

Monthly Update to Member Libraries ~ December 2023

WVLS MAKERSPACE

This month's highlighted item: **Singer Heavy-Duty Sewing Machines.**

The two machines have a fast speed, and a strong motor provides greater piercing power for thick seams. The 23 built-in stitches include basic, stretch, decorative, and buttonhole stitches. The variety of stitches allows for many possibilities such as fashions, home décor, quilts, and crafts. The automatic needle threader helps to thread the eye of the needle effortlessly. The accessory tray includes an all-purpose foot, zipper foot, buttonhole foot, button sewing foot, seam ripper/lint brush, quilting guide, needles, bobbins, screwdriver, and auxiliary spool pin.

Book makerspace kits and equipment [here](#).

ADULT SERVICES

[LearningExpress Library](#) is a web-based collection of test preparation tools and skill-building materials. It offers various modules, including career prep, high school equivalency, college admissions test prep, grades 4-8 educator resources, high school students, college students, adult core skills, and recursos para hispanohablantes. Recently, the College Admission Test Preparation Center has added new material while the Careers Preparation Center has updated content. Furthermore, 185 new videos covering math and science topics have been added.

Libraries can order **2023 Wisconsin income tax forms** from the WI Department of Revenue through the [library forms order system](#). Check out your previous year's order [here](#) to determine an amount to order.

Summer library program 2024 materials are beginning to be uploaded onto the [WVLS adult services webpage](#). New material will be added when it's available.

YOUTH SERVICES

[November Starred Reviews](#). (also attached as a PDF)

Mark your calendar! **YSIE Meet-ups** for 2024 are scheduled: January 18, 9-11 a.m. (virtual); March 21, 1-3 p.m. (Minocqua); August 12, 1-3 p.m. (Granton). For the January meet-up, we'll be sharing ideas and resources on STEAM programs, kits, and activities as well as passive program ideas. Please bring some examples and ideas to share!

Slideshows, materials, and handouts from the [2023 Youth Services Workshop](#) have been uploaded onto the WVLS website.

WVLS is awarding scholarships to public and K-12 school library staff to attend the 2024 **Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA) Conference** at the Wisconsin Dells' Kalahari Resort and Convention Center on March 3-5, 2024. More details about the conference can be found [here](#). The scholarship is valued at \$1,000 and can be used for conference registration, 1-year WEMTA membership (included with conference registration), mileage reimbursement, and 2 nights of conference lodging. The application deadline is Friday, Jan 6. [Download an application form](#).

Summer library program 2024 materials are beginning to be uploaded onto the WVLS [children's](#) and [teen](#) services webpages. New material will be added when it's available.

Check out the **Bay Area Discovery Museum's [Activities Collection](#)**. The activities are focused on the skills: talk & play, science & math, and body & brain. Each activity lists an appropriate age range, a difficulty rating, duration for the activity, materials required, instructions, and creativity skills used for that activity.

New York Hall of Science's [STEAM Stories Pre-K Activity Guide](#) is a fantastic resource that provides a collection of hands-on activities that are tied to children's books. The guide includes a pre-engineering section, as well as five easy-to-follow lesson plans.

INCLUSIVE SERVICES

[Indigenous Reads Rising](#) is a platform that helps readers, teachers, and librarians explore books by Native American writers and illustrators. It includes booklists for young adults, middle grade, and picture books, and a [resource section](#) for teachers and librarians.

If your library has not completed **DPI's Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide**, here are a few activities to work to incorporate at your library (or pat yourself on the back if they already exist!). Please reach out if you'd like more information on the assessment or to work through the assessment together.

- Staff members are trained to serve all members of the community (e.g. teens, individuals with mobility issues, veterans).
- Library staff are encouraged to take time away from the library.
- The library website is ADA compliant.
- Library hours are fixed and prominently posted.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

DPI has created a [short video](#) about **LearningExpress' Career Preparation** module. The module focuses on job searching, starting a new career, and advancing in a current field through occupational practice test. It also includes workplace skills tutorials and assessments.

[Wiscaregiver Careers](#) aims to connect potential candidates with nursing home employers who will coordinate and pay for CNA training, certification, and a \$500 retention bonus after six months of employment. The goal of the program is to address the shortage of CNAs by removing the financial barriers needed to obtain the required training and certification.

UPCOMING!

1/11 @ 3 p.m.: WLA YSS Webinar “Connecting 1, 2, 3 to A, B, C: exploring early math and its implications for emergent literacy in young child programming.” Register [here](#).

1/18 @ 9-10:30 a.m.: Virtual YSIE Meet-up. Login information to come.

1/22: ALA Youth Media Award (YMA) announcements.

1/25 @ 3 p.m.: Connecting Wisconsin Libraries quarterly meeting. Login information to come.

Happy holidays to you and your family,

Kristie

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