



NLA Executive Board

Tammi Thiem
President

nlapresident@nebraskalibraries.org

Lane Gibson
President - Elect

nlapresidentelect@nebraskalibraries.org

Kelly Warehime
Secretary

nlasecretary@nebraskalibraries.org

Nancy Novotny
Treasurer

nlatreasurer@nebraskalibraries.org

Holli Duggan
Past President

nlapastpresident@nebraskalibraries.org

Ginger Jelinek
Executive Director

nlalexecutivedirector@nebraskalibraries.org

2023: THAT'S A WRAP

by Holli Duggan, outgoing NLA President

Once again, it's time to reflect on the past year while considering all the possibilities ahead of us. As my term as NLA President comes to a close, I wanted to share some 2023 highlights.

This year started with another busy legislative session and Advocacy Day. Four legislative bills would've directly affected libraries/librarians and limited access to educational resources. Though this session was not all bad news! Three other bills focused on improving broadband access across the state. Thank you to the Advocacy Committee for all their work on these challenges! If you haven't checked out the [NLA Advocacy page](#), there are more details about these bills and other advocacy resources available there.

Thank you to everyone who helped in planning (and attending!) one of the spring meetings! These meetings are so valuable to connect and learn from each other! Of course, we didn't have an annual conference this year. This was a good experiment, but the board ultimately decided that having a conference every year really is best.

Our first Nebraska Library Week was an incredible opportunity with library events across the state and online. Thank you again to Lane Gibson, Amy Dissmeyer, and their committees for all their hard work making this week happen!

And finally, a big welcome to Tammi Thiem and all our incoming board members! Cheers to 2024!

MEET THE OFFICERS

2024



NLA President 2024
Tammi Thiem, Lincoln



NLA President-Elect
Lane Gibson, Lincoln



NLA Treasurer
Nancy Novotny, Omaha



ALA Councilor
Amy Dissmeyer, Hastings

SECTIONS & ROUND TABLES

2024



PLTS Vice-Chair
Matt Kovar, Papillion



PLTS Secretary/Treasurer
Sara Johnson, Geneva



TSRT Chair
Joyce Melvin, Lincoln

OPEN POSITIONS

College & University Section

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary

Intellectual Freedom RT

- Secretary



CONGRATULATE OUR 2024 AWARD WINNERS!

PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

President Holli Duggan awarded the following individuals for their contributions to NLA during 2024:



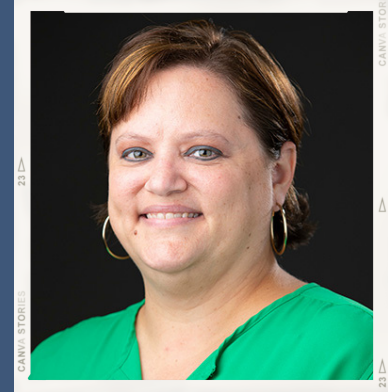
Deb Robertson
NLA Advocacy Committee



Lane Gibson
Nebraska Library Week



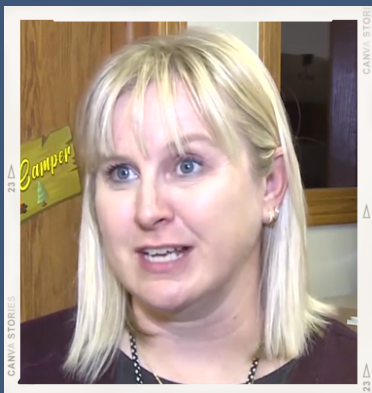
Amy Dissmeyer
NLW/Library Prom



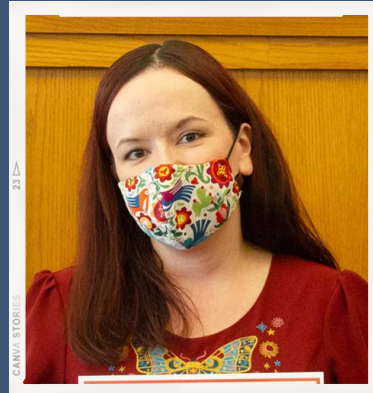
Dr. Sara Churchill
Golden Sower Award

NIXON SCHOLARSHIP

supports students who pursue full- or part-time graduate-level library education.



Nicole Bruck
North Platte Public Schools



Jessica Oosting
UNO Criss Library



Marcella Dial
Creighton University Libraries

MARI SANDOZ AWARD

for significant contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film, or related activity.

ERIN BELIEU

was born in Nebraska and attended Omaha Central High School. A nationally renowned poet, she currently writes and teaches in Houston, Texas.



MAD HATTER AWARD

for an outstanding contribution to School, Children's and Young People's librarianship and library development.

JESSICA WILKINSON

is the Young Adult/Makerspace Librarian at the Columbus Public Library and was nominated by one of her young patrons.



C&U PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

for members of the College and University Section to attend conferences or meetings.

KATIE BISHOP

is the Director of Research, Access, & Instruction Services at the UNO Criss Library.



PLTS ADVOCACY AWARD

for providing exceptional support for their local library.

VICKI WOOD

was the Youth Services Coordinator at Lincoln City Libraries for 30+ years, and volunteers with the NLA Advocacy Committee and the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON).



NEBRASKA 2023 LIBRARY WEEK

NOVEMBER 13-17

Connecting Communities



NLW 2023 WRAP-UP

by Lane Gibson, Nebraska Library Week Chair

Hello everyone, and happy holidays! I hope you've all had a restful couple of weeks since our first inaugural Nebraska Library Week!

Our theme for this event was "Connecting Communities," celebrating the ways libraries connect the communities they serve to each other, to information, and to the world.

Throughout the course of the week, though, we also had the privilege of seeing how Nebraskan librarians and library staff can connect to each other, creating a professional network from Omaha to Scottsbluff of brilliant, knowledgeable, and supportive professionals.

I invite you to complete this [feedback survey](#), as well as thank our Nebraska Library Week sponsors: the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, Biblionix, Creative Association Management, and Gumdrop Books.

54 *Library Prom attendees*

official library partners **66**

70 *statewide library events*

dollars raised for NLA **961**

1000

"I Love My Library" postcards distributed



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

by Amy Dissmeyer, Library Prom Chair

As part of the inaugural Nebraska Library Week, Hastings Public Library hosted An Evening of Elegance: Library Prom, on Saturday, November 18, 2023. **Fifty-four** librarians and supporters attended the gala event at the City Auditorium for a night of light food, drinks, dancing and fundraising for Nebraska library advocacy efforts.



Fundraising efforts included a silent auction, a split-the-pot raffle and ticket for sale to vote for prom royalty! A total of **\$961** was raised for NLA's advocacy efforts.

Huge thank you to Deb Robertson & Monica Tidyman for coordinating the silent auction items; Lacey Partlow for coordinating the games and activities (and hard trivia questions!); Shelby Janke for marketing and promoting the event; and to everyone who came. I certainly had a good time planning and hosting the event, though we made a lot of notes on how to improve (and what not to do!) if NLA wants to host this event in the future. Thank you to the Advocacy Committee and NLA Board for taking a chance on letting Hastings host this event.





NEBRASKANS THEIR LIBRARIES

NLA distributed 1,000 “I Love My Library postcards during Nebraska Library Week. Here are some library love letters we received back!

I love Kilgore Memorial Library in York. As a board member for United Way of York, I am thankful we are able to hold our monthly meetings in one of their meeting rooms.

I love the Howells Library because they have a terrific selection of books for all ages. They are friendly and helpful to all. They offer great family fun nights to support our town!

“Entering our library is like entering a magical land.”

Elgin Public Library is a warm and welcoming place. Our librarians help us find books we may be looking for or may not even know we want! There is plenty of inviting spaces to sit and read or talk with others.

I am new to Scottsbluff and joined the library right away because the staff introduced me to fun times with invites to the book clubs and the special programs they offer. This library is the very best thing I’ve found in Scottsbluff.

“Libraries are my sanctuary.”



NEBRASKANS THEIR LIBRARIES

NLA distributed 1,000 “I Love My Library postcards during Nebraska Library Week. Here are some library love letters we received back!

I love the Ravenna, Nebraska library because the books I check out show me all the possibilities, the romance, and other great things I find in them. **Joy Kyhn at the Ravenna Library is the best!**

“I love my library because it's pretty and I take the English class here with nice people like Mike.”

“I love my library because I can walk to and from home. It also helps me to read better.”

The library has helped me file my taxes and apply for jobs, do research, and personal business. I have read books and watched movies when I had no money. The library is the first place I go when I move to a new city.

My library is a place where all are welcome and able to enjoy books, other materials, and programming. It's wonderful to have access to diverse information and entertainment. Thank you, librarians!

“My library saves me tons of money I'd be spending on books!”

Library and Information Services

Spring 2024 Online Course Offerings

January 16, 2024 – May 9, 2024

Enrollment for Spring Semester 2024 opens

Monday, Nov. 20, 2023



LIBR 2100 Reference Resources and Services

Marty Magee, Instructor

- Professional competencies including legal and ethical responsibilities
- Reference interview process
- The Reference collection
- Evaluation and use of digital resources, including databases, and websites

LIBR 2150 Develop and Organize Collections

Patty Birch, Instructor

- Basics of collection management including terminology and models
- Community and collection analysis
- Selection, Acquisition, Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom and Copyright
- Cataloging instruction including classification systems, subject headings, MARC records, and RDA

<i>Spring 2024</i>	<i>Fall 2024</i>
Libr 2100 Reference Resources and Services	Libr 1010 Foundations of Library and Information Services
Libr 2150 Develop and Organize Collections	Libr 2250 Leadership and Management in Library and Information Agencies
	Libr 2940 Library Science Capstone Practicum



For more information on the Library and Information Services program, see: <https://www.cccneb.edu/lis/>

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780

Central Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



SAVE THE DATE: ADVOCACY DAY

*Wednesday, March 20, 2024
in Lincoln, NE*

ADVOCATE FOR NE LIBRARIES!

Every year, NLA members and library supporters make their way to the Capitol city to speak with lawmakers about the importance of Nebraska's public, school, academic, and special libraries.

The day includes an update from NLA's knowledgeable lobbyist, as well as a quick overview for speaking with elected officials.

Senators are invited to dine with NLA members during a special luncheon where library volunteers from across the state are recognized for their outstanding service.

That's not all - we're planning an exciting day full of energizing activities to make your trip to Lincoln a memorable one. Mark your calendar for **March 20, 2024!**



Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly addressed NLA members and state senators at the Advocacy Day luncheon.



Outstanding library volunteers were recognized from across the state of Nebraska.



NLA members got a tour of the Nebraska State Library and its hidden storage stacks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Host a Librarians & Libations Happy Hour in your community!

Want to host an NLA happy hour in your part of the state? Contact the Communications Committee and we will help you advertise!



Email nlacommunications@nebraskalibraries.org.

Tiny & Mighty Interest Group

Next meeting:

Tues., Jan. 16, 2023 at 10 a.m. CDT
nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org

Have news you'd like to share? Send an email to nlacommunications@nebraskalibraries.org for submission to the NLA newsletter and social media.

Nominate a library for the ALA SustainRT Citation for Wellness

The ALA Sustainability Roundtable (SustainRT) is recognizing libraries that go above and beyond in meeting the wellness needs of their staff. This may include wellness initiatives for unions, gender equity, pay equity, and other activities designed to improve the salaries and status of library professionals.

2024 Conference!

The NLA Conference will occur in Kearney, NE on October 8-10, 2024. We're seeking talented event planners, presenters, and facilitators to join the Conference Planning Committee. Please contact Lane Gibson if you are interested!

Follow NLA!



CONTACT INFO

Board Representatives

MPLA Councilor

Michael Straatmann

nla-mpla@nebraskalibraries.org

AFCON Representative

Wyatt Packard

nla-afcon@nebraskalibraries.org

ALA Councilor

Amy Dissmeyer

nla-ala@nebraskalibraries.org

Committee Chairs

Advocacy - Deb Robertson

nlaadvocacy@nebraskalibraries.org

Auditing - Amy Dissmeyer

nlaauditing@nebraskalibraries.org

By-Laws & Handbook - Lane Gibson

nlabylaws-handbook@nebraskalibraries.org

Communications - Shelby Brodersen

nlacomcommunications@nebraskalibraries.org

Elections - Holli Duggan

nlaelections@nebraskalibraries.org

Finance - Holli Duggan

nlafinance@nebraskalibraries.org

Professional Development - Tammi Thiem

nlaprofdev@nebraskalibraries.org

Scholarship & Awards - Lisa Mount

nlascholarships@nebraskalibraries.org

Round Table Chairs

Intellectual Freedom (IF)

OPEN

nlaif@nebraskalibraries.org

New Members

Lacey Partlow

nlanmrt@nebraskalibraries.org

Technical Services

Joyce Melvin

nlatsrt@nebraskalibraries.org

Section Chairs

College & University

OPEN

nlacandu@nebraskalibraries.org

Public Library & Trustee

Debbie Aden

nlaplts@nebraskalibraries.org

School, Children's & Young Peoples

OPEN

nlascyp@nebraskalibraries.org

Interest Groups

Tiny & Mighty

Joy Kyhn

nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org

Diversity

Lane Gibson

nladiversity@nebraskalibraries.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Interested in committee leadership? Contact [Tammi](#).