



1) Library Closure Survey for Early 2025

WVLS created a survey to collect library closure dates on and around major holidays from January - July 2025. Survey responses will alert WVLS staff to adjust due dates in Sierra and inform Waltco of modification to a library's delivery schedule.

[Please have a staff member complete this survey](#) on behalf of your library by Friday, January 31.

2) IUG 2025 Conference Scholarships

WVLS is awarding scholarships to member library staff to attend the IUG (Innovative User Group) 2025 Conference in Denver, Colorado on March 13-15.

Offered annually, the IUG Conference consists of three general conference days, with dozens of sessions ranging from general interest to specialized topics. Many opportunities are given to meet and share ideas with other librarians from around the world. More conference details [can be found here](#).

Valued at \$2,500, this scholarship can be used to cover such travel expenses as: conference registration, roundtrip economy class air transportation, lodging, and more. Applicants must have two years of experience working in technical services in public libraries at the time of application. Advanced experience in Sierra is preferred.

[The scholarship application](#) deadline is 6 p.m. on Friday, January 24. Contact WVLS Education Consultant Jamie Matczak at jmatczak@wvls.org with questions.

3) Save the Date: WVLS Directors Keeping it Together

Join us for the first online *WVLS Directors Keeping it Together* meeting on Friday, January 17 at 8:30 a.m. This monthly gathering builds on the success of the *Staying Together* meetings during the pandemic, offering valuable updates from WVLS staff and opportunities for directors to connect on key issues.

Format:

- 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.: WVLS staff will present a topic of general interest. January's topic: Deep Freeze Overview.
- 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Open discussion with WVLS staff.
- After: The meeting will remain open for continued director discussions.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 834 8337 4917 Passcode: kL5aAJMf

Mark your calendar for the third Friday of each month at 8:30 AM. The next meetings are scheduled for February 21 and March 21.

4) Host a Group Gathering for Upcoming Conference

WVLS is encouraging its member libraries to "Host a Group Gathering" for the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference on January 22-23.

We will provide your group with popcorn, hot cocoa and chocolate to enjoy!

- A "group" should consist of at least two people.
- The group must plan to watch at least two *live* conference sessions in the same office or meeting space.
- Small libraries with limited staff are encouraged to invite board members or partner with a neighboring library.
- The group needs to share a photo of the gathering with WVLS.
- Conversation among the group is encouraged! Discussion questions will be provided.

If your library is interested in hosting a "Group Gathering," [complete this form](#) no later than Wednesday, January 15th.

5) Reminders:

- **WAPL Conference Accepting Program Proposals**

The application for submitting proposals for breakout sessions for the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference is now open. The conference theme is also our state motto: Forward!

The conference will be held April 30 - May 2 at the Oshkosh Marriott Waterfront Hotel. The conference committee welcomes proposals from libraries of all sizes and from individuals who work in a variety of roles. Session proposals will be accepted through midnight Friday, January 24. [Learn more and submit a proposal.](#)