

Happy May, Oregon Library Community!

Time has certainly flown by lately, and from recent conversations, it sounds like many of you can relate. It was wonderful to connect with some of you at the Oregon Library Association Conference last week in Eugene! If you couldn't make it this year, if we missed one another, or if we simply didn't get enough time to catch up, please feel free to reach out. I would absolutely love to connect, and possibly even schedule a visit to come visit your library over the next few months!

There are plenty of resources for independent learning and reflection included below to keep everyone engaged over the next month. I want to highlight one opportunity coming up prioritizing individuals working or volunteering in school libraries, and that is the *Libraries Leading with Equity: School Library Cohort* taking place in Forest Grove, June 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. More information and the application link can be found listed under '**In-Person Learning**.' ↓ Applications are due by Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Like always, please text, call, or email with questions, support needs, and/or to schedule time to chat. I am honored to be a partner in your mission to engage, serve and uplift your communities. Thank you for all that you continue to do.

Warm Regards,

*Ericka Brunson-Rochette*

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**State Library of Oregon**

Library Support and Development Services

**Work Schedule: Monday-Thursday**

## VIRTUAL MEETUPS

*All virtual meetup groups are for individuals employed, volunteering, or looking for work in Oregon libraries. Managers and supervisors are permitted to join. Upholding confidentiality of attendees, conversations and information shared in these meetups is required.*

### **Disability & Neurodivergence Affinity Meetup** (First Tuesday of every month)

*For people who identify as neurodivergent, have a disability, or hold intersecting identities falling into both these groups---to include those with diagnosed, self-diagnosed, or suspected conditions.*

Tuesday, **May 6<sup>th</sup>**, noon-1p | [Meeting details and link](#)

### **DEI Virtual Meetup for Oregon Libraries** (Second Wednesday of every month)

*For anyone engaged in diversity, equity, inclusion & belonging work in Oregon libraries.*

Wednesday, **May 14<sup>th</sup>**, 3:30-4:30p | [Meetup Link](#)

### **2SLGBTQIA+ Virtual Affinity Meetup** (Third Tuesday of every month)

*For Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and/or not listed as it pertains to sexual orientation, romantic orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression.*

Tuesday, **May 20<sup>th</sup>**, noon-1pm | [Meeting details and link](#)

### **BIPOC Virtual Affinity Meetup** (Fourth Tuesday of every month)

*For Black, Indigenous, and other people of color.*

Tuesday, **May 27<sup>th</sup>**, noon-1p | [Meeting details and link](#)

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Free

Find additional free training events on the State Library of Oregon's [Continuing Education Calendar](#)

- [Everyday Advocacy for Smaller Libraries: Practical & Affordable Solutions](#)  
([Nebraska Library Commission](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, 8-9a | [Register here](#)
- [Preserving Legacy, Inspiring Change: The Untold Story of Black Librarians](#)  
([Georgia Library Association](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, 11a-noon | [Register here](#)

- **Building a Diverse Teach Pipeline: Expanding Pathways for High School Students to Become Educators** ([edWeb.net](#); Sponsored by [Center for Black Educator Development \(CBED\)](#))  
Webinar | Thursday, **May 8<sup>th</sup>**, 9-10a | **Register [here](#)**
- **Providing Mental Health Resources at Your Library**  
Webinar | Tuesday, **May 13<sup>th</sup>**, 8-9a | **Register [here](#)**
- **Fostering Resilience Through Literacy in our Classrooms & Beyond** ([edWeb.net](#); Sponsored by [Scholastic Education](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **May 14<sup>th</sup>**, 10-11a | **Register [here](#)**
- **Developing Library Services for Teens with Disabilities (PCI)**  
Webinar | Wednesday, **May 14<sup>th</sup>**, 11a-noon | **\*Request registration info. [here](#)**  
*\*Oregon libraries only*
- **Small Adjustments for Big Changes** ([Nebraska Library Commission](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **May 21<sup>st</sup>**, 8a-9a | **Register [here](#)**

### On-Demand

- **An Uncertain Time: How to make sense of this moment** ([Othering & Belonging Institute](#))  
On-Demand Webinar | 1hr 32min | March 2025
- **Graphic Empathy: Using Graphic Novels to Elevate Excluded Voices & Connect Communities** ([InfoPeople](#); Presented by [Christina E. Taylor](#))  
On-Demand Webinar | 55min | April 2025
- **La Hora Virtual: How to Develop a Virtual Program to Promote Spanish Resources** ([PCI Webinars](#))  
On-Demand Webinar | 1hr30min | **+Niche Academy**

**+Need access to Oregon's Library Staff Academy? Just fill out [this form](#) (available to Oregon library staff, volunteers, and board members). Then you can get started here: <https://my.nicheacademy.com/oregonstaff>**

**Fee-based \$** *\*(see information below about scholarship opportunities)*

- **[Building an Empowerment Library for Incarcerated Individuals](#)** (*PLA*)  
Webinar| Wed. **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, 11a-noon | **Cost: PLA member:** \$47.40; **ALA member:** \$71.10; **Non-member-** \$79
- **[Understanding & Fighting Anti-Trans Misinformation](#)** (*Core*)  
Webinar| Wed. **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, 11a | **Cost: Core member:** \$57.67; **ALA member:** \$71.10; **Non-member-** \$79
- **[Best of Core Forum: Neurodivergent Leadership; Learning to Lead in a Neurotypical World](#)** (*Core*)  
Webinar | Wed. **May 21<sup>st</sup>**, 11a | **Cost: Core member:** \$57.67; **ALA member:** \$71.10; **Non-member-** \$79
- **[Dismantling Racism in Collaborative Collections](#)** (*ALA eLearning/ PLA*)  
**On-Demand Webinar** | 1hr | Recorded: June 2021  
**Cost: PLA member:** \$47.40; **ALA member:** \$71.10; **Non-member-** \$79

**In-Person Learning** *\*(see information below about scholarship opportunities)*

- **[Libraries Leading with Equity: School Library Cohort](#)** (*Facilitated by Christina Fuller-Gregory*)  
Forest Grove, OR | **June 16-18, 2025** | No Cost; Space is limited
- **[People of Color in Library & Information Science \(POCinLIS\) Summit](#)**  
Online Summit | Friday, **July 25, 2025** | Free; Space is limited
- **[Pacific Northwest Library Association \(PNLA\) Virtual Conference](#)**  
**August 7-9, 2025** | Virtual | Various Pricing (\*\$100-\$225)  
\*Early Bird Pricing through July 3, 2025
- **[REFORMA National Conference VIII](#)**  
**September 18-21, 2025** | Long Beach, CA | Various Pricing  
[Scholarship Applications open through May 11](#)
- **[Association for Rural and Small Libraries \(ARSL\) 2025 Conference](#)**  
**September 17-20, 2025** | Albuquerque | Various Pricing
- **[AASL \(American Association of School Librarians\) National Conference](#)**  
**October 16-18, 2025** | St. Louis, MO | Various Pricing

**\* OLA EDI & Antiracism Committee's Professional Development Scholarships**  
*Scholarships to support EDI & Antiracism professional development for library staff, volunteers, and library-job seekers in Oregon. For more information and link to application, visit [here](#)*

## INDEPENDENT EXPLORATION



### **Read:**

#### **Article- [Inclusion is Leadership/ Books that See Us: South Asian Stories for AAPI](#)**

(by Ruchika T. Malhotra; [LinkedIn](#), April 2025)

#### **Article- [7 Books That Will Make You See Historical Figures Differently](#)**

(by Ijapa O, [The Republic](#); April 2025)



### **Watch:**

#### **[LSTA Federal Funds in Action: Oregon Historical Society's Yasui Collection](#)**

(27min; [State Library of Oregon](#)-YouTube; April 2025)

Oregon Historical Society staff Shawna Gandy, Dana Miller, and Matt Deschaine share the process and impact of translating and digitizing the Yasui family and business papers.

#### **[Free for All: The Public Library – A Documentary](#)**

(1hr 24min; [PBS](#), directed by Dawn Logsdon & Lucie Faulknor; April 2025)

*This documentary tells the story of the quiet revolutionaries who made a simple idea happen. From the pioneering women behind the “Free Library Movement” to today's librarians who service the public despite working in a contentious age of closures and book bans, meet those who created a civic institution where everything is free and the doors are open to all.*



### **Listen:**

#### **Podcast- [OVERDUE: Weeding Out Oppression in Libraries: S4, E2: Supporting BIPOC Library Workers](#)** (57min; OLA EDI & Antiracism Committee)

OVERDUE guests discuss [RAILS BIPOC Library Workers Group](#) and [RAILS BIPOC Library Workers Mentorship Program](#)—two inclusive programs for library professionals in Illinois that foster support and mitigate racial disparities.



**Reflect:**

- **May 5<sup>th</sup>** is the [National Day for Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives \(MMIWR\)](#), and **National Week of Action** is **May 5-9<sup>th</sup>**. Use the attached link to learn more about the significance of this day and why awareness and [action](#) are crucial.
- [International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia](#) is celebrated on **May 17<sup>th</sup>**. This day of acceptance and celebration was created in 2004 and is celebrated in over 130 countries.
- [Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#) is celebrated in May. This month-long celebration pays tribute to the culture, history, accomplishments and influence of Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders.
- May is [Jewish American Heritage Month](#). Take time to learn about the history, culture, achievements and contributions of Jewish Americans in the United States.
- Celebrate and honor Haitian culture and the founding of Haiti's flag throughout the month of May for [Haitian Heritage Month](#).