

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY

March 2022

Jesse White, Secretary of State and State Librarian
Greg McCormick, Director

FY2022 Live & Learn Construction Grant Program

The Illinois State Library has received over 30 grant applications from Illinois public libraries, requesting nearly \$2 million dollars for important infrastructure projects in the FY2022 Live & Learn Construction Grant Program. The deadline for submitting grants was extended to February 15, 2022 because of the temporary closure of Secretary of State facilities during the statewide increase in COVID-19 cases. The Live & Learn Construction Grant Review Committee will review each application during a public meeting to be held in late April, which will be posted at <https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/library/calendar/home.html>. Information on both of the State Library's public library construction grant programs can be found online at <https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/library/grants/constructgrants.html>.

Project Next Generation Grant Applications Available

The Illinois State Library is currently accepting applications for FY23 Project Next Generation (PNG) grants. PNG programs encourage personal growth and the educational development of at-risk, middle-to -high school students with mentors, technology and library-based group projects. Public libraries recognized by the Illinois State Library as full members in good standing of an Illinois library system are eligible to apply. The deadline to submit is **March 30, 2022**. If you have questions concerning this grant offering, contact Rita Stephens at rstephens@ilsos.gov or 217-782-5506.

2022 Illinois Public Library Annual Report Now Available

The 2022 IPLAR survey is now available. Each public library is required to submit the IPLAR 60 days after the library's fiscal year ends. Public libraries will receive an email that explains this year's new questions. The new questions, added by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Public Libraries Survey (PLS), provide more detailed reporting for the programming section, including live virtual programming and age-specific group programming of all types. As always, the survey and detailed guides are available on the [Counting Opinions Website](#). Library directors will receive a reminder email 60 days before the report is due for each library.

The 2021 IPLAR collection period ended on September 1. These data will be loaded to the Institute of Museum and Libraries Services (IMLS) Public Libraries Survey (PLS) during the spring of 2022. If you would like a copy of the 2021 data set, please contact Pat Burg at pburg@ilsos.gov.

Paper Shortage Impacts *Talking Book Topics*

Due to supply-chain issues and worldwide paper shortages, the large-print edition of *Talking Book Topics* (TBT) is not being published in paper. The U.S. Government Publishing Office has informed National Library Service of the Library of Congress that these problems are expected to continue through the end of 2022, and likely beyond. The Talking Book and Braille Service Staff would like to make you aware of the other formats in which future bi-monthly issues of *Talking Book Topics* can be read:

- HTML, www.loc.gov/nls/tbt, linking to BARD for downloading or adding books to wish lists. PDF, www.loc.gov/nls/tbt, containing a printable order form
- Audio cartridge, which comes with a print order form
- BARD audio magazine, downloadable to cartridge or to BARD Mobile wish list
- Braille Book Review's TBT Abridged section in hardcopy braille
- Braille Book Review's TBT Abridged section as a BRF downloadable through BARD or from www.loc.gov/nls/bbr
- Access TBT through the phone by subscribing to NFB Newsline. You may subscribe by contacting our office at 800-426-0709.
- ISL's talking book catalog <https://isltbbs.klas.com/> that contains a link to recent titles.

If you have any questions, please call TBBS at 800-426-0709 or email isltbbs@ilsos.gov.

Images in Illinois Digital Archives Featured in Rail History Article

Railroad photos from the McLean County Museum of History's collection in the Illinois Digital Archives (IDA) were featured in the summer 2021 issue of the *Nickel Plate Road Magazine*. The magazine is published by the Nickel Plate Road Historical & Technical Society for those interested in the former New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad and its predecessor companies. The images were originally published in the *Bloomington Pantagraph*. The collection of negatives were donated to the McLean County Museum of History by the Pantagraph, and funding for digitizing the images came from a grant from the Illinois State Library, as well as the supporters of the McLean County Museum of History. The Pantagraph Negative Collection 1940-1945 of railroad-related images are at [Search Results - Illinois Digital Archives \(idaillinois.org\)](http://searchresults-illinoisdigitalarchives.idaillinois.org)

Re-entry Reference Guide Available

The Office of the Secretary of State has published a reference guide to provide individuals who have been incarcerated in federal, state, county and local correctional facilities with information to help them successfully re-enter society. The guide includes information on reinstating driving privileges, obtaining a state identification and driver's license, REAL ID, practice driver's license tests, alcohol and drug awareness program and voter registration instructions. To obtain a PDF of the publication, contact Joe Natale at the Illinois State Library at 217-558-1745 or jnatale@ilsos.gov.

Nominate a Library Worker for an ILA Award

Every year, the Illinois Library Association (ILA) accepts nominations for 15 awards that are available to libraries, librarians, and staff who exemplify dedication and commitment to the libraries they work in; the communities they serve; and the profession. Nominations are encouraged, and awardees will be honored at a special awards luncheon held in October during the 2022 ILA Annual Conference in Rosemont, IL. The deadline for 2022 award nomination submissions is May 15, 2022, and they may be submitted at [Awards and Scholarships - Illinois Library Association \(ila.org\)](https://www.ila.org).

2022 Illinois Reads Authors at the Illinois Reading Council Annual Conference

Several of the Illinois authors will be highlighted at the Speed Dating Event on Thursday, March 10 of the 53rd Annual Illinois Reading Council Conference, *Literacy in Bloom: Growing Readers and Ideas*. The event will take place from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Wyndham Hotel Grand Ballroom in Springfield, Illinois. There is an additional \$10 fee to attend the Illinois Reads Speed Dating Event. For additional information about the conference, the 2022 Speed Dating Event, the other great programs, and registration, go to the [Illinois Reading Council Conference Page](#).

The 2022 Illinois Reads authors highlighted at the Speed Dating Event include:

Birth–4

“Babies Around the World Dancing” by Tamara Barker

“Time to Recharge, Harper!” by Kelly Leigh Miller

“Bear’s Scare” by Jacob Grant (2020 – 2021)

Grades K–2

“Kindness is a Kite String: The Uplifting Power of Empathy” by Michelle Schaub

“Secret, Secret Agent Guy” by Kira Bigwood

“Ship in a Bottle” by Andrew Prahin

“My Teacher is a Robot” by Jeffrey Brown (2020 – 2021)

Grades 3–5

“The Water Lady: How Darlene Arviso Helps a Thirsty Navajo Nation” by Alice B. McGinty

Grades 6–8

“The Curse of the Mummy: Uncovering Tutankhamun’s Tomb” by Candace Fleming

Grades 9–12

“Come On In: 15 Stories about Immigration and Finding Home” by Adi Alsaid

“How to Pack for the End of the World” by Michelle Falkoff

“You Know I’m no Good” by Jessie Ann Foley

Adult

“The King of Confidence: A Tale of Utopian Dreamers, Frontier Schemers, True Believers, False Prophets, and the Murder of an American Monarch” by Miles Harvey

“The Lucky One: A Novel” by Lori Rader-Day

“The Talented Miss Farwell: A Novel” by Emily Gray Tedrowe

Illinois Reads is an annual statewide reading initiative of the Illinois Reading Council to promote Illinois authors and the importance of reading for Illinois citizens of all ages – from birth through adult. Each year, there are six different books by Illinois authors and/or illustrators selected at six different age bands for the reading list. Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is the honorary chair.

Illinois Literacy Newsletter – Winter Issue

The winter 2022 issue of *Illinois Literacy* is now available at the following link:

https://www.ilsos.gov/publications/pdf_publications/il-literacy-winter22.pdf. The newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Secretary of State and the Illinois State Library that contains important information on literacy issues around the state and highlights the achievements of individuals, as well as participating educational agencies. Past issues of the publication along with a Spanish version, are available using the following

link: <https://www.ilsos.gov/publications/librarypub.html#literacynews>. For more information on the Adult Literacy Grant Program, please contact the Literacy Office at 800-665-5576, ext. 3, or email literacy@ilsos.gov.

Literacy Spotlight

This month’s Literacy Spotlight highlights Project READ at Parkland College in Champaign. A woman came to Parkland College’s Project READ literacy program relating an all too common story from one of her first experiences in the United States: she asked a simple question at the grocery store. She was misunderstood, and then ignored, becoming frustrated and embarrassed. As she studied with Project READ, her vocabulary and confidence grew. She became a volunteer Latino Community Navigator with the New American Welcome Center at the University YMCA in Champaign. Her hard work, positive attitude and determination led to a job at the center, and she is now an Outreach Team Leader, speaking with — and for — those who cannot yet do so for themselves.

State Library’s comprehensive online calendar

To view the State Library’s calendar of events and deadlines, visit ilsos.gov/departments/library/calendar/home.html.

Sign up for E-News

E-News is the best way to find out what is happening at the State Library, including grant offerings, continuing education opportunities and other news. Over 5,000 subscribers receive E-News each month. To subscribe to E-News, contact Joe Natale at 217-558-1745 (jnatale@ilsos.gov).