



## 1) Listening Session Next Month

The first WVLS Listening Session for 2024 is scheduled to take place at the Colby Community Library from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17. This is an in-person event only, and it is open to WVLS member library directors or their proxies. The session will provide an opportunity for informal conversations between participants and to ask questions of WVLS staff. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided.

[Prior registration](#) is required by Tuesday, April 9. Questions can be directed to Kristie Hauer at [khauer@wvls.org](mailto:khauer@wvls.org).

## 2) This Week

- **Backstage Process Set for Wednesday:** 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).
- **YSIE Get-Together on Thursday**  
The second Youth Services Information Exchange (YSIE) Get-Together of 2024 will be held in-person from 1 - 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 21 at Minocqua Public Library, located at 415 Menominee St. The group will tour the library and then discuss all-ages programming and collection development and maintenance. Please bring some examples and ideas to share. Registration is not required.

## 3) WAPL Conference Scholarship Applications Due Wednesday

WVLS is awarding scholarships to member library staff to attend the 2024 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference taking place May 1 – 3, 2024 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.](#)

#### 4) 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](#)

#### 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. Sites that might be useful:

- [ALA website](#): several free tools, including press releases and social media shares.
- [10 Great Ways to Celebrate National Library Week with Teens](#)
- [Ideas to Celebrate NLW and Encourage a Young Writer Day 2024](#)

#### 6) Upcoming Webinars

- [Maximizing Impact: Nonprofit Website Planning, Budgeting, and Design](#) – 12 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19
- [Designing an Accessible Website Your Patrons Will Love](#) – 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19
- [How to Embed Indigenous Knowledge into Library Collections and Why it Matters](#) – 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19
- [Supporting Beginning Readers with TeachingBooks](#) – 12 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20
- [Cultivating Adaptability: Normalize Change](#) – 1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20

#### 7) Spring Barcodes Order

WVLS will soon be placing the Spring 2024 order soon for item barcodes. The next order will not be done until Fall 2024. The cost of barcodes varies depending on the size of the order. Approximate cost is \$20.00 - \$25.00 per thousand. If your library would like to order barcodes, please [fill out this form](#) by Friday, March 29.

#### 8) Games-Based Learning Projects

No matter your level of gaming experience, there are a number of different statewide initiatives occurring

which allow school and public librarians to learn more about, and get directly involved in, playful/games-based learning projects for students and library users of diverse interests.

If you are considering expanding gaming programming at your library, one of the best places to start is the Wisconsin Games + Learning + Libraries Cohort housed on the WISELearn site. While being created just a few short months ago, the site already boasts more than 100 members and dozens of affiliated OER resources. [Read more in “Wisconsin Libraries are For Everyone.”](#)