



### 1) WLA Conference Accepting Program Proposals

The WLA Programming Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2021 WLA annual conference! The conference will be held in Green Bay from November 16-19 at the KI Convention Center. The conference already boasts a fantastic lineup of keynote speakers, including Sarah Vowell, Nigel Poor, and Felton Thomas, Jr. Now we invite you to share your expertise and experiences with your colleagues this November.

This year's theme is "Back on Track." Over the past year, libraries have dealt with unprecedented challenges and have risen to meet these issues with kindness, perseverance, and creative solutions. **The program submission deadline is Wednesday, July 7.** [Use this link](#) to submit your proposal.

Contact conference program chairs Mark Jochem ([mjochem@scls.info](mailto:mjochem@scls.info)) or Barry McKnight ([bmcknight@lacrosselibrary.org](mailto:bmcknight@lacrosselibrary.org)) with questions.

### 2) Changes to Claiming Wisconsin Unemployment Insurance

Beginning May 23, 2021, the COVID-era Unemployment Insurance (UI) work search waiver disappeared. Wisconsinites filing for unemployment insurance benefits (with certain exceptions) **must now complete and document four work search activities per week.**

Assisting residents with filing Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims and with job seeking are among the top priorities as libraries are able to resume service delivery within their communities. The Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills (LAWDS) project is well-situated to enhance the ability of public library staff to meet those needs. The Department of Public Instruction is working closely with partners from the Wisconsin Library Association, Wisconsin's public libraries and systems, the Department of Workforce Development and the Wisconsin Workforce Development Boards to re-envision the activities of the grant to align them with current needs.

A number of partner resources and previously recorded webinars should help as refreshers. [Read more.](#)

### 3) LAWDS Workshop on June 16

The third and final virtual LAWDS (Libraries Activating Workforce Development Skills) workshop will take place from 1 - 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, with the West Central Wisconsin Development Area covering Clark County. This workshop is worth 1.5 contact hours.

Library staff and workforce partners will gather virtually to learn about services and resources provided by job centers, workforce partners, and libraries. Attendees will get to know their counterparts, tour online

resources, work through service scenarios, and brainstorm communication and collaboration strategies going forward. [Register Here.](#)

#### 4) This Week's Webinars

- [Enhancing Personal Wellbeing](#) at Work and at Home - 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8
- [Where to Start with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion?](#) - 12 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8
- [Bedbugs in the Library?!](#) - 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 9
- [Overcoming Pitfalls in Diversity: Making the Workplace Better for All Employees](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9
- [Food Access and Seed Libraries in Rural Public Libraries](#) - 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9
- [In the Chaos. Stick with Emotional Intelligence and Accountability](#) - 1 p.m. on Friday, June 11

#### 5) Digital Readiness Fairs

These free, half-day events will be held virtually but hosted by four different Wisconsin libraries and local history organizations. Each fair offers a mix of activities and learning opportunities and showcases digital projects from around the state. Hear from local history practitioners and how they have tackled digital projects, including challenges, successes, and lessons learned along the way. [Details and registration information can be found here.](#)

- Appleton Public Library - Tuesday, June 29 (9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)
- Crandon Area Historical Society - Friday, July 16 (9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)
- Pioneer Village Museum/Barron County - Tuesday, August 3 (9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)
- Kenosha County Historical Society - Wednesday, August 18 (1p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

#### 6) Millennials and Social Media Downloadable Report

Millennials are coming into their own. Now the biggest group in the workforce, their spending power is growing. And, as social media also grows in commercial importance, it's vital to know what consumers are doing on platforms (and why). Discover all the facts you need to know on Millennials' social media habits, and stay one step ahead, [with GWI's downloadable report.](#)

#### 7) Reminders

- **Next Ryan Dowd Webinar:**  
Fights: How to Prevent and Stop Them (Safely!)  
Thursday, June 24 at 1 p.m. (60 minutes)  
Please contact Jamie at [jmatczak@wvls.org](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org) for the pre-registration link. A recording (with closed captioning) will be available a few days after the live event.
- Based on the feedback from several public library systems, effective this week, **Waltco will not be labeling outgoing bins with the date and time** that they are closed. Libraries are also welcome to stop labeling outgoing bins. Waltco stopped quarantining items on April 26, and WVLS encouraged its member libraries to decide locally how to proceed on May 3. WVLS and

Waltco will continue to monitor courier practices. If you have any questions, please contact [courier@wvls.org](mailto:courier@wvls.org).