

Happy (early) July, Oregon Library Community!

This month's email is coming a little early because I am taking a short vacation, and because I wanted to highlight this amazing training happening this fall:

Urban Libraries Council's ***Creating a Culture of Belonging*** program is a six-session learning series of peer workshops designed to assist library leaders and staff on their journey to creating inclusive library systems.

Libraries will be encouraged to register as a team (maximum of three staff members per library), with at least one member of the library's leadership and one member of front-line staff. **Registration will be open July 9<sup>th</sup> - August 8<sup>th</sup>**. Details on where and how to register will be shared by me on Libs-Or once registration opens in a couple weeks.

In the meantime, find an overview of course content, participation requirements and key dates covered in this [short video](#).



State Library of Oregon | URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL | edge360

# CREATING A CULTURE OF BELONGING

A cohort-based program designed to advance Oregon Libraries through deeper belonging and inclusion.

Live meetings every other Wednesday, Sept. 3 - Nov. 12, 10-11 am PST

Thank you for all you continue to do to create welcoming libraries in Oregon!

Warm Regards,

*Ericka Brunson-Rochette*

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[www.oregon.gov/library/libraries](http://www.oregon.gov/library/libraries)



**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.*

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

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

Wednesday, **July 9<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, **July 15<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, **July 22<sup>nd</sup>**, noon-1p | [Meeting details and link](#)

### **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, **August 5<sup>th</sup>**, noon-1p | [Meeting details and link](#)

## FUNDING/ GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Brooklyn Public Library's **Books Unbanned** program is offering limited funding to US libraries to launch programming for teens and young adults focused on the freedom to Read.

Learn more and apply [here](#) by **July 11, 2025**.

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Free

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

- [You're Not Being 'Nice' You're Being Invisible](#) (Consultant [Nisha Mody](#))  
Workshop | Wednesday, **July 9**, 4-5:30p | Register [here](#)

- [\*\*The Power of Partnerships: Planning a Successful Community Meet & Greet at Your Library\*\*](#) (**PCI Webinar\*\***; Presenter [Nicole T. Bryan](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **July 9**, 11a-12p | Use [this form](#) to request registration info.
- [\*\*Trauma-Informed Libraries -- What are they, why do they matter, and how do we become one?\*\*](#) (**PCI Webinar\*\***; Presenter [Bea Forkan](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **July 23**, 11a-12p | Use [this form](#) to request registration info.
- [\*\*People of Color in Library & Information Science \(POCinLIS\) Summit\*\*](#)  
Online Summit | Friday, **July 25, 2025** | Free; Space is limited
- [\*\*Trauma-Informed Care or Services for Teens in the Library\*\*](#) (**PCI Webinar\*\***; Presenter [Carrie Rogers-Whitehead](#))  
Webinar | Wednesday, **July 30**, 11a-12p | Use [this form](#) to request registration info.
- [\*\*Balancing the Books: Addressing Economic Insecurity Among Library Workers\*\*](#) ([CSL In Session](#)-Colorado State Library)  
Webinar | Wednesday, **August 6**, 11a-12p | Register [here](#)

**\*\* Use [this form](#) to request registration information for this and other upcoming PCI webinars (Oregon libraries only).**

### **On-Demand**

- [\*\*Cultivating Library Joy: Finding Fulfillment in Everyday Work\*\*](#) ([CSL In Session](#)-Colorado State Library)  
On-Demand Webinar | 1hr | June 2025
- [\*\*Cultivating Empathy, Trust, and Optimism: Strategies for Motivating Demotivated Library Teams\*\*](#) ([CSL In Session](#)-Colorado State Library)  
On-Demand Webinar | 1hr | February 2025
- [\*\*Policy Writing and Implementation with Equity\*\*](#) ([Niche Academy](#)<sup>+</sup>)  
On-Demand Webinar | 1hr 6 mins

**+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)

- [Understanding, Supporting, and Empowering Neurodiverse Library Professionals](#) ([\*Library Juice Academy\*](#))  
4-Week Course | **July 7- August 3** | **Cost:** \$250
- [Early Literacy Teaching Practices in BIPOC Communities](#) ([\*Library Juice Academy\*](#))  
Asynchronous Course | **August 4-31** | **Cost:** \$250
- [Recruiting and Retaining Librarians from Underrepresented Minoritized Groups](#) ([\*Library Juice Academy\*](#))  
Asynchronous Course | **August 4-31** | **Cost:** \$250

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

- [Author Visit with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi](#)  
**July 19, 2025, 1-2:30p** | Happy Valley Public Library | Free
- [2025 Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Education Summit](#)  
**August 6, 2025** | Spirit Mountain Casino, Grand Ronde, OR | Free
- [Oregon Humanities- Beyond 250: Reflective Conversation](#)  
**July 21-22, 2025** | Hillsboro Public Library | [Free](#)  
**October 22-23, 2025** | Corvallis-Benton Public Library | [Free](#)
- [Pacific Northwest Library Association \(PNLA\) Virtual Conference](#)  
**August 7-9, 2025** | Virtual | Various Pricing
- [REFORMA National Conference VIII](#)  
**September 18-21, 2025** | Long Beach, CA | Various Pricing
- [Association for Rural and Small Libraries \(ARSL\) 2025 Conference](#)  
**September 17-20, 2025** | Albuquerque | Various Pricing
- [Radically Rural Summit](#)  
**October 7-9, 2025** | Keene, NH | 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) [A Nation's Story: "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"](#) (National Museum of African American History & Culture; 5 min read)

- Read Fredrick Douglass's full speech [here](#) (20 min read; PBS)
- Watch or listen to Douglass's descendants read and respond to excerpts of his famous speech [here](#) (7 mins, YouTube; NPR, July 2020)

(Book) [Waiting for the Long Night Moon](#) by Amanda Peters (256 pages; February 2025)  
Short stories describing 'the Indigenous experience from an astonishingly wide spectrum in time and place'



### Watch:

[Lost Voices](#) (3 min; Button Poetry, YouTube. Scout Bostley & Darius Simpson, 2015)

[Understanding Non-Binary: Excerpts from a Correspondence](#) (16 mins; TEDx Talks, Robbin Derry & Saga Darnell, May 2020)



### Listen:

[Nelson Mandela and the Struggle Against Apartheid](#) (9 mins; United Nations)

The United Nations special program from the first commemorative *Mandela Day* on July 18, 2010. More about *Nelson Madela International Day* can be found below for reflection.

(Podcast) [OVERDUE: Weeding Out Oppression in Libraries](#) (OLA EDI & Antiracism Committee; a new episode will launch on **Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>**)

A podcast attempting to shine light on the radical inequities and the oppressive nature of the library profession, specifically as it pertains to BIPOC professionals and the communities they serve in the state of Oregon.



### Reflect:

- The Continental Congress's adoption of the Declaration of independence marked the official birth of the United States. Whether or not you celebrate, reflect on what freedom looks like and means to you, and take time to [consider what racial implications of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July](#) might exist surrounding this holiday.
- Since 2012, [International Non-Binary People's Day](#) happens annually on **July 14<sup>th</sup>**. This day is meant to raise awareness, celebrate and uplift people who do not identify within the traditional gender binary.
- The United Nations' honors **July 18<sup>th</sup>** as [Nelson Mandela International Day](#). This global celebration, falling annually on Mandela's birthday, is meant to honor the life, legacy and accomplishments of Nelson Madela, and is meant to inspire individuals to make a difference in their communities.
- A French soldier discovered the **Rosetta Stone** on **July 19, 1799**. This discovery led to deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics, a lost language for nearly 2,000 years. Learn more about the Rosetta Stone [here](#).