1) WAPL Conference Early Bird Registration Extended

The WAPL Conference early bird registration deadline has been extended until Wednesday, April 3. To learn more and register, visit the conference webpage or download the conference brochure. The conference will be held at the Stevens Point Holiday Inn Convention Center on May 1-3. Hotel rooms are available but going fast.

2) This Week and Next

- **V-Cat Council** will meet Thursday, April 4 from 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. An agenda and meeting documents will be available on the V-Cat Council meetings page ahead of the meeting.
- **NICE Project Town Hall Meeting**
  Tuesday, April 9, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Members of the NICE Project Team will give an overview of the process to date, share information about NICE recommendations, discuss the next steps, and leave time for questions and feedback. Join the meeting here. The meeting will be recorded, and attendees can share questions and feedback through the NICE Project Feedback Form.
- **Listening Session Registration Deadline**
  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.

3) Wisconsin Becomes First State to Help Feed Kids and Families

Gov. Tony Evers announced last week that the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service has approved Wisconsin's plan for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program to help families feed kids over the summer months. Wisconsin is the first in the nation to receive this federal approval. Created by the U.S. Congress, the Summer EBT program is based on similar efforts used during the coronavirus pandemic to address food insecurity for kids. Read more.

4) April Web Trainings

Several web training sessions are happening this month, including Website Menus and Promoting Summer Reading. The sessions last 60 minutes and are recorded. Read more information and register.

5) New Digital Byte: Canva

In this Digital Byte, Jamie demonstrates (in a few minutes!) how Canva templates can be repurposed for library uses. Watch it here.

6) Wisconsin Libraries Talk About Race Adds Workshops

Navigating the Terrain of Change with Dr. Alonzo Kelly
Thursday, April 25: 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., East Branch, Brown County Library (Green Bay)
Thursday, May 9: 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., Wintergreen Conference Center (Wisconsin Dells)

Discover ways to create inter-culturally inclusive work and learning environments for all! Increase your knowledge and ability to problem solve, communicate confidently, and foster more collaborative work environments rooted in authentic relationships with dynamic executive coach, professor, and 3x best-selling author Alonzo Kelly. Dr. Kelly is recognized as one the nation's leading experts on leadership development, strategic thinking, and planning. Travel assistance is available. More details and registration information can be found on the website.

7) BadgerLink Training

Are you a public librarian, new to sharing BadgerLink resources with your community? BadgerLink is Wisconsin's Online Library, providing Wisconsin residents with licensed trustworthy resources from six content providers including Britannica Education, EBSCO, ProQuest, TeachingBooks, and Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Join Jen Champoux on Tuesday, April 2 at noon to learn how BadgerLink's For Library Staff page contains all sorts of goodies, tips, and tricks to help share and promote BadgerLink resources at your public library.

8) 2024 Annual Report Highlight: Updates to Program and Activity Reporting

Revisions of the Program and Activity reporting portion for the Wisconsin Public Library Annual Report for the 2024 calendar year were posted in December 2023. The Library Services Team has responded to several impactful IMLS clarifications by releasing the 2024 Programming and Activity Count Tracker. Training materials have been revised for defining and categorizing programs and activities. A Visual Supplement has been introduced to help align local tracking processes with the 2024 requirements for Libraries which do not use the Count Tracker. Read more.

9)   Upcoming Webinars·

- 10 Tips and Tricks for a Successful Grant Seeking Strategy - 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3
- Track Donor Engagement and Boost Your Fundraising Efforts - 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3
- 10 Surprising Signs That Your Workplace is an "Abundance Magnet" – 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3
- How Surveys Can Showcase Success to Your Donors, Volunteers, and Clients - 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 4