



### 1) WAPL Conference Scholarships Available

WVLS is awarding scholarships to member library staff to attend the 2024 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference taking place May 1 – 3 at the Holiday Inn Stevens Point Convention Center. More details [can be found here](#).

Up to \$900 is available for the scholarship, to cover some/all of the following costs:

- Conference registration (WLA member or non-member)
- Mileage reimbursement (WVLS rate) to/from the conference
- Up to 2 nights of conference lodging (May 1 and 2)

To be eligible, the completed application must be emailed to Jamie Matczak by 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20. Scholarship awards will be announced on Friday, March 22. [See the WVLS website to download an application](#).

### 2) V-Cat Aspen Record Grouping Training

Thursday, March 14; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

[Link to register](#) | [Link to attend](#)

Attendees will learn how to identify records in Aspen that are not grouped correctly, and how to group and ungroup records to provide patrons with better search results. Prior to the training, attendees should understand elements of a bibliographic record (title, author, publisher, edition) and be comfortable searching in Aspen and Sierra. Who should attend? Library staff interested in assisting with grouping corrections in Aspen or in need of a refresher training are encouraged to attend.

### 3) Spring Webinar Series on Neurodiversity

Join the Wisconsin Public Library Systems for a Spring Webinar Series focusing on neurodiversity among library staff. Both webinars will be recorded and worth 1 contact hour toward public library certification.

[Detailed information can be found here](#).

We Are Already Here: The Workplace Experiences of Neurodivergent Library Workers

Thursday, April 18; 12 p.m.

Presented by: Christine Moeller (they/she), PhD Candidate, University of Washington iSchool

[Register](#)

For Managers & Supervisors: Cultivating an Inclusive Workplace for Neurodivergent Staff

Tuesday, May 7; 1 p.m.

Presented by: Renee Grassi, Director, Lake Bluff Public Library

[Register](#)

#### **4) Backstage Process Set for Next Week**

WVLS will be sending out a file of its bib records for Backstage cleanup Wednesday, March 20. Libraries should not edit bib records on this day. Questions can be directed to Rachel Metzler at [rmetzler@wvls.org](mailto:rmetzler@wvls.org).

#### **5) Get Ready for National Library Week**

This year's National Library Week, held on April 7-13, will celebrate "Ready, Set, Library!" This theme promotes the idea that in our always-online world, libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most. Find your crew at your library's author talks, workshops, and book clubs.

[The ALA website](#) has several free tools available to help your library promote National Library Week 2023, including press releases and social media shares.

#### **6) Applications Open for ARSL Conference Scholarships**

This year's ARSL (Association of Rural and Small Libraries) Conference will be held September 11-14 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Each year the ARSL Grants, Awards & Scholarships (GAS) Committee accepts applications for four competitive scholarships to facilitate attendance to the conference. Applications are now open until Tuesday, April 2. [Read more and apply](#).

#### **7) Youth Literacy Grant from Dollar General Now Open**

This grant is intended for schools and public libraries that aim to assist K-12 students who are below grade level or face challenges in reading. The funds can be utilized to introduce new literacy programs, expand existing ones, acquire new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives, or buy books, materials, or software for literacy programs. The grant provides an award up to \$4,000.

[Full details and application are here](#).

#### **8) Upcoming Webinars**

- [Viewing Eclipses Through a Cultural Lens](#) – 12 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12
- [Media and Crisis Communications for Trustees & Friends](#) – 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12
- [Winning Grants for Your Library Programming](#) – 10 a.m. on Wednesday March 13
- [Library Boards and Intellectual Freedom: How to Combat Censorship with Your Library Trustees](#) – 1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13
- [Creating a Person-Centered Library: Supporting Patrons While Avoiding Burnout](#) – 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13
- [5 Secrets of Email Marketing Geniuses](#) – 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13
- [Making Accessible Educational Materials Available to Students Who Need Them](#) – 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 14

## 9) Reminders

**WVLS is seeking a part-time Cataloging Support Specialist** to work on data cleanup projects. This position reports directly to the WVLS ILS Administrator and WVLS Director, and is responsible for:

- Review and enrichment of MARC records
- Bibliographic record clean up
- MARC cataloging according to local standards
- Other database cleanup tasks as needed

This is a limited term (3 month), part time position of 10-15 hours per week or up to 30 hours per pay period. The position allows for a hybrid of in-person and remote work, or entirely remote work. The application deadline is Monday, March 18. [Read more to apply and for more information.](#)