



1) WLA Conference Seeking Program Proposals

The Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) is excited to announce that the call for proposals for the 2023 WLA Annual Conference is now open. The conference will be held at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton, Wisconsin from October 24-27.

This year's theme is "Don't Stop Believing," and the conference committee is seeking presentations that explore new and innovative ways to support library professionals and the communities they serve. Proposals focusing on topics such as technology, literacy, collections, and outreach are welcome. Complete this [online form](#) by Friday, May 12.

2) Upcoming Events

- WVLS plans to upgrade Sierra after hours on Tuesday, May 2, and it's expected to be complete by 8 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3. Watch emails this week for additional information.
- The V-Cat ILS Evaluation and Review Committee will host one more remote site visit at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 4 with the Round Rock Public Library. Email ils.admin@wvls.org for more information.

3) Beanstack Available Through 2025

The Library Services Team at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) recently announced a contract with the reading engagement platform Beanstack through April 2025. The agreement with Zoobean, Inc. provides new and continued access to Beanstack for all interested Wisconsin public libraries and public school libraries.

This program is being offered through the DPI with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant. All libraries currently using Beanstack should experience seamless access beyond April 2023. [Read more](#).

4) Rollout of United for Libraries Trustee Training

The Library Services Team at DPI firmly believes that trustee education is a key component of public library and system success, and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is close to rolling out a new statewide program to provide access to the United for Libraries suite of trustee trainings.

The Learning Live webinars are the hot items right now, as they feature timely topics. These webinars have been added to the DPI professional learning calendar that is shared on the WVLS Continuing Education website. Free attendance to the 3-day 2023 United for Libraries Virtual Conference from August 1-3 is included with this new program.

As part of the service rollout, Public Library Administration Consultant Shannon Schultz has created an email distribution list for all public library trustees in the state. Shannon will be sending and has sent an announcement to that list. Watch for more information from Shannon and in Monday Mentions.

5) Training Opportunity from OverDrive

Are you a staff member who supports Libby? Do you field questions from users? On Tuesday, May 9 at 1 p.m., check out [Support Your Users with Answers to Libby's Most Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Join members of the app's support teams who will talk about helping new Libby users, answering the most frequently asked questions, supporting common troubleshooting issues, and more.

6) Aspen Grouping Training

At 10 a.m. on Monday, May 15, an Aspen Grouping Training will be offered for novice and experienced users of Aspen. This training will cover grouping and ungrouping record results in Aspen to provide patrons with a great searching experience. People may attend the training in the WVLS office or online. Those who wish to attend the training online [can sign in here](#). Please email Rachel at rmetzler@wvls.org if you plan to attend.

7) Next Ryan Dowd Training

Homeless De-Escalation 501: Verbal Tools for Conflict

Thursday, May 11; 1 p.m.

- Basic verbal tools for setting boundaries and enforcing rules
- Advanced verbal tools for tougher situations (someone who is drunk/high, argumentative, etc.)
- How to deal with folks who want to monopolize your time

Contact Jamie at jmatczak@wvls.org for the registration link. The recording of the live training will be available for four weeks.

8) Upcoming Webinars

- [Creating Inclusive Presentations](#) - 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25
- [Kickstarting Library Exhibit Programs](#) – 1 p.m. on Wednesday April 26
- [Lunch & Learn: Leadership Development Series](#) - 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 27

9) Reminders

- The 35th annual Children's Book Fest will be held May 1-2 at the Pines Event Center in Rhinelander. Attendees can browse recommended youth and teen titles published in 2022 made available through the Children's Cooperative Book Center (CCBC). Books will be available for purchase on site. The cost to attend Book Fest is \$15. [Register here to attend](#).
- **The OverDrive App will no longer be available after this month.** Patrons should access the Libby app as soon as possible. After the OverDrive app is sunset, users who try to access a

library's collection in the OverDrive app will receive a message suggesting the Libby app. Contact Rachel Metzler at rmetzler@wvls.org if there are questions.