



1) This Week's News & Events

- **Product demonstrations for Koha** supported by Bywater Solutions are on Wednesday, November 16 and Thursday, November 17. Both dates will be presented online and will be recorded. All library staff who use Sierra are encouraged to attend and complete a post-demonstration survey. Demonstrations will be split into separate modules and staff can attend or view portions of interest. See the [detailed schedule with meeting and survey links](#). For more information, visit the [V-Cat ILS Demonstrations page](#). (Password is training).
- **The WVLS office** is closed on Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving), and Friday, November 25.
- **Waltco** is not operating on Thursday, November 24, in observance of Thanksgiving. Service will resume on Friday, November 25.

2) WEMTA Conference Scholarships Available

WVLS is awarding full scholarships to public and K-12 school library staff to attend the 2023 Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA) Conference in Rothschild, Wisconsin on February 5-7, 2023. Applicants must currently work at a WVLS area public or K-12 school library and have one year of experience working in libraries.

The deadline to apply is Friday, December 9. [See the WVLS Scholarships and Grants webpage for an application.](#)

3) Advocacy Series Continues This Week

So much of library work requires advocacy—for resources, for funding, for staff, for communities, and so much more, yet many of us feel ill-equipped or reluctant to take on this role. In this virtual workshop series, we will engage in interactive activities designed to help you find your voice, tame your inner critic, and overcome imposter syndrome.

Session 2: Wednesday, November 15, 10 a.m.

[Register here.](#)

Through the use of high-fun low-stakes games, scenarios, and break-out rooms, we will practice communicating with confidence, telling stories and distilling them into elevator pitches, connecting with various audiences, and encouraging buy-in. Full participation requires that a camera and mic be enabled. This session will not be recorded.

4) Youth Services Check-In This Wednesday

Join librarians from the IFLS Library System at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16 to talk about services to school age kids—all are welcome!

[Link to join.](#)

Or call +1 309 205 3325 Meeting ID: 856 6064 8149 Passcode: 17672094

5) Library Grants Currently Available

Several grant opportunities came across the attention of WVLS staff this week. Check out the links for more information.

- **Wisconsin Humanities** awards grants to support locally-initiated public humanities programs. Mini Grants (up to \$2,000) are awarded four times per year. Award decisions are made by the end of the month. Major Grants (\$2,001 - \$10,000) are awarded three times per year (deadline of December 15). Award decisions are made about two months after the deadline. [Read more.](#)
- The American Library Association (ALA) invites applications from small and rural libraries for the **Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Accessible Small and Rural Communities** grant. Library workers may apply online for grant funding from November 1, 2022, to February 28, 2023. Up to 300 libraries will be awarded in this application period, part of ALA's longtime community engagement initiative, with a second application to open in early Fall 2023 for an additional 300 grants. [Read more.](#)
- Through the generosity of **Penguin Random House, there is a grant opportunity for small, rural libraries nationwide.** This grant is available to libraries that meet both the IMLS definition for small libraries (a service population of 25,000 or fewer) *and* the definition for rural libraries (libraries located 5 or more miles from the nearest town of 25k or more). Applicants may request: One (1) monetary grant in support of a community-oriented project for up to \$1,000, or an in-kind grant donation of up to \$1,000 in equivalent value to support a circulating collection in your library. Applications may be submitted beginning November 28, with a deadline of December 12, 2022. [Read more.](#)

6) Statewide Database Inventory & Needs Assessment Study Final Report Released

As a direct response to library community conversations on potential uses for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) grant program, the DPI Library Services Team contracted with the library consulting firm CDygart Solutions to complete a Wisconsin Statewide Electronic Resource Database Inventory & Needs Assessment Study. The study's goals were to address the lack of consistent and comprehensive data about existing databases offered by public and K-12 public school libraries, and determine whether any gaps exist between databases provided statewide through BadgerLink and those provided through public and K-12 public school libraries. [Read more.](#)

7) Reference and User Services Survey

[ALA-RUSA](#) has a newly-formed subcommittee: User Services in Public Libraries. The charge of the subcommittee is to study, promote, and support the role of reference and user services in public libraries.

They are looking to identify the needs and interests of reference workers in public library settings. [The survey takes about five minutes to complete](#), and participation is greatly appreciated.

8) Upcoming Webinars

- [How to Conduct Board Recruitment](#)- 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15
- [CCBC Shorts: New Nonfiction](#)- 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16
- [Showing the Value of Recognition](#)- 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16
- [ESL Conversation Groups](#) - Up Close and Personal - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 16
- [Care of Local History Collections](#) - 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17
- [How to Balance Personal Requirements and Organizational Demands](#) - 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17
- [Persevering in the Face of Book Challenges](#) - 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17