

STATE LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Second Quarter 2023-2024
November 3, 2023

AGENDA

10:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Pam Meridith, Chairperson

A. Approval of Minutes [August 11, 2023]

Unfinished Business

B. Administration Report/FY2023 Agency Funding

C. State Aid and Scholarships

Other Unfinished Business

New Business

D. State Aid FY2023/Scholarships

E. Reports/Travel and Correspondence

Other New Business

F. Board Information

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STATE LIBRARY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
First Quarter 2023-2024
August 11, 2023

The State Library Board convened on August 11, 2023, in the Bessie Moore Conference Room at the Arkansas State Library. Board members present were Pamela Meridith (Chair) and Joan O'Neal with Lupe Peña de Martínez (Vice-Chair), JoAnn Campbell, Donnette Smith, and Donna McDonald attending via Zoom. Deborah Knox was absent due to a family commitment. Staff members present were State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Deputy Director Kristen Cooke, Brooke Crawford, Jenn Wann, Sarah Lipsey, and Jaynie Browne. Shasta Wagner, ASL's legal liaison with the Arkansas Department of Education, was present.

Meridith called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from May 12, 2023 [A1]. A motion to approve was made by Campbell, seconded by O'Neal. The motion passed.

Brooke Crawford, Administrative Services Manager, covered items in Tab B, beginning with an update on personnel. The number of authorized staff is 49, and the agency's budgeted staff number is currently 45. The current staff as of August 1 is 32 full-time positions and 1 extra help position with 2 shared services positions and 13 vacant positions.

The Fiscal Year End Closing for state funds was June 30. The Fiscal Year End Closing for federal funds will be September 30.

Crawford then completed her report with a brief overview of the State General Revenue [B2] and the Federal LSTA Revenue [B3] spreadsheets.

Chilcoat reviewed Tab C, which contained the Standards for State Aid to Public Libraries [C1], the Rules Governing Distribution of Scholarship Assistance [C2], and the Scholarship Assistance Application form [C3].

Chilcoat briefly reviewed Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid [D1], noting any changes during the past quarter. A motion was made by O'Neal, seconded by Campbell, to approve the list of Public Libraries Qualifying for State Aid. The motion passed.

Chilcoat reviewed the list of recommended FY2024 State Aid First Quarter Payments [D2]. A motion to approve the list was made by McDonald, seconded by Peña de Martínez. The motion passed.

Scholarship applications were presented from Billie Bowman of Mississippi County Library System [D3], Traci Hostetler of Polk County Library [D4], and Ricky Williams of Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library System [D5]. A motion was made by O'Neal, seconded by Campbell, to approve the list. The motion passed.

Chilcoat then presented the MLS Scholarship 12-hour Requirement Waiver Request from Ricky Williams. Williams, who currently holds the position of Director at the Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library, has already been approved to be reimbursed for the hours 13-36 towards his MLS degree. In this waiver, he requests reimbursement for his 11th and 12th hours towards his degree; those hours were earned after changes were adopted to the Rules Governing Scholarship Assistance, allowing for scholarship candidates who are serving as director of a public library headquarters or system to receive scholarship funding for all classwork taken toward the MLS. A motion was made by O'Neal to approve the Waiver Request, seconded by Peña de Martínez. The motion passed.

The Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance [D7] was presented, requesting reimbursement for two recipients' coursework. A total of 18 hours were completed for a total cost of \$8,100. A motion to approve was made by Campbell, seconded by McDonald. The motion passed.

State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat began her report [E1] by noting that U.S. District Judge Timothy L. Brooks issued a preliminary injunction against enforcement of two provisions of Arkansas Act 372 of 2023 on July 29. As a result, the enforcement of Section one and Section five are now on hold pending the outcome of a lawsuit challenging their constitutionality. The changes to the Arkansas State Library Rules Governing the State and Federal Document Depository Programs and the Arkansas State Library Rules Governing Distribution of Scholarship Assistance were approved by the Arkansas Legislative Council – Administrative Rules Subcommittee on May 18. They were subsequently accepted into the Secretary of State's Office and took effect on May 29.

Deputy Director Kristen Cooke began her report [E2] by announcing Judi King's retirement on August 31, 2023, after 40 years with the agency. The Senior Librarian – Reference position within Information Services was posted to AR Careers on July 10, 2023. A request to fill the Information Services Manager position, most recently held by Michael Strickland, who left the agency in May, has been submitted. Kristen Cooke and Jessica Kirk will be providing reference services until the vacant position is filled. Jeremye Hall filled the Library Support Assistant position within Interlibrary Loan and is currently in training. Cooke recently attended the Research Institute for Public Libraries (RIPL) Data Conference held in Madison, Wisconsin. The populations used for State Aid calculations and the 2023 Public Library Survey have been updated to reflect the current statistics within the Arkansas State Data Center. Cooke ended her report with a brief overview of the 2021-2022 Population Changes for Arkansas Public Libraries Graph attached to her report.

Jenn Wann, Manager of Library Development, began her report [E3] by mentioning that attendance to the solar science programs totaled 147 participants. The Northeast Arkansas Regional Library, Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library, and the Pea Ridge Community Library borrowed and returned three child kits and two inter-generational solar kits.

Wann covered [E4] on behalf of Karen O'Connell, Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book. There will be two Arkansas great reads videos represented in our region – one each in Books for Youth and Books for Adults. O'Connell has been serving on a small committee to plan the annual Idea Exchange, which will be held virtually in November over two days. The Arkansas Gems bookmark and poster designs are in the process of being printed. The bookmarks and posters are expected to be completed by July 21.

Wann covered [E5] on behalf of Amber Gregory, Manager of E-Rate Services. Between April 26 and July 25 of 2023, there were 26 virtual E-Rate consultations held with 19 Arkansas public libraries. Gregory has also assisted libraries with the E-Rate Form 486, Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review, service provider discount paperwork, and Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Form 472. Gregory continues to work closely with the Broadband Equity Access and Development (BEAD) Program.

Wann covered [E6] on behalf of Ruth Hyatt, Coordinator of Youth Services. The end of summer evaluation survey is undergoing the annual update and will be ready for release by mid-August. Public libraries will have until the end of September to submit their responses. The Youth Services Workshop is set to take place on November 17, 2023, with the 2024 theme of Adventure Begins at Your Library. This workshop will take place virtually. The Puppet Share Program is currently under development and is set to launch this fall. Puppet kits will include staging equipment, backgrounds, props, scripts, and the required puppets.

Wann covered [E7] on behalf of Janine Jamison-Miller, Coordinator of Training and Development. There were 65 Library Juice Academy courses requested and 31 evaluations returned between the months of April and June of 2023. The Library Juice Academy courses requested in July and September have been paused due to budget constraints. The recorded archived webinar content from PCI Webinars had 491 views between May and July of 2023. Jamison-Miller has had individual consulting sessions with various Friends of the Library Groups.

Kristina Hancock, Manager of Arkansas Library for the Blind, began her report [E8]. This quarter, BPD circulated a total of 134,405 books. Of this figure, 92,987 were by direct mail circulation, 99 were direct mail circulation of Braille books, and 41,418 were patron downloads from the Braille and Audio Reading program (BARD). Of the total circulated, around 30 percent were patron downloads.

Also, for the Federal fiscal year October 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, our Reader Advisors had a total of 22,144 patron interactions. Of those interactions, 8,068 were phone calls received, 1,308 were emails received and responded to, 1,283 voicemails received and responded to, 1,691 were new patron outreach calls, and 9,842 were work follow up interactions. Work follow up included curating a book order for a patron and searching for and providing reference information.

Kristen Cooke covered [E9] on behalf of Jessica Kirk, Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator. Jessica volunteered onsite at the ADE Summit in July, providing assistance to attendees. ASL contributed six sessions total at ADE Summit on Traveler Databases by Katie Walton, Arkansas Choice Book Awards by Ruth Hyatt, and Eclipse Day Planning by the Central Arkansas Astronomical Society.

Sarah Lipsey, Division Manager of Collection Management, began her report [E10] with the update that Lanette Madison, a Librarian who previously worked in the Acquisitions unit, has accepted the vacant Senior Librarian position in Digital Services. Lanette will now serve as the main point of contact between the Arkansas State Library and the state government entities for the Arkansas Documents Depository Program in her new position as Digital Services' Senior Librarian. We expect the Librarian position in Digital Services, recently held by Tina Youngblood until her retirement, to be filled by this fall. As time allows between training of staff members, the unit continues to work towards completing special projects. All unit managers across Collection Management are reassessing budgets for the upcoming federal fiscal year. The managers are working diligently to cut out discretionary spending on collection supplies and travel, while continuing all major system contracts out of necessity. The State Employee Online Resources collection will be canceled this year as a result of rising costs and flat resource budget. Although labor intensive, several budget-friendly plans to update the 856 fields in ASL's catalog records from CONTENTdm to Preservica URLs have been identified and completion of the project is expected by the end of the next federal fiscal year. Sarah and Katie continue their work to finalize the Traveler request for proposal (RFP).

Jennifer Razer, Manager of Digital Services, began her report [E11]. The State Documents Staff continues to keep digital submissions up to date. The state Documents digital collection has been reorganized within the Preservica content management system. The Electronic documents submitted by agencies are organized into six collections such as the following: Arkansas Collections, Arkansas Documents, Arkansas Rules, Legislative Audit Reports, Medicaid Rules, and Governor's Proclamations and Executive Orders. Once organized, the collections are then further divided by the agency that submitted them. Razer is in the process of replacing the website links for the digital content in the online catalog to direct users to the digital collection in Preservica. Once inventory of the microfiche collection is complete, the online catalog will accurately reflect our holdings.

Sarah Lipsey covered [E12] on behalf of Katie Walton, Manager of Acquisitions. Walton continues to take on the time sensitive duties of the Senior Librarian, such as ordering and processing, while the position remains vacant and awaiting approval from ADE and OPM before it can be advertised and filled. Lanette Madison has kindly volunteered to process new books that come in while Federal Documents and State Documents are absorbing various duties normally performed by the Acquisitions Librarian. Due to the cost increase of many of our online resources and print periodicals, some subscriptions will have to be cut in order to stay within budget during the 2024 State Fiscal Year. As renewals arise, Acquisitions continues to reevaluate subscriptions and cut them as needed. Two large subscriptions, Plunkett and Statista, have been cut. In July, Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library joined ADLC. Walton gave three breakout sessions during ADE's Education Summit over the summer. Walton currently offers four opportunities for schoolteachers to earn PD credit through two-hour online webinars.

Chilcoat presented correspondence received from Roy Kitchens of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences [E13]. Chilcoat mentioned that Debbie Hall received the FY 2022 John G. Lorenz Award from IMLS in appreciation of her work regarding the state program reports, and presented a photo of U.S. Senator Boozman with staff members Jennifer Chilcoat and Kristen Cooke and board member Donna McDonald [E14].

Chilcoat briefly reviewed the current news clippings relating to the library community, the map of the Arkansas Public Library Systems [E15], and the list of Public Libraries in Arkansas by Library Development Districts [E16].

Chilcoat then reviewed the contact information for the State Library Board [F1] and other contacts in ADE, the Governor's Office, and the Attorney General's Office [F2].

The Arkansas State Library Board Bylaws were presented [F3], along with the ASL Board Standing Committee Assignments [F4].

The section was completed with the staff directory [F5] and the calendar of meetings for 2023 [F6].

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by O'Neal, seconded by McDonald. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Approval Date

Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian

Administrative Services Manager - Brooke Crawford

Human Resources:

Authorized staff: 49 (+2 Shared Services positions = 51 total staff)

Budgeted staff: 45

Current staff as of 11/1/23: 33 Full-Time, 12 Vacant Positions, 2 Shared Services positions, 1 Extra Help.

As of 10/30/23, Erin Sebree, Fiscal Support Specialist, promoted to Buyer.

2 positions are in the Interview/Selection process. Awaiting approval on 5 vacant positions to advertise.

Fiscal Year End:

Fiscal Year End Closing for our state funds was September 30. Currently working on the Federal SPR (closing report).

M&R:

Marketing & Redistribution (M&R) is scheduled to pickup items/assets that are no longer needed by the agency on Tuesday, October 24th.

Trainings:

All staff attended a Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events on September 28th or October 5th.

Business Office staff are involved in several AASIS update trainings that are being held from September 2023 - January 2024.

STATE GENERAL REVENUE
EPA0100 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2024
BY COMMITMENT ITEM
OCT 25, 2023

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	FY Blocks	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$1,749,087	\$71,924	\$1,677,163	46.0%	\$441,310	\$1,235,853	74%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	0.3%	\$0	\$10,000	100%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$644,998	\$44,419	\$600,579	16.5%	\$174,434	\$426,145	71%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$2,404,085	\$116,343	\$2,287,742	62.8%	\$615,744	\$1,671,998	73%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$1,125,091	\$655	\$1,124,436	30.9%	\$395,864	\$728,572	65%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	0.3%	\$7,713	\$2,287	23%
506:00:10	Prof. Fees & Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	\$0	\$0	0%
	Total M & O	\$1,135,091	\$655	\$1,134,436	31.1%	\$403,577	\$730,859	64%
509:00:46	Books/Subscriptions	\$230,000	\$9,757	\$220,243	6.0%	\$48,919	\$171,324	78%
	TOTALS	\$3,769,176	\$126,755	\$3,642,421	100.0%	\$1,068,240	\$2,574,181	71%
	M&R paid to ASL account						\$0	100%

FEDERAL LSTA REVENUE
 FEL0100 FEL0200 BUDGET DISTRIBUTION FY2024
 BY COMMITMENT ITEM
 OCT 25, 2023

COMMITMENT ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL APPRO.	TOTAL BUDGETED	% OF TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDED	BALANCE	% REMAINING
501:00:00	Reg. Salaries	\$502,646	\$502,646	15.3%	\$74,258	\$428,388	85%
501:00:01	Extra Help	\$22,000	\$22,000	0.7%	\$3,885	\$18,115	82%
501:00:03	Pers. Svcs. Matching	\$214,290	\$214,290	6.5%	\$43,812	\$170,478	80%
	Total Salaries & Matching	\$738,936	\$738,936	22.5%	\$121,955	\$616,981	83%
502:00:02	Operating Expenses	\$2,357,700	\$2,357,700	71.8%	\$878,909	\$1,478,791	63%
505:00:09	Conf. & Travel	\$145,000	\$145,000	4.4%	\$492	\$144,508	100%
512:00:11	Capital Outlay	\$40,000	\$40,000	1.2%	\$0	\$40,000	100%
	Total M & O	\$2,542,700	\$2,542,700	77.5%	\$879,401	\$1,663,299	65%
	TOTALS	\$3,281,636	\$3,281,636	100.0%	\$1,001,356	\$2,280,280	69%

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**ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY
900 WEST CAPITOL, STE 100
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3108**

STANDARDS FOR STATE AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Authorized by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979

1.0 ORGANIZATION

- 1.1 All county libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 244 of 1927. All city libraries, including those in county or regional systems, shall be organized in accordance with Act 177 of 1931.**
- 1.2 County and city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation as a department of county or municipal government.**
- 1.3 Public library systems composed of county and/or city libraries shall provide evidence to the State Library Board of organization and operation under the provisions of a formal interlocal agreement, as provided in Section 90, Act 742 of 1977.**

2.0 GOVERNANCE

- 2.1 Policies for city, county, and regional library systems shall be established by legally constituted administrative boards, comprised of trustees serving designated terms, conducting regularly scheduled meetings, preferably not less than quarterly, and functioning with recorded bylaws and policies which are on file with the State Library.**
- 2.2 The library shall comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and shall provide library service for all residents.**
- 2.3 The library director shall submit quarterly, annual, and special reports as required to the State Library and to local boards.**
- 2.4 City, county, and regional library systems shall provide the State Library with a copy of a current long range plan developed for the purpose of guiding the public library administration in the attainment of goals and future planning.**

3.0 FINANCE

- 3.1 The State Library Board supports the concept that libraries or library systems serving populations greater than 50,000, with budgets in excess of \$250,000, can render more efficient, effective library service, and preference of support shall be given to the development of such systems.**
- 3.2 All libraries shall maintain the one mill county or city library tax on real and personal property as authorized in Amendments 30 and 38 of the Arkansas Constitution.**
- 3.3 All cities and counties should restore the library tax to the maximum permitted by law by not later than July 1, 1991.**
- 3.4 Libraries should receive additional local support.**
- 3.5 The annual budget for city, county, and regional libraries shall be filed with the State Library. The budget should reflect an amount equal to the previous annual budget, plus growth, with the allocation for materials reflecting comparable growth.**

4.0 PERSONNEL

- 4.1 City, county, and regional library systems participating in the State Aid to Public Libraries program shall be administered by a qualified librarian. A Master's degree in Library Science awarded through a program accredited by the American Library Association is recognized as the minimum qualifying degree.**
- 4.2 Systems employing a new head librarian or director after September 1, 1988, must provide the State Library Board with evidence of a qualifying library degree in order to continue participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program.**
- 4.3 Public library staff members should be well trained and qualified for their position. They should be encouraged to participate in continuing education and training programs to improve library skills.**
- 4.4 All libraries should have adequate support staff, with no employee receiving less than the current minimum wage.**

5.0 FACILITIES

- 5.1 The county or city government shall provide a suitable building for headquarters operation and adequate quarters for necessary branches.**

6.0 RESOURCES AND RESOURCE SHARING

- 6.1 The library shall maintain a current collection of materials to serve all citizens.**
- 6.2 The library shall agree to provide interlibrary loan service to other libraries in Arkansas.**
- 6.3 The library shall coordinate services for the blind and physically handicapped with the sections of the Arkansas State Library which administer these services.**

7.0 NOTIFICATION

- 7.1 If the State Library Board determines that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the State Librarian shall notify the board chairman and the library director via certified mail not later than fifteen working days following that determination.**

8.0 RIGHT OF APPEAL

- 8.1 Upon determination by the State Library Board that a city, county, or regional library or system fails to qualify for participation in the State Aid to Public Libraries program, the library or system shall have the right to appeal that decision at the next scheduled meeting of the State Library Board. Intent to appeal must be filed in writing with the State Librarian not more than thirty days following receipt of a notice of failure to meet the standards.**
- 8.2 All appeals shall be presented to the State Library Board in an open hearing, with the final determination to be made by the State Library Board.**
- 8.3 The State Library Board may provisionally approve a city, county, or regional library or system for a period of time they deem sufficient to rectify deficiencies. The Board may grant additional waivers upon acceptance of satisfactory evidence of progress.**

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY
RULES GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION OF
SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE
Effective May 29, 2023

1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as Arkansas State Library Rules Governing the Distribution of Scholarship Assistance.
- 1.02 These rules are enacted pursuant to the Arkansas State Library's authority under Act 489, Acts of Arkansas 1979, Arkansas Code Anno. 13-2-201 et seq.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.01 It is the purpose of these rules to formalize a process already in existence and set reasonable guidelines to make scholarship assistance available to every public library in the state of Arkansas to address the education needs of public library staff working toward the ultimate goal of obtaining a master's degree in library and information science as defined in 3.03. These rules are specifically for the purpose of establishing standards for distributing funds available through the state aid to public library fund administered by the Arkansas State Library.

3.00 DEFINITIONS

- 3.01 ASL refers to the Arkansas State Library.
- 3.02 ALA refers to the American Library Association.
- 3.03 A master's degree refers to the educational award given by a library school whose program is accredited by the ALA.
- 3.04 State Aid refers to State Aid to Public Libraries

4.0 FOCUS AREA

- 4.01 To aid Arkansas public libraries in employing master's degree librarians by providing educational opportunities for public library staff members through traditional, on-campus or distance learning.

5.0 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

- 5.01 Scholarship funds will be distributed to a public library that submits scholarship application to the ASL Board. Priority will be given as follows:
 - 1. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed as library directors.
 - 2. Public libraries eligible for State Aid whose personnel are employed positions other than library director.
 - 3. Public libraries not eligible for State Aid but recognized by the ASL as public libraries.

- 5.02 The applying institution (or its governing body) must be able to accept and administer the scholarship on behalf of the employee. Applying institutions may neither add to nor subtract from the scholarship eligibility requirements imposed on the employee.
- 5.03 Individuals upon whose behalf the library is applying must meet the following standards:
1. Unless employed as a library director and granted a waiver from the ASL Board, show evidence of completion of 12 semester hours toward the master's degree as evidenced by submitting an official transcript.
 2. Provide a copy of the agreement with the public library concerning employment in a public library for at least one year after completion of the master's degree.
 3. After each semester, furnish proof of completion of coursework which shows the individual received a minimum course grade (based upon an "A-F" grading scale), of "B", or if applicable, a "Credit" for a credit/no credit course. "Incompletes" do not qualify for reimbursement.
 4. Show evidence of conferral of degree by submitting an official transcript which indicates the date of conferral.
 5. Agree to remain employed by a public library in the state of Arkansas for a duration of one year upon completion of degree.
 6. Complete all required coursework and obtain the master's degree within three (3) years of acceptance to the scholarship program. This requirement may be waived by written appeal to, and approval by, the ASL Board.

6.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 6.01 The scholarship will be administered by the ASL Board.

7.0 SCHOLARSHIP PROPOSALS

- 7.01 The proposals shall include an application from the applicant library. The ASL Board shall review the proposals for approval. Proposals shall be consistent with Arkansas Code and existing ASL rules regarding an ALA accredited library program.
- 7.02 Funding may include but is not limited to tuition, materials, travel, lodging, and other items associated with educational costs.
- 7.03. Funding shall not be provided for hours in excess of the required number for the degree, nor for required courses not completed within the set number of hours required for the degree.

8.0 DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- 8.01 The ASL Board will budget and distribute funds appropriated for each biennium from the Arkansas State Legislature according to the following:
1. The total amount of funds to be distributed will be determined by the ASL Board each year at a minimum of 1% of the appropriated State Aid to Public Libraries.
 2. Funds may provide as many scholarships as are requested each year. All monies not disbursed shall be returned to the State Aid fund for distribution.
 3. Funds may be disbursed to the applicant library at the completion of each semester.
 4. Funds will be distributed via scholarship for each individual as identified by the ASL Board in accordance with eligibility. Each scholarship will include a set of assurances and provisions required in the eligibility standards.
- 8.02 The ASL Board reserves the right to approve or deny any scholarship applications.

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Applicant Library Name

Mailing Address

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

Email Address

Phone Number

Fax Number

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Participant's Signature

Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Librarian

Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date

Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, DIRECTOR, AND AREA SERVICED:	2022 Population Served	LIB. TAX UNITS *	QTRLY MLS AWARD
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 150,001 OR MORE :			
Central Arkansas Library System Nate Coulter, MLS - U of Wisconsin-Madison (Perry and Pulaski Counties, excluding North Little Rock)	344,581	4	YES
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library Clare Graham, MLS - UNT (Saline, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, and Cleveland Counties)	192,378	5	YES
Washington County Library System Glenda B. Audrain, MLS - U of AL (Washington County)	156,769	2	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	693,728		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 75,001 TO 150,000:			
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library John McGraw, MLIS - U of AL (Faulkner and Van Buren Counties)	143,767	2	YES
Crowley Ridge Regional Library Vanessa Adams, MLS - U of Missouri (Craighead and Poinsett Counties)	134,512	4	YES
Garland County Library Adam Webb, MLS - UNT (Garland County)	100,089	1	YES
Fort Smith Public Library Jennifer Goodson, MLIS-U of OK (Fort Smith District of Sebastian County)	89,992	1	YES
Fayetteville Public Library David Johnson, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (Fayetteville)	99,285	1	YES
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library Misty Hawkins, MLS - U of OK (Franklin, Johnson, Logan, and Yell Counties)	84,654	4	YES
White River Regional Library Debra Sutterfield, MLS - U. of AL (Cleburne, Fulton, Izard, Sharp, and Stone Counties)	82,099	5	YES
White County Library Darla Ino, MLS - U of TN - Knoxville (White County)	77,755	1	YES
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library Mike Rogers, MLS - UNT (Clay, Greene, and Randolph Counties)	79,550	3	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	891,703		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 50,001 TO 75,000:			
Lonoke County Library Kathleen Ashmore, MLS - Valdosta State U (Lonoke County)	75,225	1	YES
Rogers Public Library Hannah Milligan, MLS - U of So. Florida (Rogers)	72,999	1	YES
Union County Library Michael O'Connell, MLIS - Catholic Univ of America (Union County and contracted with Ouachita County)	64,496	4	YES
Pine Bluff and Jefferson County Library Adam Webb, MLS - UNT (MLS of record) (Jefferson County)	64,246	2	YES
Texarkana Public Library (Total Population 65,974) Laquita Dedmon, MSLS - UNT - <i>Interim</i> (Arkansas only 29,657) (Texarkana, AR and TX)	29,306	1	YES
North Little Rock Public Library Crystal Gates, MLIS - LSU (North Little Rock)	64,627	1	YES
Mississippi-Crittenden Co. Regional Library Lowell Walters, MSLS - Clarion (Mississippi and Crittenden Counties)	62,162	2	YES
Pope County Library Judy Mays, MLS - UNC/Chapel Hill (MLS of record) (Pope County)	64,065	1	YES
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library Judy Calhoun, MLS - Florida State U (Bradley, Chicot, Desha, Drew and Lincoln Counties)	60,606	5	YES
Crawford County Library System Eva White, MLS - TWU - <i>Interim</i> (Crawford County)	61,075	1	YES

Public Library Systems Qualifying for State Aid

Scott-Sebastian Regional Library Rene Myers, MLIS - U of WI/Milwaukee (Scott County and Sebastian County, South District)	48,874	2	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	667,681		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX, SERVING 25,001 to 50,000:			
Carroll and Madison Library System April Griffith, MLS - Clarion U (Carroll and Madison Counties)	46,228	2	YES
Tri-County Library System Marilyn Archer, MLS - Emporia State U. (Howard, Little River and Sevier Counties)	40,064	3	YES
Baxter County Library Kim Crow-Sheaner, MLS - UNT (Baxter County)	42,435	1	YES
Independence County Library Laura Rumans, MLS - U of Texas (MLS of record) (Independence County)	37,945	1	YES
Boone County Library Ginger Schoenenberger - MLS - Clarion Univ (Boone County)	38,284	1	YES
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library VACANT 6/2002 (Phillips, Lee, and Monroe Counties)	30,232	3	NO
Columbia County Library Hollie Howard - UNT (Columbia County and contract with Lafayette County)	28,317	2	YES
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library Brenda Miner (MLS - U of OK) (Montgomery and Polk Counties)	27,893	2	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	291,398		
LIBRARY SYSTEMS WITH TAX SERVING LESS THAN 25,000:			
West Memphis Public Library Rebecca Bledsoe (West Memphis)	23,795	1	NO
East Central Arkansas Regional Library John Paul Myrick, MLS - U of Alabama (Cross and Woodruff Counties)	22,650	2	YES
Clark County Library Betsy Fisher, MLIS - Wayne State Univeristy (Clark County)	21,250	1	YES
Hempstead County Library Courtney McNiel, MLS - Florida State U. (Hempstead County)	19,453	1	YES
Conway County Library Jay Carter, MLIS - USF (Conway County)	21,046	1	YES
Ashley County Library David Anderson, MLS - TWU (Ashley County)	18,354	2	YES
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library Courtney McNiel, MLS - Florida State U. (Nevada and Pike Counties)	18,360	2	YES
Arkansas County Library Allie Stevens, MLIS - LSU (Interim) (Arkansas County)	16,512	2	YES
Jackson County Library Jennifer Ballard, MLIS - U of AL (Jackson County)	16,624	1	YES
Marion County Library Dana Scott, MLS - TWU (Marion County)	17,254	1	YES
Lawrence County Library Ashley Burris, MLIS - U of AL (Lawrence County)	16,205	1	YES
Forrest City Public Library Arlisa Price, MSLS - UNT (Forrest City)	12,676	1	YES
Newton County Library Kenya Windel, MLS - UNT (Newton County)	7,078	1	YES
SUBTOTAL SERVED	231,257		
TOTAL POPULATION SERVED	2,775,767		

FY2024 State Aid

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Arkansas Co. Lib.	Arkansas Co.	16,512	24,817		18,000	42,817	10,704	10,704	10,704	10,705
Ashley Co. Lib.	Ashley Co. less Crosssett	13,741	20,652							
Ashley Co. Lib.	Crosssett (city) (Ashley Co.)	4,613	6,933							
Ashley Co. Lib. Total		18,354	27,586		18,000	45,586	11,396	11,396	11,396	11,398
Baxter Co. Lib.	Baxter Co.	42,435	63,779		18,000	81,779	20,445	20,445	20,445	20,444
Boone Co. Lib.	Boone Co.	38,284	57,540		18,000	75,540	18,885	18,885	18,885	18,885
Clark Co. Lib.	Clark Co.	21,250	31,938		18,000	49,938	12,485	12,485	12,485	12,483
Columbia Co. Lib.	Columbia Co.	22,216	33,390							
Columbia Co. Lib.	Lafayette Co. (contract)	6,101	9,170							
Columbia Co. Lib. Total		28,317	42,560		18,000	60,560	15,140	15,140	15,140	15,140
Conway Co. Lib.	Conway Co.	21,046	31,632		18,000	49,632	12,408	12,408	12,408	12,408
Crawford Co. Lib. System	Crawford Co.	61,075	91,794		18,000	109,794	27,449	27,449	27,449	27,447
Garland Co. Lib.	Garland Co.	100,089	150,432		18,000	168,432	42,108	42,108	42,108	42,108
Hempstead Co. Lib.	Hempstead Co.	19,453	29,237		18,000	47,237	11,809	11,809	11,809	11,810
Independence Co. Lib	Independence Co.	37,945	57,031		18,000	75,031	18,758	18,758	18,758	18,757
Jackson Co. Lib.	Jackson Co.	16,624	24,986		18,000	42,986	10,746	10,746	10,746	10,748
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Jefferson Co. Total less Pine Bluff	24,751	37,200							
Jefferson Co. Lib.	Pine Bluff (city) (Jefferson Co.)	39,495	59,360							
Jefferson Co. Lib. Total		64,246	96,560		18,000	114,560	28,640	28,640	28,640	28,640
Lawrence Co. Lib.	Lawrence Co.	16,205	24,356		18,000	42,356	10,589	10,589	10,589	10,589
Lonoke Co. Lib.	Lonoke Co.	75,225	113,062		18,000	131,062	32,765	32,765	32,765	32,767
Marion Co. Lib.	Marion Co.	17,254	25,932		18,000	43,932	10,983	10,983	10,983	10,983
Newton Co. Lib.	Newton Co.	7,078	10,638		18,000	28,638	7,160	7,160	7,160	7,158
Pope Co. Lib.	Pope Co.	64,065	96,288		18,000	114,288	28,572	28,572	28,572	28,572
Union Co. Lib.	El Dorado (city)	17,063	25,645							
Union Co. Lib.	Union Co. Total less El Dorado	20,689	31,095							
Union Co. Lib.	Calhoun County (contract)	4,695	7,056							
Union Co. Lib.	Camden (city) (Ouachita Co.)	10,298	15,478							
Union Co. Lib.	Ouachita Co. Total less Camden (contract)	11,751	17,662							
Union Co. Lib. Total		64,496	96,936		18,000	114,936	28,734	28,734	28,734	28,734
Washington Co. Lib.	Washington Co. (less Fayetteville)	156,769	235,621		18,000	253,621	63,405	63,405	63,405	63,406
White Co. Reg. Lib. System	White Co.	77,755	116,864		18,000	134,864	33,716	33,716	33,716	33,716
Total Single County Libraries		964,477	1,449,590	-	378,000	1,827,590	456,897	456,897	456,897	456,898
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Franklin Co.	17,271	25,958	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Johnson Co.	26,001	39,079	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Logan Co.	21,253	31,943	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib.	Yell Co.	20,129	30,253	12,000						
Arkansas River Valley Reg. Lib. Total		84,654	127,233	48,000	18,000	193,233	48,308	48,308	48,308	48,309
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Carroll Co.	28,742	43,199	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System	Madison Co.	17,486	26,281	12,000						
Carroll & Madison Co. Lib. System Total		46,228	69,480	24,000	18,000	111,480	27,870	27,870	27,870	27,870
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Little Rock (city) (Pulaski Co.)	202,864	304,901							
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Perry Co.	10,063	15,124	12,000						

FY2024 State Aid

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Central Arkansas Lib. System	Pulaski Co. Total less LR & NLR	131,654	197,873	12,000						
Central Arkansas Lib. System Total		344,581	517,898	24,000	18,000	559,898	139,975	139,975	139,975	139,973
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Craighead Co. Total less Jonesboro	33,141	49,810	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Jonesboro (city) (Craighead Co.)	78,876	118,549							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Poinsett Co. Total less Trumann	15,190	22,830	12,000						
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib.	Trumann (city) (Poinsett Co.)	7,305	10,979							
Crowley Ridge Reg. Lib. Total		134,512	202,169	24,000	18,000	244,169	61,042	61,042	61,042	61,043
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Cross Co.	16,601	24,951	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Woodruff Co.	6,049	9,092	12,000						
East Central Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		22,650	34,042	24,000	18,000	76,042	19,011	19,011	19,011	19,009
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Faulkner Co.	127,665	191,878	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib.	Van Buren Co.	16,102	24,201	12,000						
Faulkner-Van Buren Reg. Lib. Total		143,767	216,079	24,000	18,000	258,079	64,520	64,520	64,520	64,519
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Cleveland Co.	7,467	11,223	12,000						
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Dallas Co.	6,191	9,305	12,000						
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Grant Co.	18,160	27,294	12,000						
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Hot Spring Co.	33,203	49,903	12,000						
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Saline Co.	127,357	191,415	12,000						
Malvern-Hot Spring County Library		192,378	289,140	60,000	18,000	367,140	91,785	91,785	91,785	91,785
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Blytheville (city) (Mississippi Co.)	12,706	19,097							
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Crittenden Co. Total less West Memphis	23,266	34,968	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib.	Mississippi Co. Total less Blytheville	26,190	39,363	12,000						
Mississippi/Crittenden Co. Lib. Total		62,162	93,428	24,000	18,000	135,428	33,857	33,857	33,857	33,857
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Clay Co.	14,265	21,440	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Greene Co.	46,448	69,810	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Randolph Co.	18,837	28,312	12,000						
Northeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		79,550	119,562	36,000	18,000	173,562	43,391	43,391	43,391	43,389
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Montgomery Co.	8,556	12,859	12,000						
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib	Polk Co.	19,337	29,063	12,000						
Ouachita Mountains Reg Lib Total		27,893	41,923	24,000	18,000	83,923	20,981	20,981	20,981	20,980
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Lee Co.	8,364	12,571	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Monroe Co.	6,564	9,866	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib.	Phillips Co.	15,304	23,002	12,000						
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Reg. Lib. Total		30,232	45,438	36,000		81,438	20,360	20,360	20,360	20,358
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Scott Co.	9,805	14,737	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib.	Sebastian Co. Total less Fort Smith	39,067	58,717	12,000						
Scott-Sebastian Reg. Lib. Total		48,872	73,454	24,000	18,000	115,454	28,863	28,863	28,863	28,865
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Bradley Co.	10,135	15,233	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Chicot Co.	9,873	14,839	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Desha Co.	10,771	16,189	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Drew Co.	16,911	25,417	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Lincoln Co.	12,916	19,412	12,000						
Southeast Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		60,606	91,090	60,000	18,000	169,090	42,272	42,272	42,272	42,274
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Nevada Co.	8,181	12,296	12,000						
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib.	Pike Co.	10,179	15,299	12,000						

November 1, 2023

State Aid Distribution FY24

FY2024 State Aid

Headquarters Lib.	Tax Unit	2022 Est Population	Per Capita @ 1.50297990	\$12,000/co. in multi-co. region	MLS	Total FY2024	First Qtr. Payment	Second Qtr. Payment	Third Qtr. Payment	Fourth Qtr. Payment
Southwest Arkansas Reg. Lib. Total		18,360	27,595	24,000	18,000	69,595	17,399	17,399	17,399	17,398
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Howard Co.	12,557	18,873	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Little River Co.	11,821	17,767	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.	Sevier Co.	15,686	23,576	12,000						
Tri-County Reg. Lib.		40,064	60,215	36,000	18,000	114,215	28,554	28,554	28,554	28,553
White River Reg. Lib.	Cleburne Co.	25,284	38,001	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Fulton Co.	12,382	18,610	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Izard Co.	14,048	21,114	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Sharp Co.	17,810	26,768	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib.	Stone Co.	12,575	18,900	12,000						
White River Reg. Lib. Total		82,099	123,393	60,000	18,000	201,393	50,348	50,348	50,348	50,349
Total Regional Libraries		1,418,608	2,132,139	552,000	270,000	2,954,139	738,535	738,535	738,535	738,531
Fayetteville Public Library	Fayetteville (city)	99,285	149,223		18,000	167,223	41,806	41,806	41,806	41,805
Forrest City Public Lib.	Forrest City (city)	12,676	19,052		18,000	37,052	9,263	9,263	9,263	9,263
Fort Smith Public Lib.	Fort Smith (city)	89,992	135,256		18,000	153,256	38,314	38,314	38,314	38,314
North Little Rock Public Lib.	North Little Rock (city)	64,627	97,133		18,000	115,133	28,783	28,783	28,783	28,784
Rogers Public Lib.	Rogers (city)	72,999	109,716		18,000	127,716	31,929	31,929	31,929	31,929
Texarkana Public Lib.	Texarkana (city)	29,306	44,046	12,000	18,000	74,046	18,512	18,512	18,512	18,510
West Memphis Public Lib.	West Memphis (city)	23,795	35,763			35,763	8,941	8,941	8,941	8,940
Total City Libraries		392,680	590,190	12,000	108,000	710,190	177,548	177,548	177,548	177,545
Grand Total		2,775,765	4,171,919	564,000	756,000	5,491,919	1,372,980	1,372,980	1,372,980	1,372,974

Counties Not Qualifying	Total Released for FY2024 State Aid		5,641,919	<i>Fifth Payment (optional) is the distribution of the remainder of the reserves held for scholarships, multi-county regionals and MLS awards. (Director discretion).</i>
Prairie	Reserved for Scholarships	(150,000)		
Searcy	Multi-County Regionals	(564,000)		
Benton	MLS Awards, 42 headquarters libraries	(756,000)		
Miller	Total Designated	(1,470,000)		
St. Francis	Balance for Per Capita Distribution		4,171,919	
Source:	4,171,919/2,775,765=		1.50297990	
https://arstatedatacenter.youraedi.com/scripts/subcountyestimates.php				
AR Data Center - 2021 estimates				
Multi-County Regionals & MLS Awards are based on July 1st status.				
Only positive changes to the payout amounts are permitted during the year due to recipient budget expectations.				

	As of:	11/1/2023
ACTUAL:	State Aid:	1,372,981
	Scholarships:	23,400
	Amt Paid Out	1,396,381
	Adjustments	-
	Balance	4,245,538

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Rogers Public Library
Applicant Library Name

711 S Dixie Rd
Mailing Address

Rogers AR 72758
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

hmilligan@rogersar.gov
Email Address

479-621-1152
Phone Number

Fax Number

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Deborah Woehr
Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

Date Oct. 17 2023

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Mary Susan Barnhart
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

M Susan Barnhart
Participant's Signature

10-11-23
Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

J P Act
Signature of State Librarian

10/20/2023
Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date

October 18, 2023

Arkansas State Library Board
Scholarship Assistance

RE: Recommendation Letter for Susan Barnhart

To the Arkansas State Library Board,

I am honored to recommend Susan Barnhart for the scholarship assistance from the Arkansas State Library to financially help in obtaining her Masters of Library and Information Science Program at the School of Library and Information Science at LSU. I have worked with Susan as her immediate supervisor for over two years since I was hired at the Rogers Public Library as their Assistant Director and Head of Reference and Adult Services. Susan has worked in her current position as an Adult Services Librarian at our Reference Desk for three years.

Susan has many of the traits that I consider essential to a good Librarian. She is kind, compassionate, a good listener, and extremely patient with everyone that comes through our doors. She is knowledgeable in several different subject fields and tenacious about finding information for patrons. She is also extremely committed to offering our community quality programs and makes time to research each one fully so that our community benefits.

Susan is already an asset to the Rogers Public Library and I believe she would be a valuable addition to the Librarian field overall. I encourage you to consider her application.

Sincerely,


Joy B. Poynor, MLIS

Assistant Director

Rogers Public Library

Libraries are the heart of a community, open to anyone who wishes to enter. Everyone is entitled to information and a library is a source for free, diverse, and inclusive material.

Providing programs tailored to the community, is what libraries can do to bring people together and to educate them. People gather together, in libraries, to form a community and bring equity to all who enter through their doors. I want to pursue my Masters in Library Science to serve my community members and to provide access through materials and programs. I desire to be the friendly face they gravitate toward to feel welcomed. I wish to offer a smile or laugh or even words of encouragement to patrons so that they will come back over and over because they know, no matter what, a library is a safe place.

Growing up, family and friends told me I should become a nurse, a flight attendant, or a librarian to name a few professions. I had no desire to be a librarian at that time. Sure, I loved to read. I was a ferocious reader, devouring every book I laid my eyes on. A lifetime in a library, though? No, I thought. I was too cool for that. I started on a career toward nursing. Let's face it: nurses can help a community and get paid a lot more money. I received an associates in healthcare on my way to becoming a nurse. In the meantime, I was a stay-at-home mother to three boys. I wanted a part-time job to give me a sense of myself outside the home. The local library was hiring, and I applied. The moment I received a job acceptance phone call for my first part-time library position, I knew that this was what I wanted to do. When I walked into the library in Lincoln, California that feeling only became stronger. I LOVED IT! Every moment of that job was a confirmation to me that this was where I was meant to be. I flourished; the job truly came naturally to me and I fit in like it was my second home. I loved the sense of community we encouraged and my impact on it, no matter how big or how small my role. I witnessed struggling readers, then watched them leave with an excitement in their eye for the

book I helped them to pick out; saw the relief of students after helping them find research materials, and showing them how they can site their sources with our databases. I loved interacting with the older people in the community as we recorded their memories for a local history program; and I even enjoyed selecting movies and setting up the room for families to bring their young children for a family movie night.

I have fifteen years of library experience in roles that spanned from children's, reference, circulation, cataloging, acquisitions and collection development – all in rural, city, and county library systems. These roles included librarian-in-charge responsibilities. I have wavered in the past if I really wanted to pursue a masters degree or try to be content where I am. After all, I already have educational debt and was leery of adding to it. I have finally decided to take the plunge, and I want this Masters degree! I am excited that this program will help me learn more about library science, and officially put me on the path for my MLIS.

This degree, however, is about more than just the library career I want next; I know that it will help me become the best librarian I can be in the present as well. I currently work as a reference librarian in a public library in Arkansas. We are in an age where information seekers tend to refer to their handheld devices and avoid human interactions. It makes it increasingly important for a reference librarian to be able to communicate successfully and uphold a knowledgeable profession. I want to be approachable, communicable, and well-informed as I help not only patrons, but staff as well, to navigate the library of the future. I strive to be able to identify and to respond successfully to emerging issues. I believe that my scholarly time at Louisiana State will provide me with strategies that will allow me to establish myself as an approachable, effective librarian. The LSU MLIS program will equip me to better understand the patrons who need to access information systems as well as the communities they come from. By

working through diverse courses, I will be able to learn essential skills to help researchers across multiple fields. I want others to know that they can depend on my ability to guide them through all types of media in search of information. This masters degree will also help me pass on the skills I learn to others while I pursue leadership possibilities. I envision myself as not just one effective librarian, but as part of an entire system which can supply information through digital and physical materials while joining in the ongoing dialogue of access and information freedom to all. Through all of this, I hope to maintain sight of the integrity and value of the physical place in which others can seek and absorb information.

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Springdale Public Library

Applicant Library Name
405 S. Pleasant St.

Mailing Address
Springdale, AR 72764-4224

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

Email Address
(479) 750-8180

(479) 750-8182

Phone Number
PAULA WILSON

Fax Number

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Paula Wilson

6/20/23

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Mary Emma Hignite

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Mary Emma Hignite

7-7-23

Participant Signature

Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Librarian

[Signature]

Date

10/20/2023

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date



Springdale Public Library

Library in the Park

Arkansas State Library
900 W Capitol Ave
Little Rock, AR 72201

June 30, 2023

To whom it may concern,

It is with great joy that I recommend Mary Emma Hignite for the Master's of Library Science Scholarship Assistance program available through the Arkansas State Library. I supervised Mary Emma as the circulation supervisor at the Springdale Public Library. Mary Emma is a circulation clerk with a heart for children's programming, patron equality, and creating a safe space for all. I have been very impressed with her work ethic and am proud to recommend her for this scholarship program.

Mary Emma was hired in 2021 and has since gained a concrete understanding of library operations. Mary Emma models excellent leadership skills in the library and information science profession. She now assists with training new hires in the circulation department and oversees our left behind bookshelf. She has shown an interest in children's librarianship and has actively sought to gain experience assisting in the children's department by helping with summer reading program kick-off and shadowing storytimes. In her current role, she meets patron's needs with grace and seeks to excel in all tasks that are assigned to her. Mary Emma would be an asset to any aspect of library services.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kacy Earnest Spears

Reference Librarian

Springdale Public Library

kspears@springdalelibrary.org

Mary Emma Hignite

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Letter

Like many people, I fell in love with libraries as a kid. My mom took me and my brothers to the Springdale Public Library every summer, and I would fill up a bag with as many books as we were allowed to check out (and far more than I could actually read before they were due back). I fell in love with libraries again when I worked in my college's libraries, and decided to pursue a job in libraries after graduation. I've been lucky enough to come back to my first library, the Springdale Public Library, where I've worked for the past two years as a circulation clerk. I considered a career in academic libraries, but one reason I loved working in my college's library was the connection to my community. After graduation, I wanted to work with everyone in my community, not just those in higher education.

While working at Springdale Public Library, I've rediscovered my love of working with kids, helping them discover a love of reading (or at least helping them find the Wings of Fire books). As part of my professional development, I've begun working with the children's and young adult departments in my library. I've been able to shadow story times, learning from our children's librarians how to create fun and educational experiences for a range of age groups. Additionally, I ran my first program with the Young Adult department in June, the library's Anime Club. I'm looking forward to learning more from the librarians around me as I continue in my degree program, by shadowing and by running programs myself, including a story time that I will plan and put on in the fall.

I began my master's in library science in January of this year. I enrolled full time, completing 9 credit hours with a GPA of 4.0. I am enrolled full time for this fall semester as well, and plan to complete the degree in December of 2024. I'm grateful for the opportunity to apply for this scholarship. I chose to complete my MLS online because I wanted to stay in Arkansas during and after my degree. It's important for me to stay here so that I can serve the community that I grew up in and which continues to support me. This scholarship would greatly assist me in the goal of completing my degree and becoming a librarian in the state of Arkansas.

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Springdale Public Library	
Applicant Library Name	405 S. Pleasant St.
Mailing Address	Springdale, AR 72764
City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension	
Email Address	(479) 750-8180 (479) 750-8182
Phone Number	Fax Number
PAULA WILSON	
Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)	
Paula Wilson	10/17/23
Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee	Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Tatiana Anabel Morales	
Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)	
Tatiana Morales	
Participant's Signature	Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Librarian	Date
J. P. Cit	10/20/2023

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman	Date
---	------



www.rogerspubliclibrary.org
Phone: 479.621.1152
Email: rplaskalibrarian@rogersar.gov
Facebook: @RogersPublicLibrary
Instagram: @rplark Twitter: @RogersPublicLib

Joy Poynor, MLIS
Assistant Director
Phone: 479.621.1152 x6003
Email: jpoynor@rogersar.gov

July 26, 2023

Dear Scholarship Committee:

I am writing this letter to recommend Tatiana Morales for the Arkansas State Library Scholarship. As Assistant Director and Head of Adult Services, I was Tatiana's direct supervisor from October to December 2021 although she was Rogers Public Library's Multicultural Librarian from January through December 2021.

Although I was Tatiana's supervisor for a short time, I was able to see how dedicated she was to serving the members of our community. As the Multicultural Librarian, she worked hard to meet the needs of our Hispanic community members by providing outreach, developing library programming, forming a library LATINX committee, expanding our Spanish materials collection, and reaching out through social media.

I feel certain that you will be as impressed with Tatiana as I am and I encourage you to consider her for the scholarship. Tatiana was RPL's first Multicultural Librarian, and because of her hard work and dedication, our Hispanic community felt valued and heard. If you have any questions you may reach me at 479-621-1152 or jpoynor@rogersar.gov.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy B. Poynor".

Joy B. Poynor



Tatiana A. Morales
3744 Atlanta pl.
Springdale, AR 72762
tmorales@springdalelibrary.org
479 200-2608
10/12/2023

Dear Arkansas State Library Board Members,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Tatiana Morales and I currently work at the Springdale Public Library as a Children's Multicultural Outreach Librarian. I'm writing to express my desire to finish my MLIS degree from LSU with a concentration in Public Librarianship. After working as a librarian for almost three years, I can confidently say that I've found a career that I absolutely love and intend to pursue for the long run. I believe that pursuing my MLIS degree at LSU is the next logical step in my career. I'm eager to further develop my skills, gain a deeper understanding of public librarianship and contribute to the continuous improvement of library services. I have completed 12 hours toward my degree, and I agree to remain employed at an Arkansas Public Library for a period of at least one year after completion of the master's degree.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Tatiana A. Morales

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

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Garland County Library

Applicant Library Name

1427 Malvern Ave

Mailing Address

Hot Springs, AR 71901-6316

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

gcl@gclibrary.com

Email Address

501-623-4161

Phone Number

Fax Number

Karen Harbut

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Karen C. Harbut

Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee

8/28/2023

Date

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

James Nowlin

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

James Nowlin

Participant's Signature

8/28/2023

Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

J. Cat

Signature of State Librarian

10/20/2023

Date

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date



DATE: 28 August 2023
TO: Arkansas State Library Board
FROM: Adam Webb, Garland County Library
RE: Scholarship Letter of Recommendation - James Nowlin

Dear Arkansas State Library Board,

It is my honor to recommend James Nowlin for the Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance program. James has completed the requisite hours to qualify and is well on his way to completing the degree. He currently works as a full-time outreach coordinator at the Garland County Library.

James' career at GCL started in 2014. He came to us as a chemistry student, but like many who discover this career option late in their academic life, he quickly gave up on that in pursuit of the glamorous, fast-paced life of the librarian. He's made brief stints at other places of employment along the way, but he's here to stay now. While he has always been a gregarious and well-loved member of our staff, James really started to shine when he took over the library's outreach efforts. At the beginning of the pandemic, we struggled to find ways to serve our patrons safely. Cometh the hour, cometh the man, as they say. He quickly created and implemented a home delivery service to continue to serve our community. It has grown exponentially since and is now almost a full-time job in and of itself. But he wasn't going to rest on his laurels for long. In short order, Garland County Library went from having one service outlet to seven-our main branch, three home delivery routes, three remote lockers to deliver materials, and a bookmobile.

In conclusion, James is hard-working, he cares about his community, and he is always looking for new and creative ways to serve our patrons. His only drawback, in my eyes, is that he roots for the University of Texas, but I am willing to look past that. He is passionate about public libraries and possesses the traits and skills to thrive in a career as a librarian. I recommend him without hesitation.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me by email or phone.

Sincerely,

Adam Webb
Executive Director

ADAM WEBB
DIRECTOR

James Nowlin
309 Zeigler Road
Hot Springs, AR 71901
501-385-3755
jcnowlin@gmail.com

August 27, 2023

Jennifer Chilcoat, State Librarian
Arkansas State Library
900 W Capitol Avenue Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Jennifer and State Library Board:

I originally began my service at Garland County Library in January 2014. Through the experience of working at Garland County Library, I quickly came to realize that serving my community as a public librarian is my calling. Between then and now, I have had several conversations with both Adam Webb and his predecessor about considering a career in public libraries as a librarian. I am thankful that I work for administrative staff that is supportive of my day-to-day work, my professional development, and my pursuit of career goals.

I have served the Garland County Library as Outreach Coordinator since November 2020. My duties, in practice, have evolved over time. I was handed the reigns of GCL's Home Delivery service during the midst of the pandemic, and then I became involved in GCL's Book Locker service. Summer 2021 allowed for a revival of GCL's sequestered community outreach efforts, and I am proud to lead these endeavors on the adult side. I now coordinate all aspects of GCL's Bookmobile service, which includes scheduling stops, handling materials, coordinating staffing, drumming up business during stops, and cleaning up afterwards.

My long-term goal is to be well-qualified for a library director role. I am enrolled in Master of Science of Library Science general track at University of North Texas, as well as the Advanced Management of Libraries and Information Organizations Graduate Academic Certification program. Upon graduation, I will pursue continuing education opportunities to ensure I will have the training to be a productive contributor as an administrative staff member. One thing the United States does better than the rest of the world is public libraries. Public libraries are natural community centers, and are a leading source for educational entertainment, recreational entertainment, and a safe place with zero expectations besides "be nice". I am a believer in the future of public libraries despite present challenges, and I relish the opportunity to have an impact on this swiftly-changing landscape.

Sincerely,



James Nowlin

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

State Aid grant funds are requested to underwrite a scholarship award from this public library to an employee who has been admitted to a graduate program in an accredited library school. The applicant library agrees to award the full amount of the scholarship award to the employee. The employee has agreed to provide transcripts as evidence of credits earned each semester and to remain on the job for a period of one (1) year following grant of aid. If these conditions are not met, the applicant library agrees to refund to the State Library all grant funds paid under this award.

Fayetteville Public Library
 Applicant Library Name
 401 W Mountain St.
 Mailing Address
 Fayetteville, AR 72701-5819
 City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension
 Questions@Faylib.org
 Email Address
 479-856-7000 479-571-0222
 Phone Number Fax Number
 BRET PARK
 Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)
 Signature of Library Board Chair or Official Designee
 Date 8/21/2023

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Terra L. Ogle
 Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)
 Terra L. Ogle
 Participant's Signature
 Date

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

off cut
 Signature of State Librarian
 Date 10/20/23

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to
 () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman
 Date



Fayetteville Public Library

August 21, 2023

Jennifer Chilcoat
Arkansas State Library
900 W Capitol
Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Chilcoat:

The Fayetteville Public Library enthusiastically supports the scholarship application from Terra Ogle. Terra Ogle is enrolled in the Emporia State University MLS program and has completed 18 hours toward her degree. Since beginning work at Fayetteville Public Library, Terra has worked hard to acclimate and understand her role. She interacts easily with patrons and has many kids ask for her by name who had her as a teacher! She easily makes book recommendations and navigates various patron questions from a public service desk. Terra is an industrious worker and demonstrates a willingness to pitch in on any project. She leads the Youth Services team in number of carts shelved per month and participated in the Summer Reading Kick-off by assisting with Bounce Houses and book giveaways.

The library understands that the applicant must furnish transcripts to you and must remain employed with an Arkansas public library for at least one year after receiving the scholarship. We further understand that the money will come to the library which will then disburse the money to the applicant. Our action in support of Terra is recorded in the minutes of the Board's meeting on August 21, 2023.

Sincerely,

David Johnson
Executive Director

August 15, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Terra Ogle, and I am applying for the Arkansas State Library's MLS Scholarship Assistance. I am from Fayetteville, and I have been an elementary school teacher in Arkansas since 2000. I started considering a career change about five years ago. With my education background and love of books, librarianship was a natural choice for me.

One year ago, I started graduate school to obtain my second Masters degree, an MLS from ALA accredited Emporia State University. I completed my first year of school with a 4.0 GPA while also teaching full-time. I resigned from teaching at the end of the 22-23 school year so that I could focus on my degree. I began working at the Fayetteville Public Library in June so that I could fully immerse myself in my library studies. I am now a library services generalist in the Youth Services department, and I love it. A career change was daunting, but I know I made the right decision.

My goal is to finish my degree and eventually serve my community in a professional position at FPL. This scholarship would enable me to obtain my MLS without the burden of student loans. It's a wonderful opportunity, and I thank you sincerely for your consideration.

Terra Ogle

Togle@faylib.org

(479)313-4126

Arkansas State Library Scholarship Assistance Application

Instructions: Complete this form to apply for State Aid funds to underwrite a scholarship award from your library to an employee who has been admitted to the graduate program in an ALA-accredited library school. Attach to this form all appropriate documentation, such as a letter of admission from the library school, a letter of agreement from the employee who will benefit from the local scholarship award, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the local library board at which the application was approved.

APPLICANT

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Fayetteville Public Library

Applicant Library Name

401 W Mountain Street

Mailing Address

Fayetteville, AR 72701-5819

City/State/Zip Code + 4 digit extension

questions@faylib.org

Email Address

479.856.7000

Phone Number

Fax Number

Name of Library Board Chair (PLEASE PRINT)

Elizabeth Park

Date

10/16/2023

AGREEMENT

I have applied to my employer for a scholarship grant. I am enrolled in a graduate program in an accredited library school and have completed the first twelve (12) hours credit. Supporting documents are attached. I have agreed to furnish transcripts at the end of each semester as evidence of credits earned, to remain employed in an Arkansas public library for at least one year following grant of aid and to fulfill any local requirements. If I do not fulfill these agreed conditions, I understand that I must repay to the applicant library all funds paid to me from this award.

Participant Name (PLEASE PRINT)

Elizabeth Park

Participant's Signature

Elizabeth Park

Date

10/9/2023

RECOMMENDATION

I have reviewed this application and the supporting documents. I recommend that the State Library Board () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Librarian

Date

[Signature]

10/20/2023

ACTION TAKEN

In a regular meeting of the State Library Board held on _____ the Board voted to () approve () deny this application.

Signature of State Library Board Chairman

Date



Fayetteville Public Library

October 16, 2023

Jennifer Chilcoat
Arkansas State Library
900 W Capitol
Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Chilcoat:

The Fayetteville Public Library enthusiastically supports the scholarship application from Lizzie Parks. From her first day at the Fayetteville Public Library, Lizzie has worked hard to acclimate and understand her role. She interacts easily with patrons and is willing to do a variety of library tasks. She shows interest in our programming offerings and was willing to change her schedule to be present during our Halloween event. Lizzie asks questions to clarify policies and procedures and has a keen interest in learning how the library operates and various advanced practices. Lizzie is attentive and approachable and demonstrates a consistently willing attitude. Lizzie manages her schedule well and works to stay busy during her shifts.

The library understands that the applicant must furnish transcripts to you and must remain employed with an Arkansas public library for at least one year after receiving the scholarship. We further understand that the money will come to the library which will then disburse the money to the applicant. Our action in support of Lizzie is recorded in the minutes of the Board's meeting on October 16, 2023.

Sincerely,

David Johnson
Executive Director

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Elizabeth Park, and I am a currently employed Library Services Generalist in FPL's Youth Department. I am also a currently enrolled graduate student in the Louisiana State University Master's of Library and Information Services program, on track to graduate in May of this year.

I chose the library profession because I am passionate about the services that libraries provide communities as one of the last truly public institutions, promoting lifelong learning, and about maintaining free access to information for all.

I have lived in Fayetteville for nearly 10 years and been an active part of the FPL community for all that time. I am thrilled to be able to continue helping this incredible library to set the highest standard of public service upon completion of my degree program.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

Recommendation for Scholarship Assistance

November 2023

D9

Library Name	Individual Name	Library School	# of Hours -- Fall 2023	Recommend Award in the amount of
Bentonville Public Library	Rachel Bright	U of KY	3	\$1,350
Central Arkansas Library System	Elizabeth Wooley	Emporia	7	\$3,150
Central Arkansas Library System	Tara Protiva-Brown	Emporia	4	\$1,800
Fayetteville Public Library	Clara Davis	U of OK	6	\$2,700
Fayetteville Public Library	Elizabeth Park	LSU	6	\$2,700
Fayetteville Public Library	Terra Ogle	Emporia	6	\$2,700
Garland County Library	Brett Williams	UNT	6	\$2,700
Garland County Library	James Nowlin	UNT	6	\$2,700
Mississippi County Library System	Billie Bowman	U of KY	6	\$2,700
Ouachita Mountains Regional	Traci Hostetler	U of OK	9	\$4,050
Pine Bluff Jefferson County	Ricky Williams	U of So. MS	9	\$4,050
Rogers Public Library	Keli Wright	U of Illinois	4	\$1,800
Rogers Public Library	Susan Barnhart	LSU	3	\$1,350
Rogers Public Library	Tatiana Morales	LSU	3	\$1,350
Springdale Public Library	Abby Miller	UNT	6	\$2,700
Springdale Public Library	Mary Emma Hignite	UNT	6	\$2,700
Total			90	\$40,500

State Librarian – Jennifer Chilcoat

Collaborative Projects

ASL Staff are currently working with two entities to provide programs in targeted areas of the state through its public libraries. Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art is in the planning stages of an initiative to integrate arts into efforts to bolster literacy in participant K-12 schools. They are also in contact with ADE about this initiative. Their aim is to partner with the public libraries closest to their selected schools to use as a venue and supporting institution for those schools. We have also met with the Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation to explore the possibility of a project to increase awareness and knowledge of grant possibilities in the counties they support in the Arkansas Delta.

Active Attacker Training

ADE provided two sessions of Active Attacker Training on-site at the agency on September 29 and October 5. Many employees who are now at the agency had not previously been offered this training, and most who attended found the information to be highly beneficial. We plan to continue making this training available to all new employees.

Arkansas Library Association/Southeastern Library Association Joint Conference

State Library employees represented the agency's services at the annual ArLA conference by manning two vendor booths. The Southeastern Library Association rotates its conference site among its member associations, and this year was Arkansas's turn. The last joint conference in Arkansas was held in 2019. Janine Miller, Jenn Wann, Ruth Hyatt, Katie Walton and I took turns promoting our services at our two vendor tables. Ruth Hyatt, Coordinator of Youth Services, presented *On the Road Again: Puppet Sharing Program from the Arkansas State Library*, as well as bringing a large selection of the puppets for viewing at our vendor table. Janine Miller partnered with Lorrie Russell from the High Point (NC) Public Library to present *Friends of the Library 2.0*.

Additional Activities *(All meetings are online unless otherwise indicated)*

- North Little Rock Public Library System "Rover" Mobile Library ribbon cutting, August 15
- COSLA Access and Engagement Group, August 24
- Service to Justice Involved Individuals with CALS' Chloe Kilcrease, August 30
- Meeting w/Crystal Bridges re: Windgate Initiative, September 1
- ASL Managers Meeting, September 6, October 4
- MEAC Fall Meeting, September 11
- Meeting w/King Foundation re: Grant opportunities in Arkansas's Delta Counties, September 14
- Library Diplomacy Webinar with Gigabit Libraries Network, September 21
- COSLA Member Update, September 21
- Denise Lyons, KY State Librarian, re: Collection Challenges, September 27
- Presentation with Katie Walton at Student-Focused, Teacher-Led Conference, Little Rock City Center, September 29
- LSWG Fall Meeting, October 4

- Active Attacker Training, October 5
- Interviews for Buyer position, October 10
- Sells Agency Ribbon Cutting at new site, October 12
- COSLA Webinar: Question Sets - The Cure for Library Data Headaches, October 12
- Arkansas Library Association, Hot Springs Convention Center, October 13-15
- 2023 Arkansas Digital Government Summit, Little Rock Marriott, October 19
- MEAC Project Outcome subcommittee
- COSLA Annual Meeting, Newport RI, October 29 - November 1

Future meetings/events include:

- LSWG Annual Meeting, TBD, January 26, 2024

Acronyms: AAAL - Advocates for All Arkansas Libraries; ADE - Arkansas Department of Education; ALA - American Library Association; ArLA - Arkansas Library Association; ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act; ARSL - Association for Rural and Small Libraries; CCPF - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund; COSLA - Chief Officers of State Library Agencies; DESE - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education; FDLP - Federal Depository Library Program; GPO - Government Publishing Office; IDHI - Institute for Digital Health and Innovation (UAMS); IMLS - Institute of Museum and Library Services; LDD - Library Development District; LSWG - Library Statistics Working Group; MEAC - Measurement, Evaluation, and Assessment Committee (PLA); PLA - Public Library Association; SDC - State Data Coordinator

Deputy Director - Kristen Cooke

Information Services

The Reference Librarian position has been filled by Joanna Delavan, MLS. Joanna Delevan comes to ASL from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences with over 24 years of experience in library services. Reference services have transferred from the Deputy back to the Reference Librarian position.

There are currently four staff members conducting the work of the Information Services department.

The Information Services Manager position, vacant since May, has not yet been approved for hire. The Interlibrary Loan Technician position remains vacant since September 1 and has also not been released for hire.

Statistics

Reference Transactions	35
Interlibrary Loan Transactions	191

Public Library Survey 2023 Survey

The 2023 public library survey is in development with only a few minor changes. Questions analyzing public library response to the COVID-19 pandemic have been removed and several questions added to determine library engagement with digital skills training. As discussions increase at the federal level surrounding increased funding opportunities for broadband development, it has been determined that quantifying existing library involvement with digital skills training will be beneficial in communicating the role of libraries at the federal and state level. A finalized outline of the survey will be released by November 30, 2023.

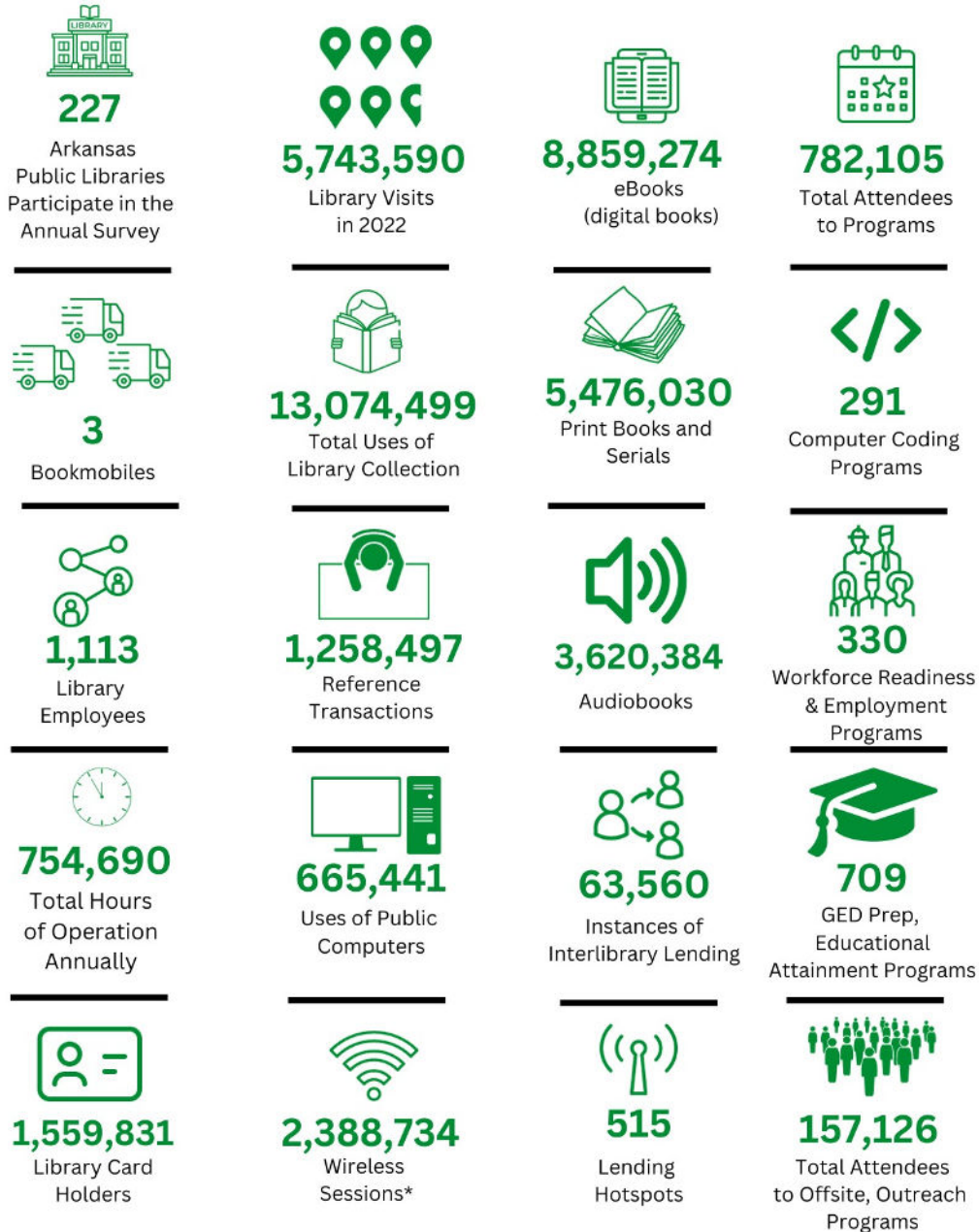
Public Library Data

Analytics of the 2022 Public Library Survey data highlight the post-pandemic recovery of library usage across reporting libraries.



ARKANSAS LIBRARIES WORK!

RESULTS FROM THE 2022 PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY



Results reflect the self-reported data from participating libraries of the 2022 survey

More information on the Public Library Survey can be found at www.ims.gov

*Not all libraries can report wireless sessions.

Manager of Library Development – Jennifer Wann

On-Going Projects:

Library Consulting Services

Consulting topics included, but were not limited to: replacement of flooring and moving book shelves; distribution of eclipse glasses; FOIA requests for personnel records; Oath of Office for new library trustees; allowable uses of public funds; MLS of record contracts; library board maintaining bank account for fines and fees; record retention procedures for employee records; USDA Community Facilities Grant Program.

Field Questions:

- August 4: mobile hot spots
- August 17: laminating services
- September 6: furniture vendor recommendations

Solar Science Programming

Circulating Kits – During the current reporting period, twelve kits were borrowed and returned by the Gravette Public Library; Franklin County Library (Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System); Monticello Branch Library (Southeast Arkansas Regional Library); Fletcher Library (CALIS); and the Pine Bluff Main Library. Forty-four programs were held using the kits with total attendance of 429 participants.

Two Eclipses Over Arkansas! Eclipse Leadership Workshop – Attended a workshop hosted by the Central Arkansas Astronomical Society on the logistics of programming on eclipse day.

Solar Glasses Delivery – During the months of September and October, 1,014,400 pairs of solar glasses were distributed to public libraries throughout the state of Arkansas. Public libraries can distribute their allotted glasses in whatever method best serves their community. The only restriction is that the solar glasses provided by ASL have to be distributed in the community for free. [Thirty-eight libraries](#) were visited during the course of the distribution process.

Eclipse 2024: Igniting Citizen Science Programming at the Library – breakout session presentation given with Karen Benson, Library Director of the Gravette Public Library, at the Association for Rural & Small Libraries.

Public Library Staff/Board Development

- Board of Trustees Training
 - Lonoke County Library
 - Texarkana Public Library
 - Saline County Library

Upcoming Events:

November 7-9 Library Development Forum (Nashville, TN)

Coordinator of the Arkansas Center for the Book – Karen O’Connell

On-Going Projects:

Library of Congress Center for the Book

The National Book Festival was held in person at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC on August 12, 2023. Center Affiliates met on August 11 at the Library of Congress to brainstorm about Idea Exchange topics and to hear an overview of the FY2024-2028 Library of Congress Strategic Plan. The virtual Idea Exchange will take place on November 14 and 15, and the planning committee is putting together panels and discussions on ten topical sessions and two long-range planning sessions. Lastly, the Coordinator will be on a panel at the Louisiana Book Festival – "Celebrating the Library of Congress Center for the Book and Our [Louisiana’s] Neighboring Centers of Arkansas and Mississippi," moderated by Guy Lamolinara, Director of the Library of Congress Center for the Book. The Coordinator is also moderating the panel, "Emerging Women Authors from the South."

Book Club Project

Attendance reports indicate 710 book club readers from July/August through October (to date), with September and October statistics still being submitted to the Center. From August through October, 124 book club kits went out, with 1,488 books provided. The Coordinator held two fall ASL Library Book Club meetings, both on September 7. The groups discussed best/worst titles for the year, new titles to add, and 2024 programming ideas.

Arkansas Gems

The poster and bookmark debuted at the National Book Festival on August 12. Posters and bookmarks have been distributed to most public library branches in tandem with solar eclipse glasses deliveries. Title considerations for 2024 Gems continue to accumulate, and the project is on schedule for 2024.

If All Arkansas Read the Same Book

Three successful If All Arkansas Read the Same Book events were held over the summer. Ayana Gray discussed the writing of the *Beasts of Prey* series (New York: G. P. Putnam’s Sons) and her journey as an author. All events had engaged audiences, and Ms. Gray was generous with one-on-one interactions with the attendees. Overall, approximately 100 people were able to meet Ms. Gray in person as part of the program. The Center thanks the Fort Smith Public Library, the Cabot Public Library, and the Monticello Branch Library for all of their work to make the events enjoyable for Arkansas readers. The If All Arkansas Read the Same Book committee members are currently reviewing titles for the 2024 program.

Book Nook with Arkansas Style on KARK Channel 4 – The Coordinator continued to assist with book discussions related to this reading program re: the novels *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus and *Lone Women* by Victor LaValle.

Upcoming Events:

November 2-4	The Works and Influences of Charles Portis: A Symposium, Fort Smith, AR (session presenter with Misty Hawkins, Director of ARVLS)
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Manager of E-Rate Services - Amber Gregory

On-Going Projects:

E-Rate Update

- Preparations for E-Rate Funding Year 2024 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) are underway.
- Libraries should update their E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) profile during the administrative window. The administrative window opened on October 24, 2023, and will close shortly before the Form 471 application filing window opens.
- USAC migrated the Legacy Form 472 filing system into EPC October 30 – November 7, 2023. All invoicing requests will now be filed in the EPC system.
- E-Rate training for FY 2024 will be provided for Arkansas public libraries. Dates and locations will be announced soon. Training will be in person and virtual.

Virtual E-Rate Meetings with Arkansas Public Libraries

Between July 26 and October 23, 2023, 13 virtual E-Rate consultations were held with 9 Arkansas public libraries. Assistance was given with E-Rate Forms 472 & 486, Program Integrity Assurance (PIA) review, service provider discount paperwork, E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) updates, and Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Form 472.

Conference Calls/Meetings/Training:

July 26	Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) Webinar: Analyzing National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Changes to the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) State Challenge Process
July 26 – Oct 18	E-Rate Task Force (ERTF) Monthly Meetings
July 31 – Oct 5	SHLB Member Calls
August 1	Arkansas State Broadband Office Call - Library Broadband Access/Digital Assets
August 3	ERTF and Chief Officer of State Library Agencies (COSLA) E-Rate Training Call
August 21	SHLB Webinar: Universal Service Fund (USF) Reform
Aug 21 – Oct 16	Telecom calls with ALA Washington Office
August 24	COSLA Access & Engagement: BEAD & Other Federal Broadband Funding
August 29	NTIA Webinar: Back to School: How Libraries & Schools are Partnering on Digital Equity for Students
August 31	Gigabit Libraries and Beyond Advisory Board Meeting
Sept 12 – Oct 17	E-Rate library stakeholder monthly calls with Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)
September 26	USAC Webinar: E-Rate Systems Consolidation Kickoff Webinar
October 3	Arkansas State Broadband Office Digital Skills Partners Meeting
October 4	USAC Webinar: E-Rate Systems Consolidation Training Launch
October 10 – 12	SHLB AnchoNETS Annual Conference, Washington, DC
October 13	USAC Annual E-Rate Applicant Training, Washington, DC
October 16	Arkansas State Broadband Office Digital Skills Partners Meeting
October 30 - 31	USAC Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC

Upcoming Events:

January 29 - 30	USAC Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting, Washington, DC
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Coordinator of Youth Services- Ruth Hyatt

On-Going Projects:

Summer Reading

The annual meeting for the Collaborative Summer Library Program was held virtually on September 13th and 14th. CSLP is undergoing some changes in their production line and moving away from printed versions of the manual and their catalog. All public library outlets in Arkansas will be provided with online access to the 2024 manual. Unique access codes for Arkansas public libraries will be sent out via email to library directors and programmers as soon as they're available. The 2024 theme is Adventure Begins at Your Library with artwork by Juana Martinez-Neal.

Programmers Zooms

Programmer zooms continue with two weekly time slots to allow more programmers to attend. Zooms are now scheduled on Thursday mornings at 10am and on Friday afternoons at 2pm.

Arkansas Choice Book Awards

A wider variety of posters and bookmarks are available for each of the three book awards this year. Posters of nominees sets, and individual title mini posters have been created so that libraries and schools may choose how they want to create their displays and which books they would like to highlight. Bookmarks for each award are also available and include options with cover art or a design to write in titles read so that students can track their reading and prepare to vote. Libraries and schools can access all the promotional materials through the reading and voting cycles of the awards. Schools and libraries can print off the materials as they are needed, in any quantity that is needed.

Fall Workshop

The agenda and registration form for the Youth Services Fall workshop will be released by the end of October. Registration for the free training event will end November 13th.

Puppet Share Program

An introduction to this new program was shared in the weekly programmer zooms and at conference. A workshop is planned for December 1, 2023 to allow those interested in requesting a puppet kit to come to the state library and spend an afternoon in hands on learning with all the materials in the kits. Kits will begin to circulate that same week. Each reservation will be four weeks long. Special reservations can be made for larger systems.

Upcoming Events:

November 7-9 Library Development Forum (Nashville, TN)

Coordinator of Training and Development – Janine Jamison-Miller

On-Going Projects:

Continuing Education

Library Juice Academy – The process for accessing Library Juice Academy courses has been retooled to ensure the most effective and efficient use of this resource. The Arkansas State Library will be supporting courses for Arkansas library workers earning certificates in the following programs:

- Early Childhood Literacy
- Library Leadership and Management
- Library Support Staff Certification

Library directors and administrators will be allowed to take any 2 courses of their choosing during the fiscal year.

Between October 2022-September 2023, there were 175 Library Juice Academy course requests and completions provided by the Arkansas State Library to library workers in the state of Arkansas.

People Connect Institute (PCI) Webinars – During August-October 2023 PCI Webinars offered 8 live weekly webinars; there were 188 registrations received and 518 views of recorded archived webinar content.

Between October 2022-September 2023, there were 520 registrations received for People Connect Institute (PCI) live weekly webinars and 2, 275 views of archived webinar content.

Friends of the Library

To acknowledge National Friends of the Library Week, the Arkansas State Library purchased e-book access for *The Good, The Great, and the Unfriendly: A Librarian's Guide to Working with Friends Groups and All Ages Welcome: Recruiting and Retaining Younger Generations for Library Boards, Friends Groups, and Foundations*. E-Book access is available for Arkansas Digital Library Consortium participating libraries, Library2Go participating libraries, and Central Arkansas Library System patrons.

Consulting topics included, but were not limited to: reviewing Memorandum of Understandings, Bylaws, and Interlocal Agreements.

Training sessions:

- Gentry Public Library
- Grant County Library

Professional Service

The Coordinator of Training & Development has recently finished a 2-year appointment serving on the Conference Committee for the Association of Rural and Small Libraries organization.

Upcoming Events:

December 6-7
January 24-25, 2024

Rural Library Network E-Summit
Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference

Manager of Arkansas Library for the Blind - Kristina Hancock

The National Library Service has holds monthly programs via Zoom that cover multiple topics regarding services such as BARD, the NLS Music Section and other topics. On October 12, NLS held a program covering BARD 2.0 which gave an introduction, and a demonstration of the upgrades BARD has received recently. On October 24, 2023, will be the first NLS Music Section program titled "Time Out for Take Five." This program will include the NLS Music Section Head, Juliette Appold, discussing Dave Brubeck Quartet's "Take Five" and its relevance in the NLS music collection. All Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled patrons can attend these programs.

CIRCULATION

In the Federal fiscal year from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, the Arkansas State Library's Library for the Blind program circulated a total of 192,631 books. Of this figure 140,065 were by direct mail circulation, 100 were direct mail circulation of Braille books, 52,566 were patron downloads from the Braille and Audio Reading program (BARD). Patron downloads accounted for around 37% of total circulation, which is a 15% increase from last fiscal year. The Library for the Blind circulated 6,442 more books than last fiscal year.

READER INTERACTION STATISTICS

For the Federal fiscal year, October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023, our Reader Advisors had a total of 29,438 patron interactions. 10,822 of those interactions were phone calls received. 1,661 were emails received and responded to. 1,701 voicemails received and responded to. 2,296 were new patron outreach calls and 12,958 were work follow up interactions. Work follow up includes curating a book order for a patron, and searching for and providing reference information.

BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) READERSHIP

There are 978 Library for the Blind readers registered with the National Library Service for the Blind (NLS) BARD program. Of those patrons, 353 actively download digital audio and braille books and magazines. In FY 23, those patrons downloaded 52,566 BARD books and read them on 1,829 registered Apple and Android mobile devices. The free Apple App enables BARD books to be downloaded easily to an Apple iPhone, iPad, or other mobile Apple device. The free Android App enables users to download books directly to any Android device with an OS of 4.1 or higher.

OUTSOURCING BRAILLE

On July 1 of 2018 the Library entered into a contract with the Utah State Library for the Blind in Salt Lake City Utah to provide circulation of Braille books to Arkansas patrons. ASL continues to provide limited Braille service directly from its holdings as available, but with declining circulation, only 100 Braille books circulated since FY23 began.

TRAVEL

October 4, 2023

Natalie Marlin attended the Parkway Village Wellness Fair in Mountain Home.

October 10, 2023

Natalie Marlin attended the Accessibility Resource Fair at the Baxter County Library.

Statewide Sharing and Engagement Coordinator - Jessica Kirk

Ongoing Projects

Mockingbird Virtual Union Catalog (Statewide Resource Sharing)

We successfully held 4 in-person training sessions in late September and have our new libraries in the Mockingbird platform. 31 people attended the trainings sessions, representing 17 libraries. As reported on the feedback survey, most were highly satisfied and rated the effectiveness of the content as very good or higher. All responded that they appreciated having some training made available in-person.

Mockingbird's implementation focus will shift to optimizing efficiency within the platform to achieve a higher level of automation and less hands-on coordination.

	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023*	Quarter total*
Mediated Requests	72	46	61	179
Vendor Tickets	5	6	6	17
Questions	28	24	21	73
Consults	4	2	3	9
Unique ILL requests	282	292	228	802
Loans made	243	260	157	662

*as of 10/19/23

Outreach

Arkansas State Library set up a table at the State Employee Benefit Fair. This is the State Library's biggest outreach event for state employees and at least 100 people stopped by our table.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

Aug - Oct	Internal AR State Lib meeting	6 mtgs; check-ins and ILL/Reference transitions
Aug - Oct	Mockingbird - Office hours	10 sessions held
Aug - Oct	Mockingbird - Vendor meeting	6 mtgs with Auto-Graphics
Aug - Oct	Mockingbird consults	4 mtgs; Best practices & NCIP
8-Aug	Professional development	Disability awareness
18-Aug	Professional development	ChatGPT
12-Sep	Outreach	State Employee Benefit Fair
13-Sep	Professional development	Data Visualization for Libraries
19-Sep	Mockingbird - Training	Searcy, AR - Harding University
20-Sep	Mockingbird - Training	Dardanelle, AR - ARVRLS
21-Sep	Mockingbird - Training	Fort Smith, AR - UAFS
22-Sep	Mockingbird - Training	Bentonville, AR - NWACC
29-Sep	Professional development	Gamifying Research Skill Development
4-Oct	Engagement meeting	USPTO - PTRC Program - Role transition
5-Oct	Professional development	Active Shooter Training

Division Manager of Collection Management – Sarah Lipsey

On-Going Projects:

Division Personnel

Evelyn Sartin has accepted the Librarian position in Digital Services. The position was previously held by Tina Youngblood, who retired last year. Evelyn began her employ with the Arkansas State Library on September 18, 2023.

The interview process is underway for the Senior Librarian position in Acquisitions. The Librarian position in the Acquisitions unit also remains vacant; it will be advertised once approval from ADE/OPM is granted.

The prolonged vacancies and time investment required to train new staff continue to impact workload across Collection Management. Maintaining basic service levels, particularly the acquisition of new materials for the State Documents Depository, is always prioritized, but this limits our ability to carry out special projects. We've adopted an effective divide-and-conquer approach, but have to carefully triage tasks and assignments to ensure the normal workload is maintained and special projects are conducted according to greatest urgency.

856 Project

I piloted the procedures developed by Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer to update the 856 fields in our digital documents records from CONTENTdm to Preservica URLs. During and after this initial training, we discovered a host of other issues with the bibliographic records. The project has now snowballed from a simple field update to a substantial record correction and cleanup effort. While we once hoped to automate the URL updates, it's clear that a record-by-record review is necessary.

The biggest issue is with our WorldCat records; almost all of our original records are inundated with French language and junk subject headings. This requires us to clean up the records when updating the 856 field before copy cataloging a record back into SirsiDynix. To compound the problem, we are unable to remove certain fields that are CONTENTdm specific (i.e. the 029) and need deleted, and many of our WorldCat records were modified erroneously by one of OCLC's Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) entities. This is despite the fact that PCC members are supposed to create bibliographic records that are "notable for their complete authority work," according to the Library of Congress's website. Since we are not a PCC library we can't edit those records at all – not even to add the Preservica 856 link – even though ASL created the record. To clarify, the junk records are in WorldCat and not necessarily our catalog, but to keep our own catalog pristine we have to actively avoid importing any trash during the copy cataloging process.

After many consultations with our cataloger Cherie Madarash-Hill, we're confident we've identified all major record issues and developed sound procedures. In addition to the previous issues noted, we are also removing any CONTENTdm-related fields and links to external agency websites. We are also taking this opportunity to ensure all digital assets were properly migrated from CONTENTdm and applying standard naming conventions to said assets in the Preservica staff interface.

Jennifer Razer is formalizing the new procedures for Digital Services staff, applying not only to the 856 project but to our general copy cataloging procedures as well, to ensure any junk headings from WorldCat stay out of our local records. At present, due to the general workload, Jennifer and I are the only ones able to actively work on the 856 project; in anticipation of decommissioning CONTENTdm, this

project takes priority over all other special projects including digitization. Once we are well along in the records project, we'll replace CONTENTdm with Preservica as our public-facing digital repository.

Traveler Statewide Digital Resource Program

The Traveler request for proposal (RFP) solicitation document was complete and vetted by ADE legal counsel in late September. The document and all related information about our solicitation process is now posted on the ASL website.

A stray comment from Manager of Grants and Special Projects Debbie Hall that she recalled Traveler was somehow exempt from certain requirements of procurement law led me to go digging through hundreds of pages of that law. I found Ark. Code Ann. § 19-11-203(14)(S), a single line that exempts copyrighted educational products used in libraries from the normal procurement process. I found nothing to suggest that any of the IT parameters applied due to the resources' digital format or online delivery. We sought confirmation from both ADE and OSP, and they agreed that § 19-11-203(14)(S) did apply to Traveler products.

With that established, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton and I went back to the drawing board, cherry picking the best practices from the procurement process and ignoring parts that restrict the Traveler Committee's ability to make thoughtful, price-conscious selections.

Developing the solicitation document and related procedures was a very long and arduous process, due in no small part to the difficulty in getting timely and accurate information. I am completely satisfied with the result of our labor and believe it will serve the program well for years to come. Katie Walton is to be commended for all the hard work and long hours she has dedicated to this project so far. We both extend our thanks to State Librarian Jeniifer Chilcoat for facilitating external communications on our behalf, and also to Debbie Hall for her long memory and institutional knowledge.

SirsiDynix Symphony Administration

I will upgrade the Symphony ILS and related components this quarter. Of particular note, Symphony version 4.0.0 supports HTTPS URL validation. This feature will be particularly useful after the 856 project is complete, as it will flag any broken links in the 856 fields. Previous versions only supported HTTP validation and would flag all HTTPS links as broken, so we look forward to employing this useful tool for routine maintenance on both state and federal digital documents.

Federal Documents Collection

The Federal Depository Library Program is finally going digital. We have already enjoyed a recent reduction in shipments of physical materials since the Government Publishing Office (GPO) ceased its microfiche contracts and more agencies publish in digital formats, to the extent that we already cancelled the portion of our Marcive contract that supplies us with smart barcodes and labels for federal documents.

As the plan is phased in and GPO's printing contracts expire, the regional depositories will receive only a handful of titles in paper format. The Arkansas State Library will not request to receive any tangible documents beyond our basic obligation and will weed the existing collection as opportunity knocks.

Now that we no longer have to accommodate growth, we are working on proposals to split the Federal Documents collection so that large series or subject areas may be moved downstairs to publicly accessible areas. This will free space in the Collection Management area to house closed stacks and unprocessed and damaged materials.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

July 26 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

August 4 Traveler Procurement Meeting, virtual.

Consultation with OSP concerning the Traveler RFP, legal compliance, and OSP procedures. Participants: State Librarian Jennifer Chilcoat, Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

September 6, 13, 20, 27 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

September 26 SirsiDynix Consult, virtual.

Quarterly consultation to discuss ILS management and related issues. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, LRM Kirby Gill of SirsiDynix.

September 27 South NCSA Meeting, virtual.

Meeting hosted by the Government Publishing Office to discuss the imminent deployment of a digital FDLP for depository libraries in the South National Collection Service Area. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer, Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

September 29 Active Attacker Training, Arkansas State Library.

Training provided by ADE on what to do during active attacker emergencies. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey.

October 4, 11, 18, & 25 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.

Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

October 16-18 Federal Depository Library Program Fall Conference, Virtual.

Virtual annual conference hosted by the Government Publishing Office. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

October 24-26 SirsiDynix 2023 Connection Conference, Virtual.

Annual conference hosted by SirsiDynix. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey.

Manager of Digital Services – Jennifer Razer

Ongoing Projects

Personnel

Evelyn Sartin has accepted the position of Librarian in Digital Services. Her first day with the agency was September 18, 2023. Prior to coming to the State Library, Sartin worked at the Ross Pendergraft Library on the campus of Arkansas Tech University. She has begun the training with Senior Librarian, Lanette Madison. In-depth training is required for state documents staff as they must build an understanding of the structure of state government, learn basic cataloging and reference skills, among other skills. Training is broken into nine phases, and we are currently in phase two. Evelyn is a quick learner, and she is already making contributions to the workload. We are happy to have her on the Digital Services team.

Razer is training Madison in her new role as the Senior Librarian for State Documents. Training was paused due to the hiring and onboarding of a new librarian, but it has resumed now that Sartin is settling into her role. As with the librarian position, training is extensive and broken into nine phases to help Madison gain a better understanding of the State Documents Depository and Documents Clearinghouse programs.

Digital Services

The migration to our new digital repository, Preservica, is in the final stretch. Razer is currently working with the Division Manger of Collection Management, Sarah Lipsey, to update the URL link in both OCLC and our library catalog to replace the CONTENTdm URL with the Preservica URL. This started out as a cost savings project but has turned into an opportunity to clean up catalog records that have been altered by other institutions using OCLC and update copy-cataloging procedures for state documents staff moving forward so that records in our catalog are concise and accurate. Once we've made the modifications to the catalog records, we'll replace CONTENTdm with Preservica as our public-facing digital repository on the website.

State Documents Depository and Clearinghouse

The State Documents staff continues to work to keep digital submissions up to date while new staff are going through onboarding and training sessions to assist with the workload. Madison has taken over the bulk of the training plan for Sartin while Razer serves to guide and advise as necessary.

Digital Services staff continue to reach out to agencies requesting updated liaisons and to have our gov-docs account subscribed to distribution lists for news releases and other applicable documents for inclusion into the State Documents collection. Shipping lists [410](#) and [411](#) were sent out to depository libraries.

New additions to the Arkansas Documents Digital Collections of particular interest include:

OCLC #: 797219989 [Arkansas Attorney General Opinions](#)

OCLC #: 1336605829 [Arkansas PBS magazine](#)

OCLC #: 1374064108 [Plan your trip to Arkansas](#)

OCLC #: 871033625 [Journal of the Senate of Arkansas](#)

OCLC #: 1391248824 [Aerospace & defense report](#)

Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP)

Federal Documents staff remain busy processing documents and are continuing their effort to inventory the microfiche collection. The Biennial Survey of Depository Libraries is coming due later this year. Etchison co-hosted a virtual meeting with guest speaker, Kathy Bayer from the Government Printing Office (GPO), to go over the survey and answer any questions that selective depository staff had. The FDLP is moving towards digital only and that will affect the workflow for staff. Razer and Etchison are working to review current procedures and determine new workflows once we have more information about the upcoming changes to the program.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

August 16 Collection Management Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities for Collection Management.
Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton, and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

August 22 Digital Services Librarian Hiring Panel Discussion
Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton, Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Senior Librarian, Digital Services Lanette Madison.

August 9, 23 Digital Services Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

August 24 Federal Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

August 28 Site Visit: Butler Center, Roberts Library (CALs)
Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Digital Services Librarian Ethan Beard.

August 29; Sept 5 Digital Services Librarian Interview Panel
Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton, Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Senior Librarian, Digital Services Lanette Madison.

September 7, 13, 20 Digital Services Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey and Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer.

September 19 National Collection Service Area (NCSA) Meeting (Regionals only)
Participants: Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

September 19 State Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Senior Librarian Lanette Madison.

September 22 Arkansas Documents Consortium Regional Meeting (Virtual)
Two sessions: Session One: Kathy Bayer (GPO) was a guest speaker to cover the Biennial Survey for Depository Libraries. Session Two: Margo Pierson (Southern Arkansas University) discussed SAU's transition from primarily tangible collection to an electronic collection.
Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer, Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison, Library Technician Emm Coats.

September 27 South National Collection Service Area Virtual Meeting (Regionals & Selectives)
Participants: Division Manager of Collection Management Sarah Lipsey, Manager of Digital Services, and Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

September 29, Oct. 5 ADE required training: Active Attacker
Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer, Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison, Senior Librarian Lanette Madison, Digital Services Librarian Ethan Beard, Digital Services Librarian Evelyn Sartin, Library Technician Emm Coats.

October 3 Federal Documents Meeting, Arkansas State Library.
Standing meeting to discuss various section projects, issues, and priorities. Participants: Manager of Digital Services Jennifer Razer and Federal Depository Library Coordinator Wendy Etchison.

Manager of Acquisitions -Katie Walton

On-Going Projects:

Acquisitions

The Acquisitions Senior Librarian position was posted to the AR Careers job site in September, and we are currently in the interview process. We hope to be able to make an announcement regarding the new hire at the board meeting. The Acquisitions Librarian position is still open and awaiting OPM's approval to be posted.

Arkansas Digital Library Consortium

There are currently 99,452 titles in the shared collection- 69,979 eBooks, 24,228 audiobooks, and 5,245 magazine titles. As of October 20, there have been 356,539 checkouts during the last quarter by 32,179 users. ADLC has already surpassed 1 million checkouts for the year, so ADLC will be in the Million Checkouts Club for the third year in a row.

The consortia renewed their digital magazine collection in September which involved raising \$30,000 from individual member libraries. Pricing was based on the libraries' magazine circulation over the previous year. Magazine circulation has increased every year and is a popular collection among patrons. There were 43,380 magazine checkouts from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 and 53,274 magazine checkouts from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Arkansas Traveler Statewide Resources

The Traveler Request for Proposals (RFP) went live on the State Library's website at the end of September. Proposals are due on December 1, 2023, at 4pm CST. More information can be found on the [RFP webpage](#). Any questions regarding Traveler or the RFP should be directed to Katie Walton.

Collection Management Division Manager, Sarah Lipsey, and Acquisitions Manager, Katie Walton, made substantial changes to the previous RFP and are very happy with the result. For a considerable amount of time, the RFP was being revised to adhere to the AR Office of State Procurement's (OSP) solicitation process. This has been a bit of a struggle because the Traveler bidding process is structured differently from OSP's goal of getting the cheapest product that meets the needed technical requirements. Instead, Traveler starts with a pool of money and the Traveler Advisory Committee works to get the best resources they can get within that total budget. However, thanks to a tip from Debbie Hall, it was discovered that the Traveler resources do not have to go through OSP's procurement process because they are exempt as "educational aids for use in libraries" according to AR Procurement Law (ACA 19-11-203(14)). The final RFP takes a lot of OSP's solicitation structure and tweaks it to accommodate the Traveler selection process.

ReachDeck

Effective October 1, 2023, the State Library ceased its subscription to ReachDeck (formerly BrowseAloud). Due to unforeseen budget cuts, the State Library had to take a closer look at some of its services, and unfortunately ReachDeck's low usage led to the tough decision to end this subscription for public libraries in the state. This subscription included two components- a toolbar for library websites and a browser extension for Public Access Computers. An email was sent out in September to inform libraries that this subscription would soon be ending.

Site Visits/Meetings/Training:

August 8 Recite Me Vendor Demonstration
State Library staff attended a vendor demonstration from website accessibility tool, ReciteMe.
Participants: Thomas Craddock of ReciteMe, Debbie Hall Grants Coordinator, Sarah Lipsey Collection Management Division Manager, and Katie Walton Manager of Acquisitions.

August 21 OverDrive Conference Call
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with OverDrive's Tori Casper to discuss better ways to promote curated digital magazine collections.

August 23 OverDrive Conference Call
Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher of OverDrive and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

August 29-September 9 Digital Services Librarian Interviews
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton served on the interview panel for the Digital Services Librarian Position.

September 6 OverDrive Conference Call
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton met with OverDrive's Stacey Sullivan to provide feedback on OverDrive Marketplace and their Resource Center.

September 23 AAIM Board Meeting
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton attended the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media quarterly board meeting.

September 27 OverDrive Conference Call
Scheduled vendor consultation. Participants: Andy Bucher of OverDrive and Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton.

September 29 Presented at the Student Led Teacher Focused Conference, Little Rock, AR.
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton co-presented with State Library Director Jennifer Chilcoat on State Library services and the Traveler Statewide Digital Resources for the Student Led Teacher Focused Conference.

October 2 If All Arkansas Read the Same Book Selection Meeting
Manager of Acquisitions Katie Walton attended a meeting with Library Development staff to discuss the selection procedures document for the IAARTSB program.

October 13-14 Attended ArLA's Annual Conference, Hot Springs, AR
Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton attended the Arkansas Library Association's annual conference in Hot Springs, AR.

October 24-28 SirsiDynix Connections Summit Online.
SirsiDynix hosts an annual online conference for SirsiDynix customers featuring new features, best practices, and professional development. The session topics are released in advance, so participants can attend the sessions that best pertain to them. Participants: Acquisitions Manager Katie Walton and Librarian Reba Driver.

10/13/23

Dear Arkansas State library,

Hi! My name is Brooklyn! And I really love reading. It is my favorite subject in school. I've never been to Arkansas but I've heard a lot about this library. It's awesome and is really nice. I hope some day that I can go to Arkansas. I truly love your library and hope to visit soon.

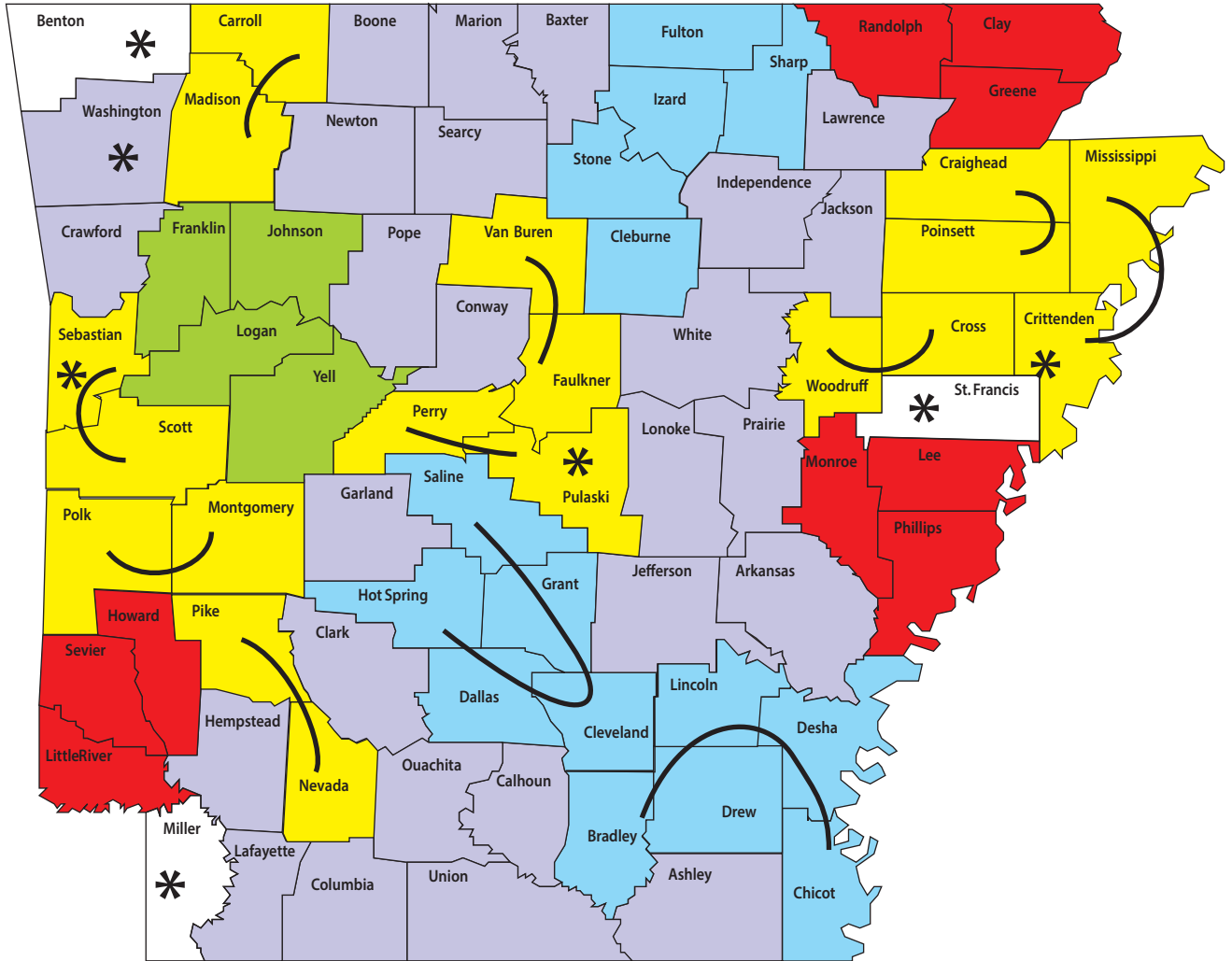
Anyways my class and I of 23 students is doing a fifty state challenge. How this works is we write to all the 50 states in the US. We have gotten a couple back but not a lot. So I really hope to hear back from you soon! I can't wait till I'll travel to Arkansas. If I go I would go to your library first! Have a good rest of your day! Thank you so, so much!

Our address is:
High Plains Elementary School
% Ms. Tielburs class
6100 South Fulton St.
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

I can't wait to hear back from you! I'm super excited! Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
♥
Brooklyn !!

Arkansas Public Library Systems



- 26 One-County System
- 9 Two-County System
- 3 Three-County System
- 1 Four-County System
- 3 Five-County System
- 3 No Countywide Library Tax
- 7 - * Independent City Library

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
LDD I			
Arkansas River Valley Regional Library	501 North Front Street	Dardanelle	72834-3507
Donald W. Reynolds Library	300 Library Hill	Mountain Home	72653
Bella Vista Public Library	11 Dickens Place	Bella Vista	72714-4603
Bentonville Public Library	405 South Main Street	Bentonville	72712-5298
Boone County Library	221 West Stephenson Avenue	Harrison	72601-4225
Carroll & Madison Library System	44 Kingshighway A-3	Eureka Springs	72632
Crawford County Library	1409 Main Street	Van Buren	72956-4503
Fayetteville Public Library	401 West Mountain Street	Fayetteville	72701-5819
Fort Smith Public Library	3201 Rogers Avenue	Fort Smith	72903-2953
Gentry Public Library	105 East Main Street	Gentry	72734-0803
Gravette Public Library	119 Main Street NE	Gravette	72736-9363
Iva Jane Peek Public Library	P. O. Box 247	Decatur	72722-0247
Marion County Library	P. O.Box 554	Yellville	72687-0554
Newton County Library	HCR 31, Box 8	Jasper	72641-9401
Pea Ridge Library	P. O. Box 9	Pea Ridge	72751-0009
Pope County Library	116 East Third Street	Russellville	72801-5198
Rogers Public Library	711 South Dixieland Road	Rogers	72758-4513
Scott-Sebastian Regional Library	P. O. Box 400	Greenwood	72936-0400
Searcy County Library	202 East Main	Marshall	72950-9502
Siloam Springs Public Library	205 East Jefferson Street	Siloam Springs	72761-2677
Sulphur Springs Public Library	P. O. Box 275	Sulphur Springs	72768-0275
Washington County Library System	1080 West Clydesdale Drive	Fayetteville	72701-8211
LDD II			
Ash Flat Library	11 Arnhart Drive	Ash Flat	72513
East Central Arkansas Regional Library	410 East Merriman	Wynne	72396-2947
Independence County Library	267 East Main Street	Batesville	72501-5605
Lawrence County Library	115 West Walnut Street	Walnut Ridge	72476
Northeast Arkansas Regional Library	120 North Twelfth Street	Paragould	72450-4103
West Memphis Public Library	500 East Broadway	West Memphis	72301
Woolfolk Library	100 North Currie Street	Marion	72364-1858
Crowley Ridge Regional Library	315 West Oak Avenue	Jonesboro	72401-3594
Forrest City Public Library	421 South Washington	Forrest City	72335-3839
Jackson County Library	P. O. Box 748	Newport	72112-0748
Mississippi/Crittenden County Library	200 North Fifth Street	Blytheville	72315-2712
Trumann Public Library	P. O. Box 73	Trumann	72472-0073
White River Regional Library	P. O. Box 1107	Mountain View	72560

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Library Name	Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
LDD III			
Central Arkansas Library System	100 Rock Street	Little Rock	72201-1624
Conway County Library	101 West Church	Morrilton	72110-3399
Fairfield Bay Library	369 Dave Creek Pkwy.	Fairfield Bay	72088-1183
Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library	1900 Tyler	Conway	72032-3240
Lonoke County Library	204 East 2nd Street	Lonoke	72086-2858
Mid-Arkansas Regional Library	202 East Third Street	Malvern	72104-3910
North Little Rock Library Public System	2801 Orange	North Little Rock	72114-2296
Saline County Library	1800 Smithers Drive	Benton	72015-3108
White County Library System	113 East Pleasure Avenue	Searcy	72143-7709
LDD IV			
Calhoun County Library	P. O. Box 1162	Hampton	71744-1162
Clark County Library	609 Caddo Street	Arkadelphia	71923-0609
Columbia County Library	2057 North Jackson Street	Magnolia	71753
Garland County Library	1427 Malvern Avenue	Hot Springs	71901-6316
Hempstead County Library	500 South Elm Street	Hope	71801-5222
Lafayette County Library	219 East 3rd Street	Lewisville	71845-8075
Ouachita Mountains Regional Library	P. O. Box 189	Mount Ida	71957-0189
Polk County Library	410 8th Street	Mena	71953
Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County	120 Harrison Avenue	Camden	71701-3968
Southwest Arkansas Regional Library	129 Meadow Ridge Lane	Hope	71801
Texarkana Public Library	600 West Third Street	Texarkana, TX	75501-5054
Tri-County Regional Library System	200 W. Stillwell	DeQueen	71832
Union County Library System	200 East Fifth	El Dorado	71730-3897
LDD V			
Arkansas County Library	2002 South Buerkle Street	Stuttgart	72160-6508
Ashley County Library	211 East Lincoln	Hamburg	71646-3217
Crossett Public Library	1700 Main Street	Crossett	71635-2962
DeWitt Public Library	205 West Maxwell Street	DeWitt	72042-1942
Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library	702 Porter	Helena	72342-3142
Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County	600 S. Main St.	Pine Bluff	71601
Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System	114 West Jefferson	Monticello	71655-4933

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
				LDD I
479-229-4418	479-229-2595	arvls.director@gmail.com	Misty Hawkins	Arkansas River Valley Regional Library
870-580-0987	870-580-0935	kim.c@baxtercountylibrary.org	Kim Crow Sheaner	Donald W. Reynolds Library
479-855-1753	479-855-4475	sadams@bellavistaar.gov	Suzanne Adams	Bella Vista Public Library
479-271-3192	479-271-9051	Hdudley@bentonvillear.com	Hadi Dudley	Bentonville Public Library
870-741-5913	870-741-5913	ginger@boonecountylibrary.org	Ginger Schoenenberger	Boone County Library
870-423-5300	870-423-7117	agriffith@camals.org	April Griffith	Carroll & Madison Library System
479-471-3226	479-471-3226	ewhite@crowfordcountylib.org	Eva White	Crawford County Library
479-856-7000	479-571-0222	djohnson@faylib.org	David Johnson	Fayetteville Public Library
479-783-0229	479-782-8571	jgoodson@fortsmithlibrary.org	Jennifer Goodson	Fort Smith Public Library
479-736-2054	479-736-8567	lcrume@gentrylibrary.us	Linda Crume	Gentry Public Library
479-787-6955	479-787-6955	kbenson@gravettear.com	Karen Benson	Gravette Public Library
479-752-7323	479-752-8366	ijppublib121@yahoo.com	Karen Taylor	Iva Jane Peek Public Library
870-449-6015	870-449-5808	dana.librarydirector@gmail.com	Dana Scott	Marion County Library
870-446-2983	870-446-2983	director@newtoncountylibrary.org	Kenya Windel	Newton County Library
479-451-8442		pearidgecommunitylibrary@gmail.com	Wendy Martin	Pea Ridge Library
479-968-4368	479-968-3222	rtaurone@popelibrary.org	Riley Taurone	Pope County Library
479-621-1152	479-621-1165	hmilligan@rogersar.gov	Hannah Milligan	Rogers Public Library
479-996-2856	479-996-2236	rmyers@co.sebastian.ar.us	Rene Myers	Scott-Sebastian Regional Library
870-448-2420	870-448-5453	path353@yahoo.com	Denise McNeil	Jim G. Ferguson/Searcy County Library
479-524-4236	479-524-3908	sfreedle@siloamsprings.com	Stephanie Freedle	Siloam Springs Public Library
479-298-3753	479-298-3515	sulphurspringslibrary2021@gmail.com	Melinda Griffin	Sulphur Springs Public Library
479-442-6253	479-442-6812	glendaa@wcls.lib.ar.us	Glenda Audrain	Washington County Library System
				LDD II
870-994-2658	870-994-2857	ashflatlibrary@gmail.com	Susan Funnell	Ash Flat Library
870-238-3850	870-238-5434	jpaul@ecarls.org	John Paul Myrick	East Central Arkansas Regional Library
870-793-8814	870-793-8896	carlene@indcolib.com	Carlene Morrison	Independence County Library
870-886-3222	870-886-9520	akburris@hotmail.com	Ashley Burris	Lawrence County Library
870-236-8711	870-236-1442	pdpcomposing@yahoo.com	Mike Rogers	Northeast Arkansas Regional Library
870-732-7590	870-732-7636	osfrank1969@gmail.com	Rebecca Bledsoe	West Memphis Public Library
870-739-3238	870-739-4624	casseywoolfolklib@gmail.com	Cassey Clayman	Woolfolk Library
870-935-5133	870-935-7987	vanessa@libraryinjonesboro.org	Vanessa Adams	Crowley Ridge Regional Library
870-633-5646	870-633-5647	fcpl@forrestcitylibrary.org	Arlisa Price Harris	Forrest City Public Library
870-523-2952	870-523-5218	director@jacksoncolibrary.net	Jennifer Ballard	Jackson County Library
870-762-2431	870-762-2442	lwalters@mclibrary.net	Lowell Walters	Mississippi/Crittenden County Library
870-483-7744	870-483-6833	teaguejanie@hotmail.com	Janie Teague	Trumann Public Library
870-269-4682		wrrlibrary@yahoo.com	Debra Sutterfield	White River Regional Library

Public Libraries of Arkansas by Library Development Districts

Phone	Fax	E-Mail address	Librarian	Library Name
LDD III				
501-918-3000	501-375-7451	ncoulter@cals.org	Nate Coulter	Central Arkansas Library System
501-354-5204	501-354-5206	jay.carter@conwaycountylibrary.org	Jay Carter	Conway County Library
501-884-4930		ffblibrary@live.com	Karen Tangen	Fairfield Bay Library
501-327-7482	501-327-9098	john@fcl.org	John McGraw	Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library
855-572-6657	501-676-0557	kashmore@lonokecountylibrary.org	Kathleen Ashmore	Lonoke County Library
501-332-5441	501-332-6679	clare.graham@arkansas.gov	Clare Graham	Mid-Arkansas Regional Library
501-758-1720	501-753-0524	crystal.gates@lamanlibrary.org	Crystal Gates	North Little Rock Library Public System
501-778-4766	501-778-0536	pattyh@salinecountylibrary.org	Patty Hector	Saline County Library
501-279-2870	501-268-5682	darla.ino@arkansas.gov	Darla Ino	White County Library System
LDD IV				
870-798-4492	870-798-4492	calcolib@gmail.com	Allie Stevens	Calhoun County Library
870-246-2271	870-246-4189	Clarkcountylibrary@gmail.com	Betsy Fisher	Clark County Library
870-234-1991	870-234-5077	holli@cocolib.org	Holli Howard	Columbia County Library
501-623-4161	501-623-5647	gcl@gclibrary.com	Adam Webb	Garland County Library
870-777-4564	870-777-2915	hempcolib@gmail.com	Courtney McNeil	Hempstead County Library
870-921-4757	870-921-4756	lafcolibrary@gmail.com	Michael Strange	Lafayette County Library
870-867-3812	870-867-3812	omreglibrary@hotmail.com	Brenda Miner	Ouachita Mountains Regional Library
479-394-2314	479-394-2314	polkcountylibrary@yahoo.com	Mary Renick	Polk County Library
870-836-5083	870-836-0163	lrpickett@hotmail.com	Lisa Pickett	Public Library of Camden & Ouachita County
		swarlib@gmail.com	Courtney McNeil	Southwest Arkansas Regional Library
903-794-2149	903-794-2139	ldedmon@txar-publib.org	Laquita Dedmon	Texarkana Public Library
870-584-4364	870-642-8319	tri-countyreglibsystem@hotmail.com	Marilyn Archer	Tri-County Regional Library System
870-863-5447	870-862-3944	moconnell@bartonlibrary.org	Michael O'Connell	Union County Library System
LDD V				
870-673-1966	870-673-4295	asst.director.arco@gmail.com	Clara Jane Timmerman	Arkansas County Library
870-853-2078	870-853-2079	ashcolib@gmail.com	Holly Gillum	Ashley County Library
870-364-2230	870-364-2231	david@crossett.lib.ar.us	David Anderson	Crossett Public Library
870-946-1151	870-946-1151	dewittpl@yahoo.com	Sarah Beth Cole	DeWitt Public Library
870-338-7732	870-338-8855	ral72342@yahoo.com	Linda Bennett	Phillips-Lee-Monroe Regional Library
870-534-4802	870-534-8707	rwilliams@pineblufflibrary.org	Ricky Williams	Public Library of Pine Bluff & Jefferson County
870-367-8584	870-367-5166	director@searlibrary.org	Judy Calhoun	Southeast Arkansas Regional Library System
updated October 2023				

Arkansas State Library Board

Donna McDonald

10020 Highway 217
 Charleston, AR 72933
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: arkansasrivervalleyregional@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone:
 Term: 10/18/2023
 Congressional District: 4

Jo Ann Campbell

2711 Reeder
 Fort Smith, AR 72901
 Home Phone: (479) 782-7314
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail:
 Home E-mail: Jdcfsm3@gmail.com
 Cell Phone: (479) 782-7314
 Term: 10/18/2025
 Congressional District: 3

Deborah Knox

519 Driftwood Drive
 Mountain Home, AR 72653
 Home Phone: (870) 404-1470
 Work Phone: (870) 424-3400
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: deborah62875@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: 870-404-1470
 Term: 10/18/2027
 Congressional District: 1

Pamela Meridith *

37 Keno Dr.
 Cherokee Village, AR 72529
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: pameridith@yahoo.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: (870) 844-5626
 Term: 10/18/2026
 Congressional District: 1

Joan O'Neal

3 West Lawson Drive
 Greenbrier, AR 72058
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: Joneal5@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: (501) 840-2071
 Term: 10/18/2022
 Congressional District: 2

Lupe Peña de Martínez**

19315 N. Pass Drive
 Mabelvale, AR 72103
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone: (501) 682-0652
 Work Cell: (501) 646-6401
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax: (501) 683-4802
 E-mail:
 Home E-mail: lpena_2000@yahoo.com
 Cell Phone: (501) 584-6991
 Term: 10/18/2028
 Congressional District: 2

Donnette Smith

P.O. Box 205
 Harrison, AR 72602
 Home Phone:
 Work Phone:
 Home Fax:
 Work Fax:
 E-mail: donnette172@gmail.com
 Home E-mail:
 Cell Phone: (870) 704-9561
 Term: 10/18/2024
 Congressional District: 3

* Chairman 11/2022 - 11/2023

**Vice Chairman 11/2022 -11/2023

Rev October 20, 2023

Arkansas Department of Education

Jacob Oliva, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Education
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Four Capitol Mall, Room 304-A

Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: 501-682-4203

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**ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I

NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY BOARD as created by Act 489, Acts of Arkansas, 1979.

Section 2. The organization shall hereinafter be referred to as the “Board.”

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1. The Board shall name the State Librarian.

Section 2. The Board shall act as the policy-making and responsible body for the Arkansas State Library and its functions as defined by Act 489 of 1979.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Board shall be composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate, for their interest in libraries and statewide library development.

Section 2. Appointments made from congressional districts and at-large shall be made in accordance with Ark. Code Ann §13-2-205 (3) or other controlling statutes. **

*** Approved 02-09-2018 by Arkansas State Library Board*

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers of the Board shall consist of a Chairman and Vice Chairman. The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary.

Section 2. Nomination and election of officers, with the exception of executive secretary, shall take place at the annual meeting.

Section 2a. Officers shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee of members named by the Chairman. Opportunity shall be given for additional nominations to be made from the floor.

Section 2b. Consent of all nominees shall be procured prior to nomination.

Section 2c. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. No officer shall serve for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 2d. Election of officers shall be by written ballot, show of hands, voice vote, or acclamation and counted by the executive secretary. **

Section 3. Duties of the officers shall be defined by members as need arises.

Section 3a. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and perform the duties generally assigned to this office.

Section 3b. The Vice Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, shall preside over meetings and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 3c. The State Librarian, serving as executive secretary, shall keep the minutes of the Board meetings, attend all committee meetings, and perform duties generally assigned to this office. The executive secretary shall serve without vote in meetings of the Board or committees.

Section 4. Absences of officers or vacancies of office shall be filled by members as need arises.

Section 4a. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall preside over the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 4b. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, when a quorum is present, the members shall elect a temporary chairman to preside at the meeting and perform other duties as assigned.

Section 4c. When the office of Chairman is vacated during the year, the Vice Chairman shall serve as Chairman for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 4d. When the office of Vice Chairman is vacated during the year, the Nominating Committee shall nominate a replacement who shall be duly elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chairman shall name members of the following STANDING COMMITTEES at the annual meeting.

Section 1a. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall consist of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, and the executive secretary. This committee shall prepare the agenda for all meetings, call special meetings when deemed necessary, and perform interim duties as assigned by the Board.

Section 1b. The NOMINATING COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members appointed by the Chairman by September 1 each year. (The Chairman shall be excluded from membership.) The Committee shall prepare a slate of officers who have consented to serve if elected. **

***Section 1c.** the POLICIES AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Vice Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. This Committee shall review all policies and bylaws each year and recommend changes or additions where needed.

Section 1d. The GOVERNMENTAL LIASON COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Chairman and two members named by the Chairman. The duty of this Committee shall be to work with the State Librarian on all matters concerning local, state, and federal legislation and funding.

**Approved 02-01-80 by Arkansas State Library Board*

Section 1e. The PERSONNEL COMMITTEE shall be composed of two members named by the Chairman to serve with the Chairman to solicit and review applications and make recommendations to the Board for consideration for the position of State Librarian when a vacancy exists and to serve with the State Librarian to solicit and review applications and make recommendations to the Board for consideration for the managerial positions of associate or deputy directors when a vacancy exists.

Section 2. The Chairman shall name such AD HOC COMMITTEES as needed to carry out the functions of the Board.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Arkansas State Library Board shall be held on the second Friday of February, May, August, and November.

Section 2. The annual meeting of the Board for organizational purposes shall be held at the time of the regular meeting in November.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Executive Committee. Upon written request from three members of the Board, the Executive Committee shall be required to call a special meeting. The notices of such special meetings shall state the specific business to be transacted and no business shall be transacted except that stated in the call.

Section 4. Notices of all regular meetings and special meetings, when possible, shall be mailed by the State Librarian at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 5. The order of business for regular meetings shall be:

1. Call to order
2. Reading of the minutes
3. Unfinished business
4. New business
5. Reports
6. Adjournment

ARTICLE VII
QUORUM, VOTE

Section 1. A majority (four) of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chairman shall count as a member for quorum.

Section 2. All business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members. The Chairman shall vote to confirm unanimity, in case of tie vote or when needed for quorum.

ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members at any regular meeting of the Board provided the amendment was stated in the call for the meeting or had been presented in writing at the previous regular meeting.

ARTICLE IX
POLICIES, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS

Section 1. The Board shall establish by majority vote such policies as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the state library agency and to promote statewide library development.

Section 2. Proposed policies or policy changes must be submitted in writing to the members and discussed at a meeting prior to the regular meeting when the vote on the question is to be recorded.

Section 3. The Arkansas State Library through majority vote of the Board shall enter into such contracts and agreements with other libraries, institutions, and agencies as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of Act 489 of 1979.

ARTICLE X
STATE LIBRARIAN

The State Librarian shall be responsible to the Arkansas State Library Board for the proper management of the Arkansas State Library, for the administration of the policies to carry out the functions of the agency, for the preservation and care of its properties, and for the efficiency of its services.

ARTICLE XI
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
AND AUTHORITY

Section 1. Except when in conflict with the provisions of Act 489 of 1979 or these Bylaws, Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the proceedings of this Board.

Section 2. Act 489 of 1979, is the authority for these bylaws.

“**Section 1.** ... The State Librarian shall serve as executive secretary of the State Library Board, but without vote thereon, and shall attend all of the Board meetings and keep records thereof. The State Librarian shall have charge of the work of the State Library, and shall perform such other duties as the State Library Board may prescribe...”

“**Section 2. (a)** There is hereby created the State Library Board, hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, to consist of seven (7.) members to be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Arkansas Senate ...

(b) The members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor for reason of their interest in libraries and statewide library development.”

“**Section 3.** ... The Board shall meet at such place or places and shall keep such records as it may deem to be appropriate. The Board shall select annually a Chairman and such other officers as it deems necessary and shall adopt policies and bylaws governing its meetings, the conduct of its business, and the business of the State Library. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all business transacted by the Board shall be by majority vote of its members.”

ASL Board Standing Committee Assignments -- 2023

Executive Committee: Chair; Vice Chair, and Chilcoat

Nominating Committee: O'Neal and McDonald

Policies & By-Laws Committee: Vice Chair; McDonald and Peña
de Martínez and Smith

Government Liaison Committee: Chair; Knox and Campbell

Personnel Committee: Chair; O'Neal and Campbell

[In accordance with the By-Laws, the Chair shall name members of these standing committees at the annual meeting held in November.]

2024 Officer Elections

Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

8/1/2023

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
Office of the State Librarian			501-682-1526 / 501-682-1533 FAX	
JENNIFER	CHILCOAT	STATE LIBRARIAN		jennifer.chilcoat@ade.arkansas.gov
JAYNIE	BROWNE	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III		jaynie.browne@ade.arkansas.gov
DEBORAH	HALL	MANAGER OF GRANTS & SPECIAL PROJECTS		debbie.hall@ade.arkansas.gov
		PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	VACANT	
Deputy Director/Statewide Sharing & Engagement/Virtual Union Catalog			501-682-2863 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
KRISTEN	COOKE	DEPUTY DIRECTOR		kristen.cooke@ade.arkansas.gov
JESSICA	KIRK	LIBRARY COORDINATOR - VIRTUAL UNION CATALOG	501-682-2867	jessica.kirk@ade.arkansas.gov
Library for the Blind & Print Disabled			501-682-1155 / 501-682-1529 FAX	
KRISTINA	HANCOCK	MANAGER OF LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND & PRINT DISABLED	1-866-660-0885 Toll Free	kristina.hancock@ade.arkansas.gov
JEFFERY	KERSEY	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		jeff.kersey@ade.arkansas.gov
NORMAN	VANDEBILT	LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT		norman.vanderbilt@ade.arkansas.gov
KELLY	SMITH	SENIOR LIBRARIAN		kelly.smith@ade.arkansas.gov
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		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		MAIL CLERK	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
		LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT	VACANT	
Library Development			501-682-1693 FAX	
JENNIFER	WANN	MANAGER OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT	501-682-5288	jenn.wann@ade.arkansas.gov
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Information Services			501-682-2053 / 501-682-1531 FAX	
		MANAGER OF INFORMATION SERVICES	VACANT	
		SENIOR LIBRARIAN	VACANT	
AVA	CONWAY	LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT		ava.conway@ade.arkansas.gov
WIN	GATES	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN		win.gates@ade.arkansas.gov
JEREMY	HALL	LIBRARY SUPPORT ASSISTANT		jeremy.hall@ade.arkansas.gov
JUDI	KING	LIBRARY TECHNICIAN		judi.king@ade.arkansas.gov
Collection Management			501-682-1899 FAX	

Arkansas State Library -- Staff Directory

8/1/2023

First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone/Fax	Email
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		LIBRARY TECHNICIAN - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		LIBRARY COORDINATOR - DIGITAL SERVICES	VACANT	
		MANAGER OF NETWORK SERVICES	VACANT	
Administration			501-682-1527/ 501-682-1533 FAX	
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		FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	VACANT	
KEN	GIESBRECHT	INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR		ken.giesbrecht@ade.arkansas.gov



2024

January						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

July						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

September						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



State Library Board Meetings, as scheduled



State Observed Holidays

Jan 1 - New Year's Day (Observed); Jan 16 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (Observed); Feb 20 - George Washington's Birthday and Daisy Gatson Bates Day (Observed); May 29 - Memorial Day (Observed); July 4 - Independence Day; Sept 4 - Labor Day; Nov 10 - Veterans Day (Observed); Nov 23 - Thanksgiving Day; Nov 24 - Black Friday (by Governor's Proclamation); Dec 25 - Christmas Eve (Observed); Dec. 26 - Christmas Day (Observed)