



## NLA Executive Board

Tammi Thiem

*President*

[nlapresident@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlapresident@nebraskalibraries.org)

Lane Gibson

*President - Elect*

[nlapresidentelect@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlapresidentelect@nebraskalibraries.org)

Kelly Warehime

*Secretary*

[nlasecretary@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlasecretary@nebraskalibraries.org)

Nancy Novotny

*Treasurer*

[nlatreasurer@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlatreasurer@nebraskalibraries.org)

Holli Duggan

*Past President*

[nlapastpresident@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlapastpresident@nebraskalibraries.org)



## SEPTEMBER TO-DO LIST

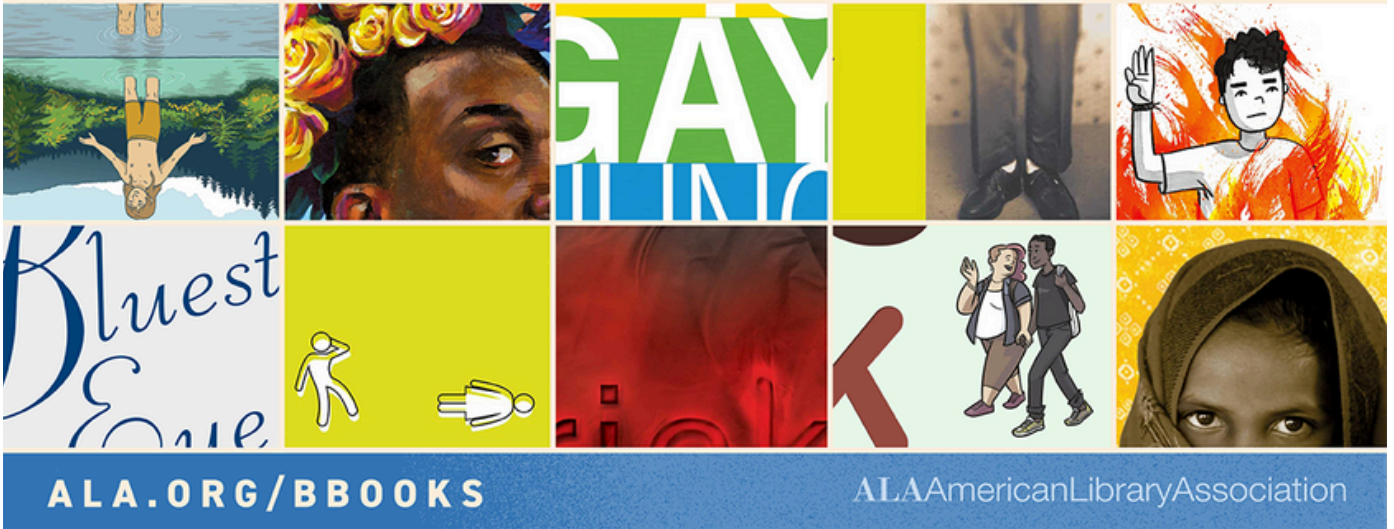
by Shelby Janke Brodersen, NLA Communications Chair

Exciting things are happening this season at NLA. After a one-year hiatus from the annual conference, Nebraska's largest network of library professionals will once again reconvene in Kearney in just a few weeks.

As you settle into the fall season with a cozy cup of tea, here are a few energizing items to add to your to-do list:

- **Register for the NLA Conference:** From October 9-11, we'll be in Kearney celebrating Nebraska libraries and learning ways that all library workers, users, and institutions can Thrive Together. Register for one day or all three to enjoy keynote speakers, meet your colleagues from across the state, and collect new, inclusive ideas to bring home to your library.
- **Vote in the NLA Election:** Near and far, it's time to vote! The NLA election ballot for 2025 is open until September 27. Log in to the Member Area at [nebraskalibraries.org](http://nebraskalibraries.org) and find the NLA Board and Sections/Roundtables ballot surveys on the left-hand side of your screen. Then, don't forget to **register to vote** in your community this November!

# TOP TEN MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2023



## INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM & THE NLA CONFERENCE

by **Shelby Janke Brodersen, NLA Communications Chair**

It's Banned Books Week! Censorship continues to pervade and impact the important work that librarians do every day to support their schools and communities. The Nebraska Library Association condemns censorship and believes in the Freedom to Read.

Learn more about how and why to choose intellectual freedom at next month's NLA Conference in these thoughtful sessions:

### **Wed., Oct. 9**

#### ***What is Intellectual Freedom and Why Do Libraries Fight for It?***

with Lincoln librarians **Vicki Wood and Wyatt Packard**

Intellectual Freedom has been a core value of the library profession. The session will focus on the historical commitment libraries have made to promote access and fight against censorship and what it means in today's contentious political climate.

### **Thurs., Oct. 10**

#### ***Advocacy Policy Panel with the NLA Advocacy Committee***

Attend this session to learn best practices for growing advocates for your library from his panel of experts, including NLA Lobbyist Brent Smoyer, Mindy Rush Chipman of the ACLU of Nebraska, and Deborah Doyle of United for Libraries.

#### ***Choose Your Own Adventure: Intellectual Freedom Edition with ALA President-Elect Sam Helmick***

Attendees will collaboratively navigate their way through a multi-step, intellectual freedom-related scenarios, the outcome of which is contingent upon their choices at various points, akin to a Choose Your Own Adventure™ story.

#### ***United for Libraries: Roles and Recruiting for Public Library Trustees with Deborah Doyle***

This program will help attendees articulate the significant role of volunteer commissioners to library success, outline duties of a library commission, articulate some strategies for accomplishing them, enhance a productive working relationship with their library director, and cover how to recruit new commissioners from your community.

# NLA PRE-CONFERENCE

Wednesday, Oct. 9. [Register here!](#)

**What is  
Intellectual  
Freedom and  
Why Do  
Libraries  
Fight for It?**

**Shaping the  
Future for  
Your Friends  
of the Library  
with United  
for Libraries**

**Harmonious  
Tales:  
Amplifying  
Literature  
with Musical  
Magic!**

## **Strategic Plan Town Hall**

The NLA Strategic Planning Committee has been working hard to introduce changes to the organization that will improve the value of your membership. Learn about these proposed changes and make your voice heard.

*New Members Round Table*

## **Happy Hour**

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 5:30-8:30  
Big Apple Fun Center

**Free first drink, appetizers & billiards play!  
Registration encouraged, but not required!**

**Register for conference at [nebraskalibraries.org](http://nebraskalibraries.org)!**

# SPECIAL GUESTS



in order of appearance at the NLA Conference!



## Dr. Artika Tyner

Dr. Tyner is a Civil Rights attorney and the author of The Inclusive Leader: Taking Intentional Action for Justice and Equity in addition to several books for kids. She fosters great change by promoting literacy and leadership. Dr. Tyner's presentation will kick off the NLA Conference on Thurs., Oct. 10.

## Sam Helmick

Sam is President-Elect of the American Library Association. They live and work in Iowa City as the Community & Access Librarian, and are immediate past president of the Iowa Library Association. They will lead an interactive Intellectual Freedom session on Thurs., Oct. 10.



## Ena Jones

Ena Jones is the award-winning author of contemporary middle-grade fiction, including *Six Feet Below Zero* which won the Nebraska Golden Sower Award last year. This book was also celebrated by children's choice awards in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. Ena will accept her award during the Golden Sower session on Fri., Oct. 11.

## Dr. Lydia Kang

Lydia Kang is an author of Star Wars: The High Republic: Cataclysm among other adult and young adult fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. She is also a practicing internal medicine physician in Omaha. Dr. Kang will discuss The Truth About Publishing on Fri, Oct. 10 as our closing keynote.

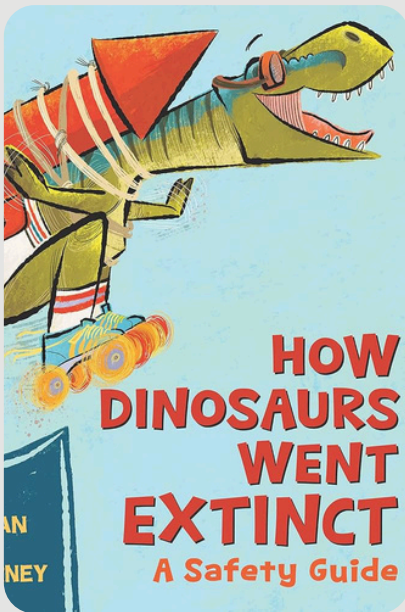


# GOLDEN SOWER SPOTLIGHT



Each month, all year long, we'll spotlight a 2024-2025 Nebraska Golden Sower nominee from each category in the NLA e-newsletter! In alphabetical order by title, we'll share a synopsis of the Little Bluestem, Honeybee, and Meadowlark nominees that Nebraska's young readers will enjoy during the 2024-2025 school year.

## Little Bluestem



### How Dinosaurs Went Extinct

by Ame Dyckman and illustrated by Jenn Harney

In this outrageous "safety guide," a child in a museum asks their parents how the dinosaurs all became extinct. Well, their father has some theories.

## Honeybee

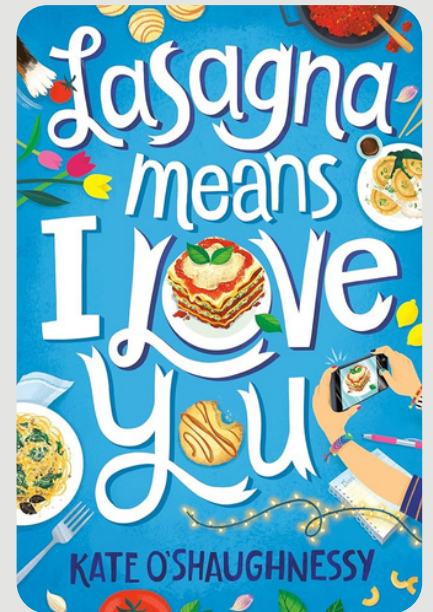


### Invisible

by Christina Diaz Gonzalez & illustrated by Gabriela Epstein

Here's a must-have graphic novel about five very different students who are forced together by their school to complete community service... and may just have more in common than they thought.

## Meadowlark



### Lasagna Means I Love You

by Kate O'Shaughnessy

What are the essential ingredients that make a family? Eleven-year-old Mo is making up her own recipe after the passing of her Nan.

# NEWS RELEASE



ONE BOOK

ONE NEBRASKA

THE NEBRASKA  
CENTER FOR  
THE BOOK

## SHORTLIST FOR 2025 ONE BOOK ONE NEBRASKA ANNOUNCED

by Tessa Timperley, Nebraska Library Commission

What book will all Nebraskans be encouraged to read in 2025? We will all find out on October 12th at the Nebraska Celebration of Books (N.COB) literary festival. A collection of nonfiction essays about Nebraska, a novel set in 1950's about personal journeys, a historical fiction novel about the Pacific theater in World War II—all stories with ties to Nebraska—are the finalists for the 2025 One Book One Nebraska statewide reading program.

The finalists are:

- *My Nebraska: The Good, the Bad, and the Husker* by Roger Welsch, The Globe Pequot Press, 2006.
- *The Lincoln Highway: A Novel* by Amor Towles, Viking Press, 2021.
- *The Long March Home: A World War II Novel of the Pacific* by Marcus Brotherton and Tosca Lee, Revell, 2023.

The One Book One Nebraska reading program is sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, and the Nebraska Library Commission. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss the same book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting. A Nebraska Center for the Book committee selected the three finalists from a list of nineteen titles nominated by Nebraskans. In the coming weeks, Nebraska Center for the Book board members will vote on the 2025 selection.

Nebraskans are invited to take part in the Nebraska Celebration of Books (N.COB) Literary Festival where the choice for the 2025 One Book One Nebraska will be announced. Held on Saturday, October 12th, from 10:00am-5:30pm, in the Regency Suite, Heritage Room, and Swanson Auditorium located on the second floor of the UNL City Campus Union, this event aims to celebrate Nebraska's literary heritage and contemporary authors. The festival will honor the 20th anniversary of the One Book One Nebraska program with a panel of past authors, in addition it will feature Nebraska authors, a SLAM poetry showcase, book vendors, and presentation of the Nebraska Center for the Book's Nebraska Book Awards, Mildred Bennett Award and Jane Geske Award.

The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is supported by the national Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Nebraska Library Commission.

As the state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services, "bringing together people and information."

# JOB OPENINGS



## Summer Reading Library Assistant

The Summer Reading Program Assistant is responsible for planning and carrying out the annual Summer Reading Program in conjunction with the Library Director.

*Ceresco • Part Time Temporary • \$13.50/hour*

## Director of Library Services

Concordia University is seeking a Library Director to serve as the library's leader and chief administrator within the goals, guidelines, and policies established by the University administration. Masters degree required.

*Seward • Full Time • Salary unspecified*

## Library Director

A dynamic leader passionate about the future of libraries is needed at the Hoesch Memorial Library. Self-motivation, enthusiasm, and flexibility are essential.

*Alma • Full Time • Salary unspecified*

## Circulation Manager

The Circulation Manager position oversees the Circulation/Reference staff at the Holdrege Area Public Library. Personnel issues are outside the scope of this position.

*Holdrege • Full Time • Salary unspecified*

## Library Coordinator

Little Priest Tribal College is seeking a Library Coordinator to develop and manage all library materials and services, supervise library staff, and support academic coursework.

*Winnebago • Full Time • \$50,000 - \$60,000 D.O.E.*

***Looking for a change?  
Just starting out?***

Find more job opportunities at  
**Now Hiring @ Your Library.**

# CONTACT INFO

## Board Representatives

### **MPLA Councilor**

Michael Straatmann

[nla-mpla@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nla-mpla@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **AFCON Representative**

Wyatt Packard

[nla-afcon@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nla-afcon@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **ALA Councilor**

Amy Dissmeyer

[nla-ala@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nla-ala@nebraskalibraries.org)

## Committee Chairs

### **Advocacy** - Deb Robertson

[nlaadvocacy@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaadvocacy@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Auditing** - Amy Dissmeyer

[nlaauditing@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaauditing@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **By-Laws & Handbook** - Lane Gibson

[nlabylaws-handbook@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlabylaws-handbook@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Communications** - Shelby Brodersen

[nlacom munications@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlacom munications@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Elections** - Holli Duggan

[nlaelections@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaelections@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Finance** - Holli Duggan

[nlafinance@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlafinance@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Professional Development** - Tammi Thiem

[nlaprofdev@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaprofdev@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Scholarship & Awards** - Lisa Mount

[nlascholarships@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlascholarships@nebraskalibraries.org)

## Round Table Chairs

### **Intellectual Freedom (IF)**

Wyatt Packard

[nlaif@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaif@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **New Members**

Lacey Partlow

[nenmrt@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nenmrt@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Technical Services**

Joyce Melvin

[nlatsrt@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlatsrt@nebraskalibraries.org)

## Section Chairs

### **College & University**

Cali Biaggi

[nlacandu@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlacandu@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Public Library & Trustee**

Monica Tidyman

[nlaplts@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlaplts@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **School, Children's & Young Peoples**

OPEN

[nlascyp@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlascyp@nebraskalibraries.org)

## Interest Groups

### **Tiny & Mighty**

Joy Kyhn

[nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nlatiny&mighty@nebraskalibraries.org)

### **Diversity**

Lane Gibson

[nladiversity@nebraskalibraries.org](mailto:nladiversity@nebraskalibraries.org)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

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