



1) Upcoming WVLS Office Hours and Courier

- The WVLS Office will be closed from 2 - 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 7 for a Virtual Staff Holiday Gathering.
- The WVLS Office will be closed on the following: Friday, December 24, Monday, December 27 and Friday, December 31.
- As of now, Walco/courier will not be running on Friday, December 31.

2) Call for Applicants for Facilitator Training

As part of the 2022 LSTA-funded project Libraries Talk About Race, the Wisconsin IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in Action) Team invites library staff to apply to participate in virtual Facilitation Training, which will occur February 3.

Facilitation Training is a 2 hour training provided by [The People Company](#). The goal is to prepare a group of Wisconsin library staff to facilitate group discussions about race. Several of those trained will have the opportunity to facilitate discussions with other library workers about upcoming webinars (in February, March, and April of 2022). The training will prepare participants to:

- Understand their personal facilitation style and adapt their style to different facilitation situations.
- Apply strategies for effective and inclusive large group facilitation where thoughtful, critical dialog can occur.
- Manage group dynamics that may arise in a large group facilitation setting in a way that maintains a trusting, respectful environment.

If you are interested in applying, please take a look at the [information sheet](#), and [apply](#) for your spot by Wednesday, January 5. Selected participants will be notified by Monday, January 10.

If you have questions, please contact:

Shauna Koszegi, Southwest Library System (skoszegi@swls.org)

Mark Jochem, South Central Library System (mjochem@scls.info)

Leah Langby, IFLS Library System (langby@ifls.lib.wi.us)

3) 'Challenged Books' Webinar Next Week

Challenged Books at Your Library: Managing and Addressing Censorship Attempts

10 a.m. Wednesday, December 15

[Register](#)

Are you getting questions about why your library has diverse books about racism and LGBTQIA+ issues? What happens when patrons disagree with materials you've selected for your library? Do you want help knowing what steps you can take when a book is challenged?

Join us as Shannon Schultz, Public Library Administration Consultant at DPI, talks about materials challenges and intellectual freedom in public libraries, including these topics:

- Coordinated challenges to a particular book or books
- Intimidation tactics directed at library directors and boards, and contentious board meetings
- If a materials challenge comes from a board member

This webinar will be recorded, captioned, and archived [on the NEWI website](#).

4) This Week's Webinars

- [Marketing Trends People Need to Know](#) - 10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 7
- [Relevant Budgeting for Nonprofits](#) - 10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 8
- [Getting Started with Overdrive's Libby App](#) - 1 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 8
- [Instagram Basics for Libraries](#) - 1 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 8
- [Sharpening Your Organizational Skills](#) - 1 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 9

5) Reminders

- **Youth Services Workshop on Thursday**
[Registration is now open](#) for the annual WVLS Youth Services Workshop, set for Thursday, December 9 from 1 - 3 p.m. This event provides 2 contact hours toward public library certification.

Minocqua Public Library Youth Services Librarian, Erica Dischinger, and Teen Services Librarian, Jennifer Davis, will be sharing successful youth and teen programs, how their library's programs and services are created, and upcoming projects. They will also show participants the library's youth spaces. Bring an idea to share regarding creative programming ideas that fit community and staff resources. This webinar will be recorded. All library staff members serving youth are welcome to attend.

- **PLA Conference Scholarships Due on Friday**

WVLS is awarding full scholarships to area library staff to attend the national 2022 Public Library Association (PLA) Conference.

Offered biennially, the PLA Conference—the premier event for public library professionals—is an opportunity for librarians, library support staff, trustees, friends, and library vendors from across the country and around the world to reconnect with one another, recreate the services they provide, and revitalize the passion for the work they do every day.

The 2022 PLA Conference will be held in Portland, OR and will run from March 23-25. **The scholarship application deadline is Friday, December 10.** For more information, and an application form, [visit the WVLS Scholarships and Grants webpage.](#)