

1) 2024 WVLS Summer Math Adventure Grant

The 2024 WVLS Summer Math Adventure Grant is a pilot project and opportunity for WVLS libraries to offer or enhance math-based activities throughout the summer. Libraries participating in the pilot will receive \$500 to offer the Wisconsin Mathematics Council's Summer Math Adventure program. The grant may be used to defray a participating library's program costs associated with implementing the program.

See the <u>WVLS Scholarship and Grants page</u> for more information and an application. The deadline to submit an application is Friday, March 8. Questions can be directed to Kristie Hauer at <u>khauer@wvls.org</u>.

2) Applications Now Open for DPI's Teen Inclusive Internship

Five Wisconsin public libraries will be chosen to participate in an LSTA grant-funded program to offer paid summer 2024 internships to recruit and hire teens that reflect the diversity of their communities. The interns will bring their skills, interests, and experiences to the library by working on a <u>Connected Learning Project</u>. Participating libraries will learn how to further engage and support teens while creating career pathways to increase diversity in the field of librarianship.

The deadline to apply is Friday, February 23. Full details are here.

3) Recollection Wisconsin Goes Fine Free

In light of the state budget line funding Recollection Wisconsin in the 2023-2025 biennium, a decision has been made to eliminate all fees (onboarding, hosting, and harvesting) for current and future contributors. This move is a leap toward making Recollection Wisconsin's services accessible to organizations of all kinds and sizes and showcases our commitment to fostering a collaborative and inclusive digital collections platform.

Recollection Wisconsin pledges to continue this fee-free arrangement as long as the state budget funds our services. Read more about this decision.

4) Upcoming Webinars

- Keeping Up with Books: 2023 Year in Review 1 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13
- <u>Cultivating and Sustaining the Relationship-Driven Library</u> 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14

5) Melinda Myers Gardening Programs and Activities

Nationally known and Wisconsin-based gardening expert and author Melinda Myers is offering a series of webinars and activities on gardening for public libraries to use from April through June.

For the webinars, libraries can host a watch party on the dates listed or schedule it after the live webinar date and play the recording. If a library hosts a live watch party on the dates listed, patrons will be able to submit questions live and get them answered by Melinda at the end of each webinar.

Libraries can also let their patrons know they can individually register for the webinars if they'd prefer to watch them at home.

6) Lake Superior Libraries Symposium Call for Proposals Open

The organizers of the <u>Lake Superior Libraries Symposium</u> (LSLS) invite breakout session proposals for the 12th annual conference held on June 7 at University of Minnesota - Duluth.

This year's theme, "Persevere: Carrying on Our Mission," invites attendees to share and strategize on some of the difficulties facing our profession amidst increased financial and societal pressures, new technologies, and a polarized political environment that targets libraries.

Successful breakout session presentations will be applicable to many types of libraries and showcase effective and innovative practices. 60-minute breakout sessions should include 10-15 minutes of question and answer. Panel presentations, particularly those representing a diversity of library types, sizes, and/or locations, are strongly encouraged. All presenters will receive a discounted registration rate of \$25.

<u>Proposals should be submitted here</u>. The CFP submission deadline is Friday, March 22. Presenters will be notified of acceptance in mid April.

7) Reminders

February Web Trainings

Several web training sessions are happening this month, including Using Alt+Text for Images, Website Accessibility Learning Group, Website 201, and Writing Blog Posts. The sessions last 60 minutes and are recorded. Read more information and register.

Library Closure Survey for Early 2024

WVLS created a survey to collect library closure dates on and around major holidays from January - July 2024. Survey responses will alert WVLS staff to adjust due dates in Sierra and inform Waltco of modification to a library's delivery schedule. <u>Please have a staff member complete this survey</u> on behalf of your library as soon as possible.