



1. Libraries and Racial Injustice

- “Wisconsin public libraries are places where everyone should be safe, welcomed, and respected” is a core value of the [Inclusive Services Statement](#), an interpretation of Wis. Stat. sec. 43.24(2)(k). Right now, amidst this period of turbulence and activism, it is difficult to imagine libraries being safe, welcoming, and respectful when so many have been hurt, unwelcomed, and disrespected by our society. Now is the time to take action, on every level, to move this philosophy into practice. [Read more.](#)
- As communities across the country continue to speak out against racial injustice, libraries are seeking ways to stand in solidarity, to take action, and to ensure library services and programs are equitable and safe for all. In addition to updating Access and Equity resources on WebJunction.org, we’re highlighting a few of the courses related to race and equity [hosted in the WebJunction Course Catalog](#).
- This week, the library discovered graffiti on the outside concrete wall facing Dewey Street with the words, “I can’t breathe.” Though the message was washed away, it serves as a reminder of a broken society. We have more work to do as a public library to make sure our services, materials, technology, facilities, and surrounding grounds in order to invite and accommodate usage and engagement by all populations. ([Read more from LEPMPL’s director, Pamela Westby](#)).

2. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Grant Survey

LEAN WI partner systems IFLS Library System, Northern Waters Library Service, and Wisconsin Valley Library Service are polling member libraries for feedback prior to applying for CARES Act Funding being managed and allocated by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The survey went out to WVLS member library directors via the Public Library Directors email group earlier today.

DPI guidelines and information for the grant [can be found here](#).

The DPI CARES Act funding allocation [table can be found here](#).

The LEAN WI survey is intended to help with the initial application process to ensure all available funding is applied for and to minimize any need for revising the grant project(s) after the initial application. WVLS and our LEAN WI partners will work with member libraries to meaningfully implement system-managed projects benefiting all or groups of libraries and will make best efforts to offer guidance and support for any individual library-managed projects. We will likewise work with member libraries to review and revise the grant projects if necessary within the allowances of DPI and IMLS rules and federate statutes.

3. Statewide Delivery Update (from Christine Barth)

This coming week, the week of June 22, SCLS Delivery will be running their usual route Southeast, Northeast and West. They will run 2 times per week. At this time, Southwest will remain at once a week.

Minitex Delivery will resume as well. If you are holding returns for Minitex, you may send them with your other returns. Please note that Minitex is NOT open for ILL and Milwaukee County remains closed for ILL and delivery.

When sending items back through delivery, please remember to update the requests in WISCAT to "returned", but note that no new requests with the exception of photocopy requests should be created at this time.

4. Penguin Random House is Extending Open Storytime License

In order to encourage reading and classroom read-aloud experiences, and to support schools and public libraries forced to close by the escalating COVID-19 outbreak, Penguin Random House is permitting teachers, librarians and booksellers to create and share story time and read-aloud videos and live events, according to the following guidelines which have been extended to August 31st, 2020. This Open License is not meant to grant permission for the posting of any pre-recorded audiobook product. [Read the full announcement.](#)

5. Four Biggest Library Marketing Concerns Right Now (blog post)

A few weeks ago, a good number of you were kind enough to respond to this question, "What is your biggest library marketing concern right now?" As you can imagine, many of those worries are not all marketing related. In fact, as the responses came in, I realized they all fell into one of four categories: delivering a clear message about reopening and new safety precautions, keeping everyone safe, dealing with angry patrons, and communicating the library's value. I decided to research resources to help library staff tackle each of these concerns. I also mixed in a little of my own advice, gathered from my experience as a former public library staff member and my current work consulting with library staff. [Read more.](#)

6. Library Closure Survey (repeat)

Please have a representative from your library complete a library closure survey for the remainder of 2020. It can [be found here](#). This survey will help determine courier and Sierra adjustments around holidays and other library closure dates. WVLS understands that library schedules might change due to COVID-19, so use your current schedule when completing the survey.

Thank you to those who completed this! Contact Jamie at jmatczak@wvls.org if you have questions.