behind several items from our Rare Book collection.

Exploring African American History in New Jersey: A Workshop

Deborah Mercer and Regina Fitzpatrick presented at a panel session on *Exploring African American History in New Jersey's Libraries* on May 23. Deborah discussed resources on African American history that are in the New Jersey State Publications Digital Library and Regina focused on resources of interest from our general and genealogy collections.

The Ironsides Echo Newspaper Digitized: The New Jersey Industrial and Manual Training School for Colored Youth, also known as the "Bordentown School," was an African-American boarding school operated by the State of New Jersey. It was founded in 1876 and remained open until December 1954. The New Jersey State Library recently digitized a selection of the school's newspaper, *The Ironsides Echo*, dating as far back as 1935 and as recently as a retrospective issue in 1955. More information is available at http://www.njstatelib.org/ironsides_echo/

New Jersey State Publications Digital Library: Hundreds of Sandy-related New Jersey documents have been converted to PDF/A format so they can be uploaded to the New Jersey State Publications Digital Library, our institutional repository for New Jersey documents. Organization of the documents into collections was completed and metadata assignment has begun. Four collections, documents from the New Jersey Department of Treasury, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of State's Business Action Center and the Department of Environmental Protection have been completed and uploaded. This ongoing project will both preserve and make the documents more easily accessible to the public.

TBBC:

The Institute for Museums and Library Services featured TBBC work with New Jersey Public Libraries and programs to Military Veterans on its website. The link is: <https://www.imls.gov/news-events/project-profiles/assistive-technologies-close-digital-divides-people-visual-impairments>

On Friday, June 9, Liz Burns and Luz Sanchez are presenting at a REFORMA conference in New York City. They will speak on audiobooks and magazines in foreign languages available in the United States. They have also submitted this presentation for the 2018 Public Library Association Annual Meeting.

Last week, Mary Kaplan met with representatives from the NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired. They will be adding 2 more libraries to the LEAP program. One is the Morristown & Morris Township Library in Morristown. The other is to-be-determined. This joint program with NJSL, the Commission and selected NJ public libraries placed fully accessible workstations in the library along with Apple Ipads. They items can be used of the library's patrons with print disabilities. The Commission also arranges for training on this software.

Adam Szczepaniak has been elected Vice-President for the 2017-18 and President for 2018-19 for the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) division of the American Library Association.

STAFF TRANSITIONS:

Maria Baratta has rejoined the New Jersey State Library as Associate Director of the State Library Information Center.

James Lonergan will be leaving the New Jersey State Library to take the position of Director of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.