



NLA Executive Board

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LIBRARIES SUPPORT EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

by Deb Robertson, Chair of the Advocacy Committee

The Nebraska Library Association has joined **We Care for Kids**/*Por todos los niños*, a statewide effort to build support for quality early childhood care and education in Nebraska. Because the more we care about bringing quality early childhood education to families, the more we ensure children, families, and communities thrive!

Children who receive quality childhood education are better prepared to learn, more likely to read by the fourth grade, graduate school, and go on to further their education. Unfortunately, Nebraska is facing an early childhood care and education crisis. Almost every county in the state (91%) with licensed childcare programs does not have enough places to meet demand.

As a partner agency, the Nebraska Library Association will be promoting Quality Early Childhood Education for All Nebraska Families through library programming and events as well as encouraging local partnerships with early childhood education centers. Watch this newsletter and follow NLA on [Facebook](#) for success stories on how libraries can and do promote Early Childhood Education across our state.

We Care for Kids connects families and communities to resources, provides a [community toolkit](#) available in English and Spanish to help raise awareness, and uplifts early childhood teachers and their [stories](#).

REGISTER NOW!

NLA Leadership Training Camp

Have you ever wanted to get more involved with NLA? Would you like to get more information about the various ways to do that? Then the NLA Leadership Training Camp is for you! Coming in August, this series of three online sessions will allow you to hear from NLA leaders about what their positions involve. There will also be plenty of time for Q&A. If you can't make the live sessions, recordings will be available.

Thursday

8/10

11am - 12pm

SESSION 1: ELECTED NLA POSITIONS

President, President-Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Mountain Plains Library Association Representative, American Library Association Councilor

Thursday

8/17

11am - 12pm

SESSION 2: SECTIONS AND ROUND TABLE LEADERS

College & University; Intellectual Freedom; New Members; Public Library & Trustee; School, Children's, & Young People; Technical Services

Thursday

8/24

11am - 12pm

SESSION 3: COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advocacy; Auditing; By-Laws & Handbook; Communications; Elections; Finance; Professional Development; Scholarships & Awards

Register today for one or all of these virtual training sessions. Recordings available.

Questions? Contact Emily Nimsakont at nlapastpresident@nebraskalibraries.org.

LIBRARIANS & libations



Northeast Nebraska - our next happy hour is in Norfolk after the Golden Sower Literature Festival!

Saturday, July 29 | 4 p.m. | 411 W. Norfolk Ave



Left: NLA members got a private tour of the new downtown Omaha Public Library branch (1401 Jones St.) on July 13.



Below: From coffee to cocktails, NLA members met for a happy hour in Lincoln on July 15.





The NLA Scholarship & Awards Committee is

SEEKING NOMINATIONS

Submit a nomination for the Mari Sandoz and Meritorious Service Awards [here](#) by August 30, 2023.

MARI SANDOZ AWARD

The Mari Sandoz Award recognizes significant, enduring contribution to the Nebraska book world through writing, film production or related activity.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

The Meritorious Service Award is given annually to a person, corporation or organization which has contributed to the improvement of library services in a local community; a county, region or state agency; or in library legislation.

SANDRA HERZINGER AWARD

*Technical Services Round Table's
Distinguished Service Award*

The Sandra Herzinger Award will be given to a Nebraska library worker who has demonstrated exceptional work in the profession and/or has been an advocate for technical services.

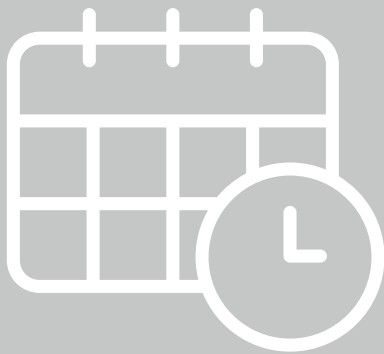
[Submit nominations here.](#)

AWARDS NOMINATION PROCESS:

Complete the correct online form ([Mari Sandoz/Meritorious: Sandra Herzinger](#)) to submit nominations on or before the deadline. Each nomination should include the nominee's name and contact information; and a short narrative highlighting the nominee's accomplishments. Nominations should also include the name and contact information of the person or group making the nomination. Also required are two letters which support and endorse the nominations. These letters may provide further information about the nominee.

Nominations remain in effect for two years. [Contact the NLA Scholarship & Awards Committee Chair](#) with questions.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?



Whether you're passionate about **upholding intellectual freedom**, or are **facing challenges** at your library and need support, the NLA Advocacy Committee welcomes any and all members to attend their weekly meetings.

The Committee meets each **Thurs-day at 4 p.m.** via [Zoom](#). Questions? Contact Deb Robertson at nlaadvocacy@nebraskalibraries.org.

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY?



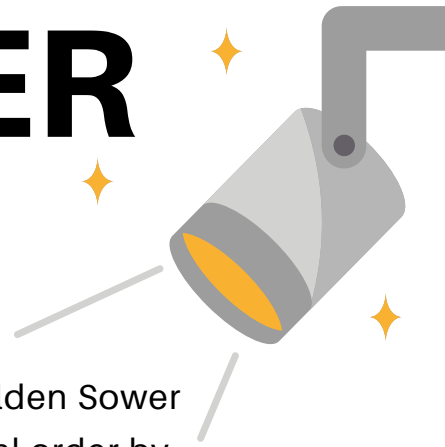
Libraries are at the heart of Nebraska's communities. Each day, Nebraska librarians help citizens across the state access the materials and information they need to help improve their quality of life.

Do you love your local library? **Please consider signing up as a Nebraska library advocate.** You will be notified of opportunities to make your voice heard and stand up for Nebraska libraries.

Nebraska needs libraries, and Nebraska's libraries need you. Thank you!

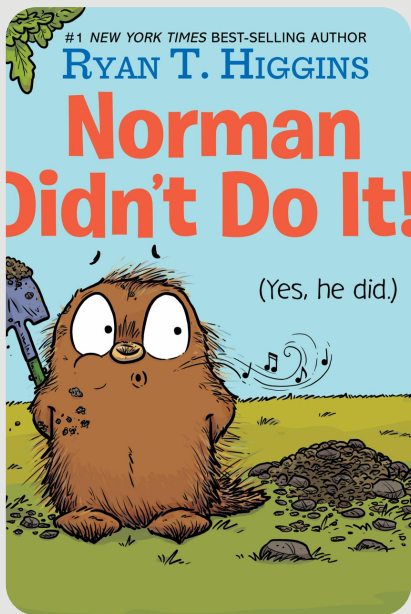


GOLDEN SOWER SPOTLIGHT



Each month, all year long, we'll spotlight a 2023-2024 Nebraska Golden Sower nominee from each category in the NLA e-newsletter! In alphabetical order by title, we'll share a synopsis of the Picture Books, Chapter Books, and Novels that Nebraska's young readers will enjoy during the 2023-24 school year.

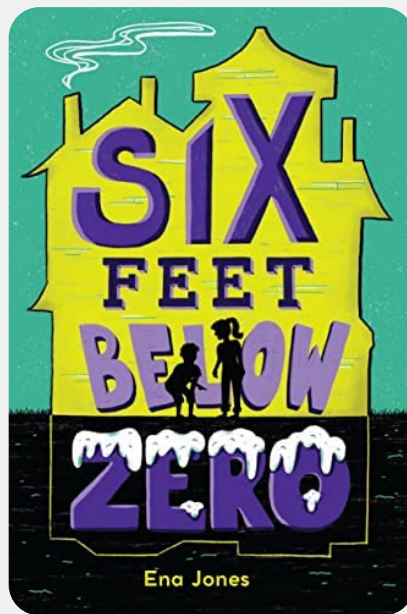
Picture Book



Norman Didn't Do It!
by Ryan T. Higgins

Norman is a porcupine. Mildred is a tree. Norman and Mildred are best friends. Just the two of them. And only the two of them. But when a surprise pops up, life will never be the same again.

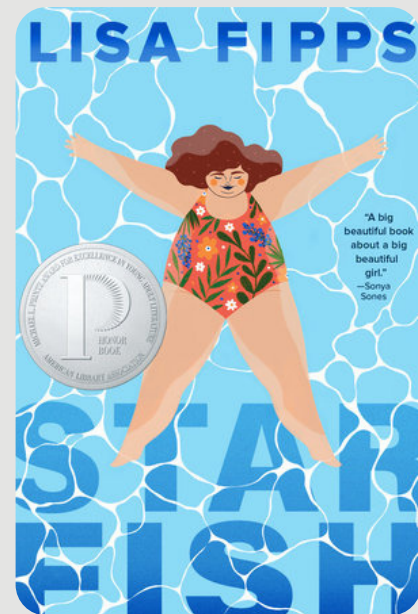
Chapter Book



Six Feet Below Zero
by Ena Jones

Rosie and Baker are hiding something: their great grandmother's dead body. To keep them from being sent off to boarding school, they're instructed to pretend she's alive until her body is in the right hands.

Novel



Starfish
by Lisa Fipps

Ellie's been bullied about her weight since age 5. Luckily, she has allies in a few grown-ups and friends, and spends time in her pool where she can be her fabulous self.

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., August 15, 2023 at 10 a.m. CDT
nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org

Save the Date: 2024 Conference

Mark your calendars! The 2024 Nebraska Library Association Conference will be held in Kearney, NE on October 8 through October 10.

The Diversity Interest Group is seeking members!

Want to make an impactful difference affecting equity in the Nebraska Library Association? Join the Diversity Interest Group and help guide its strategic goals.

Sign up [here](#).

Follow NLA!



CONTACT INFO

Board Representatives

MPLA Councilor

Michael Straatmann

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AFCON Representative

Wyatt Packard

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ALA Councilor

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Committee Chairs

Advocacy - Deb Robertson

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Auditing - Amy Dissmeyer

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Scholarship & Awards - Lisa Mount

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Round Table Chairs

Intellectual Freedom (IF)

Cal Harman

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New Members

Lacey Partlow

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Technical Services

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Section Chairs

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Public Library & Trustee

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School, Children's & Young Peoples

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Interest Groups

Tiny & Mighty

Rebecca McCorkindale

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Diversity

Lane Gibson

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

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