



## 1) Library Legislative Day Scholarships

[Register](#) this week for WLA Library Legislative Day in Madison on Tuesday, February 11.

This is a state budget producing year, and WVLS would like to have at least two representatives from each county participating. Newcomers are welcome. The registration deadline is Friday, January 10.

WVLS is offering \$400 scholarships to member library staff and trustees to attend. It covers registration (\$45), one night of lodging, mileage to and from WVLS, and three meal reimbursements. [Download the scholarship application from the WVLS website.](#)

- WLA has reserved a courtesy block of rooms at the Best Western Premier Park Hotel in downtown Madison for Monday, February 10. The cutoff date for room block reservations is January 20 or until they are sold out.
- WVLS has secured a bus to take library supporters to the event. The bus will leave the Marathon County Public Library (Wausau) parking lot at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 10 and depart Madison the following day by 4 p.m.
- A WVLS Legislative Day briefing session via Zoom on Friday, February 7 from 1- 2 p.m.
- [Check this document](#) on hotel information and on which senators and representatives to select when registering.

Questions about the scholarship, February 7 briefing, or WLA's delegation to LLD, contact Kris Adams Wendt at [kawendt@wvls.org](mailto:kawendt@wvls.org) or Jamie Matczak at [jmatczak@wvls.org](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org).

## 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](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org) with questions.

### 3) What's New

- **WVLS January Newsletter:** Features include: LEGO kits, a Silent Book Club, a WVLS staff feature, and more. [View it here.](#)
- **January Web Trainings:** Several web training sessions are happening this month, including Website 201, Using Divi Theme Options, and the Divi Supreme Pro Plugin. The sessions can last 60 minutes and are recorded. [Read more information and register.](#)
- **Digital Byte:** In this Digital Byte, Kristie Hauer, Assistant Director for the Nicolet Federated Library System, discusses elevator speeches. Learn why they are important, what components make up an elevator speech, how to improve them, and more. [Watch it here.](#)

### 4) 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.](#)

### 5) ALA Youth Media Awards

- Mark your calendars for the ALA Youth Media Awards representing the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, and Coretta Scott King Book Awards.
- The 2025 Youth Media Award announcements will take place on Monday, Jan. 27th at 9 a.m. during ALA's [LibLearnX: The Library Learning Experience](#) conference in Phoenix.
- Those not in Phoenix for LibLearnX can [watch a livestream of the award announcements](#), which will also be available on the [American Library Association Facebook page](#).

### 6) Upcoming Webinars

The Maine State Library maintains a national calendar of continuing education opportunities. Typically, these are webinars not coordinated by consultants in Wisconsin. WVLS encourages member librarians to [check out the calendar on a weekly basis.](#)

### 7) Next Ryan Dowd Training

Personality Disorders: An Interview with Dr. Gregory Lester, Ph.D.  
Thursday, January 9; 1 p.m.

Gregory Lester, Ph.D., is a clinical, consulting, and research psychologist with practices in Colorado and Texas. Dr. Lester has presented over 2,000 personality disorders trainings to over 200,000 professionals. Dr. Lester has served on the graduate faculty of The University of St. Thomas, and is the author of nine

books, including Management of Personality Disorders, which is the largest-selling front-line clinical manual on diagnosing, treating, and managing personality disorders.

Contact Jamie at WVLS ([jmatczak@wvls.org](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org)) for the registration link. The recording of the live training will be available for four weeks.

## 8) Reminders:

- **WISCAT Membership Agreement Form**

To participate in WISCAT in 2025, libraries are asked to complete the 2025 WISCAT Membership Agreement. Prior to completing the agreement, libraries are asked to review and be willing to adhere to statewide inter-library loan guidelines outlined in the [Wisconsin ILL Guidelines](#) document drafted by the WI Department of Public Instruction, Division for Libraries and Technology, in 2021.

Note the following:

- After agreeing to the five statements, choose your “Library Type.” Next, select your library from the drop-down menu.
- If your library is not in the drop-down menu, type in your library’s name in the box below the list of “Library Type.”

Contact [wiscat@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:wiscat@dpi.wi.gov) if you have any questions or difficulties completing the form.

- **Post-COVID Survey Request**

Brian Real, Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky’s School of Information Science is [conducting a survey](#) about how library services have changed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and is available through Friday, January 10.