

Happy August, Oregon Library Community!

This month's email is a long one; the opportunities for learning, connecting and cultivating a welcoming library community keep rolling in. Between the virtual, in-person, and at your own pace options for learning topics on everything from *bystander intervention* to *immigration resources and legal advocacy*, I hope everyone will find something that helps support their work, their workplace and/or the community they serve.

I want to share another reminder for public libraries to register for Urban Libraries Council's six-session ***Creating a Culture of Belonging*** program happening this fall. Registration will close **Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**. There is room for 12 more libraries to join before registration is capped, so sign up soon if you are interested! More information and the registration form can be found [here](#).

State Librarian Wendy Cornelisen has started a series of town halls to answer questions surrounding the State Library of Oregon's budget, resources, services and the variety of ways the state library exists to help support your community engagement efforts. The [July focus](#) was on LSTA funding. The next town hall is taking place on Thursday, **August 21** at 1:30p, and the topic is the state budget process. Please join using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007061268>, and [submit questions](#) to be answered at this event by Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.

As always, thank you for all you continue to do to create welcoming libraries in Oregon!

Warm Regards,



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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**

**[Community Engagement LibGuide](#)**

## 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. **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, **August 5**, 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, **August 13**, 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, **August 19**, noon-1pm | [Meeting details and link](#)

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

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

Tuesday, **August 26**, noon-1p | [Meeting details and link](#)

## FUNDING/ GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Grant information provided by [\*The Association for Rural & Small Libraries \(ARSL\)\*](#)

### **Lois Lenski Covey Foundations Bookmobile Grants**

For organizations operating a lending bookmobile traveling into neighborhoods populated by underserved youth. Grants are for purchasing books published for young people preschool- grade 8. The Foundation provides grants to organizations serving economically or socially at-risk children, have limited book budgets, and demonstrate real need.

**Learn more and apply [here](#) by August 15, 2025.**

### **Believe in Reading Grants**

For provably successful literacy programs that have been established for 2+ years. Programs that serve any age or aspect of supporting reading and literacy will be considered, including adult literacy, English as a second language projects, or Braille related projects for the blind or visually impaired.

**Applications reviewed as they are received**

### **Walmart Spark Good Local Grants**

These grants, ranging from \$250 to \$5,000, are awarded to address specific community needs. The project should align with the focus areas of Creating Opportunity, Advancing Sustainability, Strengthening Community, and/or Centering Racial Equity. Must be located within the service area of a Walmart store, Sam's Club, or distribution center.

**Next quarterly application period: Aug. 1 – Oct. 15, 2025**

### **Foundation for Rural Service Community Grant Program**

Grants designed to provide support to a variety of local efforts to build and sustain a high quality of life in rural America.

**Applications due September 5**

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Free Virtual

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

- [Welcoming Communities: Immigration Resources and Legal Advocacy in Oregon Libraries](#) (*Oregon Reference Summit*)  
Presentation | Wednesday, **August 6**, 12-1:30p | Register [here](#)
- [Balancing the Books: Addressing Economic Insecurity Among Library Workers](#) (*CSL In Session*-Colorado State Library)  
Webinar | Wednesday, **August 6**, 11a-12p | Register [here](#)
- [Bystander Intervention for Educators](#) (*Right To Be*)  
Training | Tuesday, **August 12**, 2-3p | Register [here](#)
- [How to Respond 2.0: Practical Tools for Being Powerful in the Face of Harassment](#) (*Right To Be*)  
Workshop | Monday **August 18**, 3-4p | Register [here](#)
- [How to Increase Money for Programs and Services Without Relying on a Grant, Event, or Campaign](#) (*Non-Profit Learning Lab*)  
Webinar | Monday, **August 18**, 8a | Register [here](#)
- [Targeted Literacy Interventions for K-5: Strategies for Boosting Foundational Skills](#) (*edWeb*)  
Webinar | Monday, **August 25**, 11-noon | Register [here](#)
- [Oregon Humanities:](#)
  - [Conversation Project: Reentry and Empathy](#) (**August 19**, 3p)
  - [Conversation Project: Talking About Gender](#) (**August 21**, 3p)

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

## On-Demand

- [Advocacy in a polarized world](#) ([EveryLibrary Institute](#)) | On-Demand Webinar
- [Fighting for the First Amendment: Anti-book banning training series](#) ([EveryLibrary Institute](#)) | On-Demand Webinar
- **Anti-racist Leadership – Working with People and Policies** (+[Niche Academy](#)) | On-Demand Tutorial

+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 Virtual\*(see information below about scholarship opportunities)

- [Pacific Northwest Library Association \(PNLA\) Virtual Conference](#)  
**August 7-9** | Virtual | Various Pricing
- [ThriveLib: Reclaiming Joy, Balance, and Boundaries in Libraries](#)  
**August 12 & 13** | Virtual | Various Pricing, \$75-100
- [Library Juice Academy](#) - 4-week asynchronous courses | **Cost:** \$250/ course\*
  - [Early Literacy Teaching Practices in BIPOC Communities](#) | **August 4-31**
  - [Recruiting and Retaining Librarians from Underrepresented Minoritized Groups](#) | **August 4-31**
  - [Show Them, Grow Them: Engaging Unsupervised Youth & Teens in Your Library](#) | **Sept. 1-28**
  - [Creating Dementia Friendly Services for the Public Library](#) | **Sept. 1-28**

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

- **Citizen Activism 101: Making Change Happen** (Facilitator: [Donna Cohen](#))  
**August 5**, 6-7:30p | [Albina Library](#), Multnomah Co Library | First come, first served
- **K-FEST 2025: Korean Independence Day Festival** ([Korean Society of Oregon](#))  
**August 16**, 11a-3:30p Blue Lake Regional Park, Fairview, Oregon | [Free](#)
- **Oregon Humanities**
  - **Indigenous Cultural Celebration** (**Aug 6 & 13**, 10a; Springfield)
  - **Day of Remembrance of Hiroshima Film Showing** (**Aug 6**; 2p; Ontario)
  - **-Ism Storytellers Project with Queer Elders** (**Aug 9**, 2p; Portland)
  - **Community Builders Meeting** (**Aug 20**, 10a; Sisters)
- **REFORMA National Conference VIII**  
**September 18-21** | Long Beach, CA | Various Pricing
- **Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) 2025 Conference**  
**September 17-20** | Albuquerque | Various Pricing
- **Oregon Association of School Libraries (OASL) Fall Conference**  
**October 4** (Pre-conference October 3) | Eugene | Various Pricing, \*\$140-200  
*\*Early Bird Registration ends September 14<sup>th</sup>*
- **Oregon Humanities- Beyond 250: Reflective Conversation**  
**October 22-23** | Corvallis-Benton Public Library | [Free](#)
- **Urban Libraries Council Annual Leadership Forum**  
**October 22-24** | Cincinnati, Ohio | Various Pricing \$895\*-2,500  
*\*Early Bird Registration ends August 4*
- **Radically Rural Summit**  
**October 7-9** | Keene, NH | Various Pricing
- **AASL (American Association of School Librarians) National Conference**  
**October 16-18** | 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:

**(Blog Post)** [White Fragility in Decolonial Spaces: When Inclusion Becomes Extraction](#)

(Caelin Ross, July 9, 2025; [ACRLog](#))

“Reflections on facilitating difficult conversations about Indigenous knowledge and settler accountability in drama in education research.”

**(Advocacy Playbook)** [Everyday Advocacy Playbook: Shifting the Public Narrative in Literacy Education](#) ([Everyday Advocacy](#), July 2025; 124 pages, downloadable pdf)

“Provides a hands-on experience that leads preservice and practicing teachers through a step-by-step process to become an everyday advocate.” Learn more here: [Everyday Advocacy Playbook: How to Use this Book](#)



### Watch:

[They Were Children | Honouring 38,000 Lives Lost in Hiroshima and Nagasaki](#) (<4mins; *International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons*; YouTube, 2025)

[The Urgency of Intersectionality](#) (19 mins; Kimberlé Crenshaw, TED; YouTube, 2016)



### Listen:

**(Podcast)** [Hindsight: Looking Back at 100 Years of Women’s Suffrage](#) (6 episodes, various lengths; Dr. Robin Henry, NPR; 2020)

**(Podcast)** [Building Trust & Engaging Authentically with Community](#) (1hr 23min; Maria Aguilar & Angelica Novoa De Cordeiro, Cornelius Public Library, [OVERDUE: Weeding Out Oppression in Libraries](#); 2025)



## Reflect:

- **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – August 9**  
“The International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples hopes to raise awareness about the rights and contributions of indigenous populations worldwide. Today, start a dialogue about the indigenous communities and society by understanding the challenges they face such as marginalization.” ^
- **Women’s Equality Day – August 26**  
“This day remembers the passage of the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution in 1920, which gave women the right to vote. Celebrate the achievements of women in history this month. Remember the ongoing struggle for gender equality and women’s rights every day.” ^
- **International Day of People of African Descent – August 31**  
“This day was established by the United Nations to celebrate the rich heritage and contributions of people of African descent worldwide, and to promote the full inclusion of people of African descent in all aspects of society. It also aims to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance that people of African descent face globally.” ^
- **Black Business Month**  
This month, we honor Black-owned businesses in the United States. First celebrated in 2004, there are roughly 3.12 million Black-owned businesses in the U.S. Support the advancement of equity and diversity in business spaces by purchasing from, working with, and/or sharing widely Black owned businesses.
- **Intersectionality Awareness Month**  
“A month dedicated to exploring and understanding the concept of Intersectionality, a term introduced by Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989. Intersectionality examines how various forms of identity—such as race, gender, class, sexuality, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, ability and more—interact and overlap, creating unique experiences of both privilege and oppression.”- whri.org
- **National Civility Month**  
This month focuses on treating others the way we want to treat others with respect and kindness. May reflection this month carry through every month of each year.

^ Descriptions quoted directly from: **diversityresources.com**