



1) 'Tech Days' Registration Now Open

Learn from experts without having to travel! Tech Days 2021 is a two-day webinar series on September 15-16.

Go to the [Tech Days Website](#) to find descriptions of the four webinar sessions, read about the presenters, and register for the sessions you want to attend. All webinars will be recorded, captioned, and available on the Resources page.

There is no fee to attend Tech Days, thanks to sponsorship by all 16 library systems and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Public Library Development Team, with funding support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

2) WLA Conference Program Proposal Deadline Extended

The WLA Programming Committee has extended its program proposal deadline for the 2021 WLA annual conference! The conference will be held in Green Bay from November 16-19 at the KI Convention Center. 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.

[Please submit your program](#) by Thursday, August 12.

3) New Digital Byte

In this Digital Byte, Laurie Ollhoff of the IDEA Team discusses LGBTQ+ inclusive language and terminology, while also providing tips on phrases to avoid, and the history of the acronym.

[Watch it here.](#)

4) This Week's Webinars

- Mental Health Matters! [Finding Support in Challenging Times](#) – 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14
- [Youth Perceptions of Online Harassment, Cyberbullying, and "Just Drama": Avenues for Support and Guidance](#) - 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14
- [Beanstack Reports Bootcamp](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14
- [Assisting Library Patrons with Legal Questions](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14
- The Art of Saying No: [Setting Boundaries & Making Space for What Matters](#) - 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, July 15

5) Applications Open for WLTC Engaged Leadership Academy

Apply to be a part of DPI's [Wisconsin Libraries Transforming Communities](#) Engaged Leadership Academy. The 10-week series will run from September 8 through November 12. [Applications are open now.](#)

Using a flipped classroom model, the series will build skills, develop strategies, and create a network of engaged leaders across our state. There will be four virtual sessions, with homework between each session. Additionally, your registration for the October 1 [Lead the Way Symposium](#) organized by the University of Wisconsin-Madison iSchool, is required and is paid by DPI.

If accepted, the following are required training dates & times:

- September 8: Online chat platform opens
- September 17: 10:00-11:30am, virtual session
- October 1: 9:00-4:30, Lead the Way conference
- October 15: 10:00-11:30am, virtual session
- October 29: 10:00-11:30am, virtual session
- November 12: 10:00-11:30am, virtual session & wrap up

[Applications](#) are due July 30.

6) DPI Seeks Youth Engagement in ARPA Funding Plans

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is currently engaging in planning for use of our federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) ESSER III funds. As part of that planning, we are scheduling feedback meetings to provide a space and opportunity for different Wisconsin voices to provide input and feedback. One of the most critical voices is that of the students we serve. We'd like your help in identifying students to participate in an opportunity to share their experiences, thoughts, and ideas about education in Wisconsin.

This week, the DPI will be holding two virtual meetings (60 minutes each) for youth to offer input and feedback on Wisconsin's use of ARPA and ESSER III funds. Please share this opportunity and encourage the youth you work with or know to participate--it is open to ALL youth in Wisconsin. [Read more.](#)

7) Digital Readiness Fair This Friday

The next Digital Readiness Fair, hosted virtually by the Crandon Area Historical Society, takes place on Friday, July 16 from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public, but requires registration.

Some of the sessions include:

- "Forest History Association of Wisconsin Digital Archives and Outreach" with Jim Bokern, President, Manitowish Waters Historical Society and Brad Casselberry, University Archivist, UW-Stevens Point

- Learn about the Digital Public Library of American (DPLA) and Recollection Wisconsin from Emily Pfothenhauer, WiLS/Recollection Wisconsin

Details, sessions and registration information for all Digital Readiness Fairs [can be found here](#).

8) Reminders

- Library Journal is offering the **"Equity in Action: Fostering an Antiracist Library Culture"** online course in Fall 2021.
Joy Schwarz from Winnefox is organizing a group rate for librarians in Wisconsin. WVLS will cover the cost for several member libraries (not to exceed one participant per library) to take the course. Please note that attendees must commit to the three live sessions listed below. Completing this course is worth 15 contact hours for public library certification. Read [full details of the course](#). If you or a member of your staff is interested in taking this course, with the cost being covered by WVLS, please contact Jamie by Tuesday, Aug. 24.