



**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023
5:00 P.M.
NORTH VALLEYS LIBRARY
1075 N Hills Blvd, Reno, NV 89506**

Library Trustees

Frank Perez Chair
Gianna Jacks, Vice-Chair
Lea Moser, Trustee
Al Rogers, Trustee
Ann Silver, Trustee

Members of the public may attend this meeting in person or can attend by teleconference by logging into the Zoom webinar accessible through the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84224131597>. If prompted, use the following passcode: 889408. Please note: the Zoom link option will require a computer or phone with internet access or the Zoom application with audio capabilities.

Forum Restrictions and Orderly Conduct of Business. The Library Board of Trustees conducts the business of the Washoe County Library system and its citizens during its meetings. The orderly, efficient conduct of the meeting is integral and necessary to allow the Board to conduct business. The Chair or presiding officer may order the removal of any person whose statements or other conduct disrupts the orderly, efficient or safe conduct of the meeting. Warnings against disruptive comments or behavior may or may not be given prior to removal. Examples of disruptive conduct include, without limitation, yelling, stamping of feet, whistles, applause, heckling, name calling, use of profanity, threatening use of physical force, or any other acts intended to impede the meeting or infringe on the rights of the Library Board of Trustees, staff, or meeting participants. The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place, and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks which antagonize or incite others are examples of speech that may be reasonably limited.

Public Comment. Public comments are welcomed during the Public Comment period at the beginning of the meeting for all matters, whether listed on the agenda or not. Additionally, public comment specific to the action item being considered will be heard during individual action items on the agenda. Public Comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. During the "Public Comment" items, anyone may speak pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda. Anyone wishing to provide live public comment may do so in person, or by teleconference by logging onto the Zoom webinar by accessing the above link. To provide public comment via Zoom, log into the meeting at the above link and utilize the "Raise Hand" feature during any public comment period. Additionally, persons are invited to submit comments in writing by emailing L J Burton at LJBurton@washoecounty.gov. The County will make reasonable efforts to send all email comments received by 4:00 p.m. on the business day before the meeting to the Trustees prior to the meeting.

Response to Public Comment. The Board can deliberate or take action only if a matter has been listed on an agenda properly posted prior to the meeting. During the public comment periods, speakers may address matters listed or not listed on the published agenda. The Open Meeting Law does not expressly prohibit responses to public comments by the Board. However, responses from the Board members to unlisted public comment topics could become deliberation on a matter without notice to the public. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Board will consider, Board members may choose not to respond to public comments, except to correct factual inaccuracies, ask for Staff action, or to ask that a matter be listed on a future agenda. The Board may do this either during the public comment item or during the following item: “Board Comment – limited to announcements, strategic plan activity updates, or issues proposed for future agendas and/or workshops.”

How to Get Copies of Agendas and Support Documentation. Copies of agendas and supporting documentation for items on the agenda are available to members of the public at the Downtown Reno Library Administration Office, 301 South Center Street, Reno, Nevada, and may be obtained by contacting L J Burton at ljburton@washoecounty.gov or (775) 327-8341. Copies of agendas and supporting materials are also posted on the following websites: www.washoecountylibrary.us and <https://notice.nv.gov>.

Special Accommodations. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled, who need special accommodations or assistance, and wish to attend meetings. Should you require special assistance or accommodations for any Board meeting, please contact L J Burton at LJBurton@washoecounty.gov or (775) 327-8341, at least 24 hours prior to the date of the meeting.

Possible Changes to Agenda and Timing. The Library Board of Trustees may take agenda items out of order, may consider two or more items in combination, may remove one or more items from the agenda, or delay discussion on an item. Items scheduled to be heard at a specific time will be heard no earlier than the stated time but may be heard later.

Posting of Agenda. Pursuant to NRS 241.020(4)(b), the agenda for the Trustees’ meeting has been posted at the following locations: Washoe County Courthouse, Washoe County Administration building, Downtown Reno Library, Incline Village Library, North Valleys Library, Northwest Reno Library, Sierra View Library, South Valleys Library, Spanish Springs Library, and Sparks Library. Further, in compliance with NRS 241.010, this notice has been posted on the official website for the Washoe County Library System at www.washoecountylibrary.us and at <https://notice.nv.gov>.

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION

301 South Center Street | PO Box 2151, Reno NV 89505
(775) 327-8341 | www.washoecountylibrary.us

The Board of Trustees may take action only on the items below that are preceded by the words "For Possible Action." The Board will not take action on any other items.

- 1) Salute to the Flag
- 2) Roll Call [Non-Action Item]
- 3) Public Comment – Three Minute Time Limit Per Person [Non-Action Item]
No discussion or action by the Board may be taken upon any matter raised under this public comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.
- 4) Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a) Approval of Minutes from the Library Board Meeting of October 18, 2023 [For Possible Action]
- 5) Old Business [Non-Action Item]
None
- 6) New Business
 - a) *Presentation and Discussion: Washoe County Library Tax Renewal Plan by Library Director Jeff Scott* [Non-Action Item]
 - b) *Review and Possible Revision of Library Board of Trustee Bylaws* [For Possible Action]
 - c) *Review and Approve: Collection Development Policy Presentation by Debi Stears, Library Collection Development Manager* [For Possible Action]
 - d) *Review and Approve: Interlibrary Loan Policy Presentation by Debi Stears, Library Collection Development Manager* [For Possible Action]
- 7) Reports
 - a) Library Financial Report and Donations by Director Jeff Scott and Development Officer Jamie Hemingway [Non-Action Item]
 - b) Library Statistical Report by Director Jeff Scott [Non-Action Item]
 - c) North Valleys Library Presentation [Non-Action Item]
 - d) Book Team Report: KUNR On the Shelf/On the Kids Shelf Partnership Presentation by KUNR and Rebecca Reed, Jennifer Cole, Méla Garcia [Non-Action Item]
- 8) Staff Announcements [Non-Action Item]
No discussion or action may be taken upon any matter raised under this comment section until the matter has been specifically included on an agenda.
- 9) Board Comment [Non-Action Item] – Limited to Announcements, Strategic Plan Activity, Updates or Issues Proposed for Future Agendas and/or Workshops
- 10) Adjournment



**LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023 | 5:00 P.M.
SIERRA VIEW LIBRARY
4001 S Virginia St, Reno, NV 89502**

The Board met in regular session in hybrid format via Zoom and in person.

1. CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE THE FLAG

Trustee Lea Moser assumed the gavel and called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. She led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Present:

Frank Perez, Chair (arrived at 5:10pm)
Lea Moser, Trustee
Al Rogers, Trustee
Gianna Jacks, Trustee
Ann Silver, Trustee

Absent:

None

County Staff:

Jeff Scott, Library Director
Herb Kaplan, Deputy District Attorney
Dave Solaro, Deputy County Manager

Trustee Moser stated Item 5a, *PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK: Presented by Washoe County Commissioner Garcia* [Non-Action Item], would be heard first to accommodate Commissioner Garcia's schedule. Commissioner Garcia read the proclamation with Librarian Mela Garcia.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gayle Townsend

Thanked the library for the wonderful banned books week, a special holiday she had celebrated with her family for a long time by choosing books, reading, and talking about them together. She was able to do this with students she had and always had discussions. Most of the banned books are fairly controversial,

so there were good arguments for debates with students. She particularly liked the display at the Spanish Springs library which displayed books taken off the shelf and hidden around the library. The display was about all of the books that our own neighbors in didn't want others to read. She found it sad that most of the hidden books were children's books that touched on LGBTQ subjects. She had not previously been familiar with the Grandpa's Camper book, about a young boy dealing with death, a universal subject all of us have at one time or another had to deal with, especially our children. I thought it was very sad that this book was hidden away because a little boy had a grandpa and grandpa; I think people should be more compassionate, caring, and human. She also enjoyed the display in the Sparks library in the children's area. She was not why Charlotte's Web had been added to the list; she understood some parts were scary but had found with her own children and others' that the freer they were and the less restrictive the hurdles to learning, the better. She thanked the libraries for helping her celebrate banned books week.

William Puchert

Provided items to the Board and introduced himself as a Reno resident who had also applied to the Library Board trustee vacancies out of concern over a group of folks led by the local Washoe Republican Chair who had been orchestrating much of the opposition to the library's diversity programs like Drag Queen Story Time. Mr. Puchert felt the group was a vocal minority which did not share the same values of the majority of the community and sought to sensationalize and misinform others under the guise of concern for children.

He continued: I respectfully ask you not to give in to this hateful demagoguery and do what's best for our community. I am particularly concerned that one of the new trustees, whose appointment was widely applauded by these same folks, plans to hold weekly town hall meetings at a local coffee shop as listed on these flyers that I passed out to you. I am suspicious as to what the true purpose of these meetings are, considering the above-mentioned orchestration. This should raise some red flags; a local conservative blog stated yesterday on social media that the Washoe County Republican party fought like tigers to get a conservative appointed as a County Library Trustee. It now appears as though she's running for something with her Library Trustee logos; accordingly, I'd like to respectfully ask this Board to address the following: are these Town Hall meetings mentioned in this flyer officially sanctioned events of the Library System and/or Washoe County? Is it appropriate to use a washoecounty.gov email address and her title as a Trustee to contact her on such a flyer, as the Optics don't look so good? The Hatch Act and certain NRS prohibit the use of federal and state resources for political purposes. Should the library board adopt guidelines as other County boards and commissions do related to activities and use of County resources, those here who claim to be guardians of taxpayer dollars should be concerned about this questionable use of County resources rather than droning on and on about Drag Queen Story Hour and banning books. A word of advice to these folks who believe that they are speaking to the power: please start by telling the truth and refrain from ongoing divisive misinformation. Thank you, and you can paraphrase my words into the record; no need to quote me verbatim.

Janet Butcher

Welcome to the two new board members, Gianna Jacks and Ann Silver. I had the pleasure of hearing Ms. Jacks speak a couple times at the Commissioners' meeting while applying for the position. I unfortunately did not have the pleasure of hearing Ms. Silver but understand she is well known with local government entities. I am hopeful we have two new board members who understand how a meeting should be run, understand the concerns of the citizens who care about the innocence of our children, and will be good curators. Asking to protect the innocence of our children is not political.

I appreciate that there are now individual emails for each one of the trustees so they can receive correspondence directly. I also want to welcome the Assistant Director Stacy McKenzie; I know that there was not an email for her but I assume it will be SMcKenzie. I am grateful that the Pledge of Allegiance is being said today; I believe it should be part of the bylaws and needs to be said before each meeting. I noticed that at the last meeting they had something about the Holocaust and some people chose not to stand; it was sad. Please also note that the last trustee board who wanted to strike out the in public comment. Hopefully it will be in there and having listened you mean there's a trustee that wants to hear from the public oh my gosh that she wants to hear what people say. Anyway, thank you.

Roger Edwards

I welcome the two new trustees back into this group. Years ago, when you came to these meetings there would be nothing to talk about nothing to discuss. It was terrible. I am a 50-year resident to this county, father of three, grandfather of six, the libraries were part of my family's lives forever. I started taking my kids to the public library in 1969 years ago so trust me I love these buildings. I really like Sparks, it's a tremendous building there. This a this a terrible time that we're in here and anything that the library board can do to push the truth is more critical now than it's ever been. I've worked in so many different jobs, I'm retired and disabled and there's a lot of things that you guys can do. I love the outreach and I'm upset but I didn't get the flyer; I definitely want one before I get out of here. You know you're public representatives; you need to keep that in your in mind, in front of you at all times when you're sitting in these seats.

Bob Quilitch

I'm a retired behavioral psychologist. I'm one of the pioneer volunteer members of the Washoe County Library System; I think my first library card was on parchment, back in those days before we had paper. This has been my library for years. I share here and I volunteered here; I seem to have books coming that I put on reserve every few days, just a little bit like Christmas when I say the book is on hold. I'm here in support of our library system. The staff are wonderful; the procedures are efficient. They help me find books when I want them. The atmosphere is pleasant, and I probably come here every day some weeks. I really enjoy talking with the staff and checking out books. I'm one of your biggest supporters and I will continue to be so.

Jim Shirk

Good evening my name is Jim Shirk, and this is Marshall. Marshall has something to say first.

Marshall: 'Hi mommy. I like Mommy.'

Jim Shirk

I second that. I want to congratulate my daughter on winning the election, congratulate you on meeting with the public on your own time, giving up your time with your family to meet and hear what the public really needs. I encourage all board members to do this. I just want to say thank you for all you do.

Bruce Foster

Thank you for our two new members of the library board. I am a Sparks resident, dad of six and a grandad of nine. The purpose of my being here – please enter my comments into the record – is that I was given the task of reading “All Boys Aren't Blue” for a project for a local group. When I returned it, I used little strips of paper and I put scripture verses on them in the most graphic areas of the book; I'm not going to go into the details of that book. For that, I've been banned from being able to check out books for a year, but that's not really why I am here. I feel that we have a bigger picture or a bigger issue than just little slips of paper in a book. There is a God, and we are not him; what I see here is that we are having an issue with individuals playing God and deciding what kind of books - like for example, this is a full display of little children's books talking about transgenderism with graphic pictures in them with young boys in bed together and other things.

I am also talking about that coming down the pipe; the new president of the American Library Association, which I'm sure you got a lot of your marching orders from, is Emily Drabinsky. Emily Drabinsky is a self-described Marxist and again, as president of American Library Association, I quote, she says public education needs to be a site of socialist organizing. Libraries really do too, but in time you can read through all that and then, as the library system is working jointly with the Washoe County School District, they are funded by a lot of different groups, including Planned Parenthood, moveon.org, Rainbow Club and many others, even Scholastic. Then of course the book that I read; what is interesting is that when I looked this morning, all the books that I have read are now totally checked out and this proves also why porn is bad for your brain.

Nichelle Hull

Good afternoon; Nichelle Hull with Wake Up Washoe County. I also wanted to recognize and welcome the new trustees Ann Silver and Gianna Jacks to the board. We look forward to partnering with this new makeup of the board and Jeff Scott, and in this partnership, we want to see reform in this Library County system. It's long overdue and high time. It has been an utter aggravation to come month after month and be ignored and be abused at public events; to be discriminated against, barred from using bathrooms, barred from going into parts of the library when the library is open. So we look forward to needed change.

The ALA president Emily Drabinsky claimed to be a Marxist lesbian, it is completely inappropriate to mention that at a work event; that would be like me being a baker and going to a baker convention and making sure that everybody there knows that I am bisexual and a communist. What does that have to do with baking unless I want everybody there to be under that influence and I am you know promoting being a communist and being a bisexual. I don't want our libraries to have that promotion from the top of Marxism, and also what someone does in their bedroom what does that have to do with creating an environment for Learning and Enlightenment? It doesn't have anything to do it and as far as being in Marxist let's look at the current Marxist-Leninist states. According to Google search I typed in the word Marxist that's it and what came up was Marxist Leninist states which remain are China, Cuba, North Korea, and Vietnam. Who is dying to get into those countries, who is beating down the door and do they have an illegal immigration problem? No, they don't so nobody is dying to be a Marxist nobody is climbing to get into Marxist nations. So regarding the rest of my comment as far as ban books and write to read initiatives by the ALA that is that issue is why we already have nine states that have severed their County Library systems from the ALA that ban books and right to read they are misnomers why are they banned because they're garbage and they need to go in the trash where they belong.

Reva Crump

I would like whatever I say to go into the public record please and I apologize to those of you who actually put here last time because apparently the online audio for the Northwest libraries was not good and anyone online trustees weren't here, I'll give a shot. Any better right definition of success in order to measure whether an event is successful or not you have to be your part targeted audience and you have to usually before the event decide what per cap would cost your will to spend for that targeted audience that you would claim it as success. In 2019 there was one Drag Queen story I already seen and by multiple news events including the director 800 people were in attendance which is a number that has been under a lot of scrutiny because there are fire codes and things like that, but we go with the numbers that we have 800 attendance. in 2023 Drag Queen Story Hour events were held and there were 357 attendees a reduction of 443 attendees and make note that attendees is not the actual number of children ages 3 through eight which was the targeted audience those were not the number of attendees counted and in fact when we simply get no such number exists so for marketing strategy they have no way of actually measuring whether or not a event was successful and Basic Marketing 101 the other information that never seems to appear but has been multiple times but it never comes forth is what is the cost of advertising staff labor per hour number of hours extra cost for security extra cost for staff cost at the queens and or Entourage the dedicated to the event by the director the Drone operator the court the attorneys were any assaults reported do we need to have increased insurance now because of reported assaults and why is all this important because the day Our Center pulls out of this event the library in the county are now responsible for the cost of the event so you need to know what it actually cost no matter who's putting that today so such a report has never once been presented to this board in any way shape or form nor has the previous board ever asked for that information as well is to quote monitor the library's finances it's one of their directives and this is only one example of one event that reports are not being presented to the board and the board is not asking for them either, therefore I submit to the board to be very careful tonight at the use of the word successful when it is an opinion and not a statistical fact supported by data that no one has.

Bruce Parks

I am a private citizen and Washoe County taxpayer, not here representing any other group. Friends of the Washoe Library president withdrew quit took people with her we're never going to know what the impact of that is she raised millions of dollars for this library and she quit because of one program I'm a firm supporter of our libraries I love of our libraries I only have problems with one program that's it and we're never going to know the actual cost of drag queen story out because the cost hasn't been calculated yet there are still court cases that may arise watching County library system could be facing litigation and who's going to pay for that. You or the taxpayers. We're not about banning books we don't want to ban books let me be very clear on we don't want books remove the we simply want the same kind of constraints that are placed on movies and video games and music in our libraries so that people that are impressionable and are not capable of mentally processing what they're seeing aren't subject to it we want those objectionable adult themed books sequestered so that young adults and adolescents and kids don't have access to them and we are not in a minority in Washoe County. The people that think that we have to place certain restrictions reasonable restrictions are not in the minority the majority of the population believes that now I know that when your argument is weak it's pretty easy to resort to personal attacks well you know that's the tactic of the fool if your argument is sound and it's based on the truth you don't have to resort personal attacks lastly I would like to say you're going to be subjected to Death by PowerPoint here tonight take it all with grain of salt thank you.

Theresa Reilly

I am a very proud resident taxpayer and a parent who has raised their children happily going to the library and taking advantage of all that it has to offer. One of the things that I would hope that this board continues to do is allow all that the library has to offer to everybody. There's been a lot of discussion about the concept of innocence and protecting people well as a parent I exercise my right to choose the things that my child is going to read I do not give that right to other people to make the choice for me to what they think is appropriate for my child if you have objections to particular books or programs you have the freedom and the right to not check those out to look at what your child and control what your child is reading and what programs your child participates in you do not have the right to limit what my child is going to do and what I choose to let them participate in or understand or research the idea of a library is to entertain ideas and to foster ideas and research and when you limit them that you limit everybody's Freedom. The society that starts to ban books and limit access to understanding and knowledge never ends up on the right side of History never and it's true that if you don't have a good argument then you do end up resorting to name calling and nastiness and carrying sidearms and intimidation and I hope that that does not happen with this group and with this organization and that our wonderful Library board can do their work in peace and can continue to foster an open Society in Washoe County thank you very much.

Victoria Myer

I have been here 45 years here in Washoe County taxpayer voter. thank you for restoring The Pledge I appreciate that and I'm not affiliated I'm an individual here representing myself and my grandchildren I have six five of them here in Washington. Welcome to the new trustees Ann silver and Gianna Jacks and thank you to Trustee Jacks for your town halls you'll be holding. We look forward to that and having our

voices heard. So there was a gentleman up here earlier talking about – well, he got very political. I think it was one of the first guys to talk. I'm wondering why is the library being so politicized? It's become such a controversial place and we have to take a look at that. Why is that he mentioned creation of guidelines and questionable use of taxpayer funds well there are some questionable uses of our taxpayer funds to address the person who just spoke a minute ago here I respect everyone's parental right to give their child whatever they see fit we are not about I am not about restricting any parental rights that comes first in my book parents' rights to raise your child in a manner you see fit we're talking I'm talking about we are talking about some of us here the questionable use for to promote things first of all the title banned books there's no banned books in the country that I'm aware of there's not in Washoe County. all these questionable books are available at the library when you go to a an x-rated movie you have to be of a certain age that's all we're talking about here it's not about parental rights it's not about infringing on rights it's not about usurping anybody's authority over their children, however taxpayer use for books such as Bush and Me and Earl and the Dying Girl that have extremely graphic parts – ‘Daddy put his peepee smelly thing to my mouth but never holds me’ – that's in a book called Push; not only is it in our middle schools in Washoe County and in our high schools but it's here in the young adult section; young adult being defined by the ALA as 12 to 18 years old. I don't think giving children access is such a great use of taxpayer funds, thank you.

Donny Hart

I know Trustee Moser personally. She is a public service type person; she has served in AmeriCorps as a volunteer, she is a very enthusiastic person about the library system; believing it is essential. I agree with freedom of speech; I think she's a great candidate for Vice Chair. She's very active in this in this committee and you can see that. On the second point I attend these meetings online, I hear you guys comment every time, I've commented as well. I have five children, four of them are minors; almost none of you have minor children so I don't know why this really affects you; your time has passed. For the people that have minor children in the home, if you have if you have an issue, if your child – if my child goes and grabs something off the shelf and I'm not there, that's on me, and if my child's old enough where I don't have to be directly supervising and grabbing material, it doesn't really put that down based on our value system; that's on me as well. I don't know why we have to put this on somebody else or have to destroy each other's rights. The library is a sanctuary of free speech – that's the beauty of this country; that is, we can say what's on our minds, we can share those thoughts, we can hear different thoughts. Thank you.

Bri Schmidt

I just want to say first off thank you to all the trustees for making the time to be here tonight and also appreciation for Washoe County Library people making sure it's safe here. Thank you everybody as making it possible for these to happen and to also make it accessible to people who can't attend in person I am a lifelong read resident and a full-time Library user the library has been a source of knowledge and Enlightenment for as long as I've been able to read I used to a preschool and kindergarten teacher for those three years we would always keep the library to check out books to read if we didn't have them at school I'm here today though speaking on behalf of Silver State Equality we are here in support for Lea

Moser as Vice chair to the library board she has demonstrated a dedication to caring for our library system and our diverse populations here and her sound judgment and Leadership shows her commitment to the library and she's constantly seeing what the best decision is for the library her previous experiences in public health information and decision making she has been on the board since 2022 and working hard to protect the library since her appointment through this experience she has the ability to succeed as Vice chair with about a year prior born experience the library is not just a stepping stone for Leah she's on the board to create meaningful change and protect the ability of everyone to access such an important Public Service libraries are a sacred place for everybody to come and read whatever it is that they need to and I trust Lea to be the vice chair of the library and be able to make sure that that can happen for everybody thank you.

Jessica Munger

I am a Reno resident, mother of a small child, voter, reader, and like all of us, lover of the public library system. I'm just here to support Lea Moser as Vice Chair because she's engaged with the community in a variety of ways and she values diversity and Freedom of Information. That's all; thank you.

Fred Myer

Welcome and Ann Silver; appreciate new blood on the board. I am here to support and condemn the library system at the same time. I'm sure everybody no matter what they said from this Podium supports the library system; you know we are in support but we have issues so you can have both those things simultaneously, just be aware of that – are there any limits on what is defined as porn in these days? I guess it seems you know, 30 years ago, we wouldn't be talking about this. I wonder who initiated the drag queen story hour; how did that come about in our in our system here? Jeff, was it you, or I mean some of one of you guys brought it in? That's kind of interesting why you thought it was necessary, what value you thought there was in it. I really question it; seems very strange. The books once again, everybody likes to use that, seems like on one side of the issue as they fight you, we're not talking about the BS books. If an adult wants to come here and check out any one of the books that are available and some are disgusting and maybe shouldn't be but it's a free country, they can come and do that. For the children, we just want some limits put on this so that kids can't come in and grab this stuff. You know that's what we're asking for.

Valerie Fiannaca (Online)

Welcome Ms. Silver and Ms. Jacks and thank you to the rest of the board for your service. It's a thankless job a lot of times. Thank you for adding the Pledge to the agenda; it's been a pet peeve of mine for a couple of years now. I would also like to address an article that was published in the most recent edition of the library newsletter; the topic was Nazis and book burning and censoring. This may have been an important topic save for several important points. First, after using my public comment time to recite the pledge at this meeting, I was called a fascist by a speaker who is present tonight. Secondly, the author, a UNR Professor who is in attendance at this meeting, used a link in his article to public comment at the library board meeting – highly inappropriate. Third, Jeff Scott used particularly bad judgment during these

highly charged political times and allowing an article of this nature with a link like that to go out to our entire community – please think about this when you begin your evaluation of our library director. I would like to point out something that I think a lot about because I go to a lot of meetings, but our County Commissioners frequently do Town Halls. They do bike rides with citizens, they do coffees all the time, as do our school trustees, so stating that our newest library board trustees shouldn't do that is just wrong. Drag Queen Story Hour advertising should surely be audited and it should be compared; I think that's going down a useless waste of time rabbit hole, but if you want to do that, I mean, we could compare that, how much we'd much rather hear from our library board trustees and get to know them on a personal level and be able to carry on conversations with them than fight you on Drag Queen Story Hour. I think it's the only one of the very few issues that brings most people to these meetings and is going to bring lawsuits to our County. It just brings a lot of controversy which is so unnecessary. That's all I need to say tonight, thank you.

Mary Jones

I just wanted to make a correction to Mr. Park's comment. The person he's talking about who quit was not the Friends' president. There are hundreds of us that have raised funds, it's not one person raising a million dollars, and we've done it for over 30 years. This person was just part of the steering committee. There were two people; I'd just like to clarify that. I'm also a resident and a taxpayer. Thank you for the library and thank you to the library staff; thank you.

Alan Munson

I am a Washoe County and Sparks resident. First of all, I want to congratulate the two new board members. Our libraries are very good and they're very welcoming places. I have a master's degree in social work, and I've worked with people for about 30 years of my life, then I started my own business and I was a parent of two children and have a grandchild right now. I know somebody said well if you don't have children now you don't really have anything to say; number one, I understand people and helping people in their needs, and I'm concerned. It's been expressed before about the Drag Story Hour; it's just not something for young people. I personally think exposing young people to hetero or homosexual or whatever sexuality when they're young is not a good thing. That's my concern; that that program be reviewed. Some people have said that as a citizen I'm a minority, one person, but we all have a right to speak and what we say needs to be considered. Free speech always has to be considered. You have to watch your speech, what you say; it's not totally free, it's with consideration. I thank you for all that you're doing; I go in these libraries and people are very kind and very nice and it's not an easy job; I thank you for coming and wanting to volunteer. Just consider what people are saying; we are taxpayers, we're concerned. You know how our money is spent for different programs. Generally, 99% are awesome, so thank you. That's all I have to say.

Clif Nellis

Welcome to the new trustees. The drag queen story hours are the tip of the iceberg; we have major problems with Mr. Scott. I have articles here from 2014 when he was the Library Director 10 months in

Berkeley; not the most conservative place in the country. Moveon.org got a petition, and that's not a conservative organization either by the way, it's a very leftist organization supported by Bill Clinton. They got a petition to remove him because he had purged 40,000 books of that library system and every one, all these leftists here I see, they're talking about us being book banners. Mr. Scott knows the history and that for some reason a year later he was hired here; I think it was Mr. Al Stoess, who I believe is an atheist. So yeah, I want kids to read books instead of being bombarded with radiation looking at a computer screen, but I want our library system to represent all of the people of the community and we've got people of faith in this community and what he did is I know he purged tons of books that were either Christian or traditional or whatever.

I'm wondering if I brought a bunch of books in and gave them to the library, like books on creation research or things like that, pronouns or creation theory, then would those be put on the shelf? Probably not. I think if you're an atheist, you feel very comfortable coming to this library, because he's had eight years to purge books. We need someone that represents the whole community, and he is a leftist, he's got his crew here. We need someone that is representative of all of us, and these books – they got a 200-page book and two pages of porn, and hidden in the shelves so the young people, they pick up this book – a it's some 'Blue' thing or whatever – and then they – their brains are like sponges. We have to protect the children. Child abuse is not acceptable. It's not acceptable if you send your kid to school with bruises on them, right? And we can't be bruising our children in this Library System. I agree with the concept of having a separate place for the books, that's fine, but it should not be in the children's section, and it should have warning labels on it if it is sexually promiscuous. We don't believe in that; a lot of us I don't believe in that. We need a new director. I can give you these guys articles; 40,000 books and he also pretty much fired a bunch of Librarians, so I'm sure he stocked the library system with radical Librarians too in the last eight years, so we need to change them also. You know you're done, we know we need to change, why don't you find some other place. Thank you.

Robert Dalton

Thank you for having us this evening. A couple of my nieces want to Drag Queen Story Hour recently and they had such a good time. The moms let them dress up; they learned a new story that they hadn't heard before. They had fun and they were quizzical, they were asking questions, their mom said they came home and they just wanted to read more books. They were introduced a book that they hadn't of heard before and they had a good time. I heard someone earlier say it's time to start putting some books in locks – well I went through that when I was in high school. I wanted to read books about being gay and being lesbian and all those books were behind locked cases, and I wasn't allowed to read them, wasn't allowed to access them unless my parents allowed me to do so, or unless I had my parent with me, and that was wrong. That was wrong – I was a teenager, I was looking for answers, and I wasn't able to get those answers even in my own public library. So I applaud the libraries having books open and accessible to all of our children.

As somebody else earlier said, books and ideas are the future, are the minds that opens everybody up, and that's what we need to continue to do. Director Scott has done an incredible job through all these years and so have all of our libraries. I'm a family genealogist; I do a lot of research. I was disappointed when I moved here 21 years ago to find that all the books on genealogy were moved to the LDS family

history library, and they were only accessible two days a week. Our libraries are for the most part open a lot more than that, but I went to the Northwest Library a few years ago before. I was looking for a particular genealogical book that I couldn't access anywhere else. A librarian at the Northwest Library said 'oh I can get that for you via inter-library loan' – I didn't know anything about that, but they got that book, it came and had some information about one of my ancestors, and that was the only book that I could find that had that information. So I applaud your librarians; they do incredible work. I applaud the Drag Queen Story Hour; it's really a very small percentage of what goes on in the library system. These folks, you really have your priorities mixed up when you're talking; you don't know what's really going on out there in the real world. The Drag Queen Story Hour is a powerful, wonderful thing for kids to entertain and to learn and to move forward in life, and they ask questions, it sparks their minds and creativity, when they ask questions that leads to them learning and reading more.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a) Approval of Minutes from the Library Board Meeting of September 20, 2023 [For Possible Action]

Chair Perez wondered if he should be listed as Chair in the September minutes. DA Kaplan agreed.

Bruce Parks

Normally I would ask that my comments be read into the record but based on the minutes over the last few meetings it's irrelevant because they're not going to be recorded accurately they're going to be paraphrased if you look on the minutes that you are about to take a motion on you'll see that I'm only credited for saying couple of things which is far from the I've never been knowing to be free in science um I made a lot more comments and what those minutes reflect at this one Mr. Chair I have commented before that it is absolutely essential that the minutes reflect what should be in there. Mr. Chair your minutes have no financials in them, none. I submit to you sir that that should be a part of the minutes for every single meeting, you cannot be your job as a library trustee if you don't know what's going on with finances of this organization. Now I alluded to a little bit ago you're going to be subjected to death by power point and you will be tonight the most of it's what it's meaningless is people dislocating their shoulders to pat themselves on the back about what a great job they're doing but it's mostly meaningless it doesn't it doesn't hold any important what's important in these needs is that with the obligation to represent the public in other words your constituency although this is an elected position however if you don't know what's going on you can't be effective in your role you have to know and you're not being told at all you're being told what people want you to hear, not what you need to hear. I as trustee would want to see a breakdown of the financials every single month. In one of my other capacities, I do get a financial report on a monthly basis a very complete concise line item financial report exactly where you serve and the rest of the board do not have a clue; I think you need to find out.

William Puchert

I just would like to say most meeting minutes are paraphrased; this is just a way for certain people to get their propaganda on the record to be used for nefarious purposes, it's obvious, and again it's politicizing your board. Continue what you're doing and to the new trustees, please for reason you know I came out here I don't want to do this but I'm afraid for the future. You've got an orchestrated movement to try and ban books and get rid of diversity programs. As you hear the gentleman over there, it helped him. As a young as a young kid, he did not have access. If we start to do this, where does it end, you know? We become like Islamic Jihad; that's going and attacking Israel if we go down this road. Let's be respectful. I'm being bombastic now, but think about the road that we are taking. Finally, whether you like the trustees or the director or not, one of the proper rules of decorum is not to refer to the Director as Jeff or Mr. Scott; it's Director Scott, and the Trustees by their titles, not just "Frank" or some casual thing. That's what you do as appointed Representatives; you deserve to be respected whether people like you or not. Thank you.

Nichelle Hull

Regarding the approval of minutes and last month and something that I wanted to mention last month and have included but since it wasn't I'll just do it right now briefly is that since June there have been four police reports made against director Jeff Scott there have been at least one HR complaint to the county as far as I know that I'm aware of there is at least one lawsuit and who is that under that is under the leadership and because of the pseudo leadership of Jeff Scott when did that happen prior to when has that much controversy and you know what happened before Jeff Scott and what is the duty of these trustees it is to you know it is to provide a good environment okay for the library associated with the library system and right now the vibe in the community regarding all of this stuff it stinks and you guys are supposed to stand up and be responsible and be grown up and be mature and be adult and be responsive to this body to the community this stuff is in the paper it's everywhere and it's under Director Scotts you know during his term so you guys need to be the responsible body you all need to stand up and do the right thing stop being silent we're talking about we're talking about the minutes for the last meeting well I would like my comments right now to be included in this set of minutes per NRS statute verbatim not paraphrase thank you chair Perez and I whatever and I would appreciate chair Perez if you would take the leadership role if because you are on the board at Pine Crest Academy charter you attend a Catholic church so I'm quite confused chair Perez about why you allow these things to go on thank you so much I'm using plenty of decorum I'm not using bad language I'm not calling anybody names thank you.

On motion by Trustee Rogers, seconded by Trustee Moser, which motion duly carried 4 to 1 with Chair Perez, Trustee Moser, Trustee Rogers, and Trustee Silver voting "yea" in favor and Trustee Jacks voting "nay" in opposition, the Board approved the minutes of the Library Board Meeting of September 20, 2023.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Proclamation for National Friends of Libraries Week: Presented by Washoe County Commissioner Garcia [Non-Action Item] (*moved to top of agenda*)

b) Library Board Trustee Introductions [Non-Action Item]

New Library Board Members Trustee Silver and Trustee Jacks introduced themselves; bios for all trustees were included in the Library Board packet.

c) Election of Vice-Chair for Library Board of Trustees Fiscal Year 2023-2024 [For Possible Action]

Chair Perez praised Trustee Moser and nominated her for Vice Chair, briefly discussing her time on the board.

Trustee Rogers nominated himself for Vice Chair, highlighting his financial and program experience. Trustee Silver supported Trustee Rogers' nomination.

Trustee Jacks nominated herself for Vice Chair, reviewing her outreach and thorough preparation for the board meeting.

Chair Perez proposed a motion to elect Trustee Moser as Vice Chair for the Library Board of Trustees for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. In response, Trustee Moser discussed her applicable skills and abilities concerning the budget and the tax initiative.

Trustee Rogers responded by reiterating his own strengths, and stated he could not support Trustee Moser's election to Vice Chair.

A call for public comment was made before the Board vote.

Bruce Parks

It seems like the deck is stacked once again. I would like to point out, Mr. Chair, I understand that your library director may be asking for clarification; he has no voice at this table, just a reminder. You run these; he speaks when you need input from him.

I could not in clear conscience support Trustee Moser for Vice chair of this board or any board for that matter based on her demonstrated behavior at these meetings; she never once engaged with the community, never once called the former Chair on her breaching of the rules; not once has she been an active participant in these board meetings ever; we need better than that. Now I understand Mr. Rogers has qualifications; none of the qualifications that he mentioned are not embodied in Ms. Jacks,

or for that matter in Ms. Silver. I consider Mr. Rogers a County retread; what do I mean by that? He served on every board you think of. We need fresh blood here, we need fresh thoughts and ideas, we don't need the same old same old same old. I appreciate the County Commission finally stepping up and doing their job; I mean Mr. Rogers here was appointed to a position that had been open since July of 2022, which is reprehensible, but that's not on you guys, that's on the County Commission. Now I know that retread might be a harsh word, and Ms. Silver I know that you served on several boards too, please don't take my comments personal, I'm just saying we have two brand new board members here and you're not even going to consider one of them. Mr. Rogers hasn't been here that long; Ms. Moser been here for quite some time but hasn't done anything. I haven't seen that much from Mr. Rogers either. But to ignore someone who has not even been in the position a month and is already engaging with the community, if you're going to ignore that, shame on you.

Janet Butcher

Longevity isn't necessarily the most important qualification one of the things. I've noticed tonight and I've heard a few people make a comment about needing a little bit of education on Roberts Rules of Order. Maybe some of you don't know what that is but there is going to be an education on 10/25. I'll send out information so maybe we'll see you there. I have to agree that the tenacity and the ability to reach out to the community right at the back was absolutely incredible; she cares and I would say Gianna is probably the person that you want to take a look at. I love the fact that she is reaching out to the community so I think she's a good one.

Nichelle Hull

Regarding the Vice Chair you know I have to agree with these other commenters on Trustee Moser. I've been around Trustee Moser for a year and I've never seen leadership. Now tonight I saw it asking about you know the finances and that was awesome, so I think you're you know you're on the path, but I have not seen it thus far, in fact you know you made the comment that you know you who were going to be interested in hearing from people that have not yet been heard, people that have a difficult time being heard, and Trustee Moser, this group started coming in 2019 regarding Drag Queen Story Hour. In 2020, 2021, 22 and 23, and the year that you've been here, this is the group that has not been heard.

We outnumber the opposing idea for yes on Drag Queens, yes on pride festival for youth, yes on inappropriate materials in the children's section; they are consistently a small number compared to the rest of us and so we have been talking to you guys since 2019, but for you a year I've never heard you ever say anything supportive. I've emailed you, never received anything back, so with regards to a

Vice Chair or we want a leader. A leader listens to already create a space to listen to the community that's leadership. Anybody could do that, like Bruce Parks was saying, you know, please do that, I mean that would be wonderful, that's leadership. So I think, I guess, that's it, but the idea of sanctuaries, the

library being a sanctuary, of course I took my kids to the library, I grew up in a library, but a sanctuary indicates safety, does it not, and it's not a safe environment for children when you put those books out there where they can grab them up. And you know what's in it because we've just listed and have been emailing you guys about those books and so you know that it's going on all across the country. Are you just going to put your heads in the sand and say it's not going on? Because it is, you know that those books are here, they're available for any kiddo and it's a total minority that says that's okay, so you need to listen to the majority, you need to be sensitive to the community and the standards that they are putting out there for you.

Cliff Nellis

Well there might be split vote here. Mr. Rogers you might be great, but I want to give my voice and support for Ms. Jacks. I think she would represent those of us on kind of the other side of Mr. Scott and give balance to the to the library system. Like I said before it's not just the Drag Queens in the library but it's all the books. We need books in this library system that represent the traditional American point of view which is Protestant Christian.

I know Mr. Perez if you're a Christian, that's a good question too, but I mean the atheist point of view is very strong, and a lot of pastors who are atheists and you know and of some different types of denominations, but you know we had a whole bunch of Hispanics here you should watch, you should look at some of the previous videos. The whole Hispanic Community is on our side, yeah they don't want their children abused either, they want to protect the children, but they want their children to believe in God and they want their children to be able to come to a library and get something more than just the atheist point of view. I know if I bought some creation science books and offer them to Mr. Scott, saying hey can you put these on the shelf, I spent 20 bucks these – they would be in the trash can because you know what he did in Berkeley. He didn't send the 40,000 books to the Friends of the Library, he sent them to the trash can to be recycled, and that was one of the big scandals right there. They were supposed to be sent to the Friends of the Library and the Friends of the Library Berkeley were really mad at him because they didn't get the money off the books. So yeah, we really need somebody that represents us. We'll see how this happens.

Roger Edwards

I am a Christian 50-year resident military public servant my whole life and you know I have a kind of a unique position; I was probably the only person in history that got thrown out of one of these meetings before it even started. The last meeting in this building, in this place, I commented because of my background, I'm sure maybe my Christian background, I don't know, they get kind of confused about not having the pledge released at the beginning of the meeting, all public meetings – and believe me I've been the chair and the vice chair of many public groups and I worked at the Planning Commission

for the County from '08 to '16. I worked with Mr. Rogers; he sounds like a great guy, very qualified, but when I got thrown out of this meeting, I didn't see Trustee Moser chasing me down the aisle saying wait a second, I didn't see her doing anything. The Library Board has a unique opportunity right now because of the crisis that's going on in our community to really be a leader in getting messages out to the community. You've got some books out here that are just amazing and that can make a big difference in so many kids' lives. My great grandkids are going to be starting here shortly. But anyway, I would say that we need the vitality and the effort and the ability to step in in case Chair Perez is not available; that's the job of the vice chair to take the meeting over and to run it. I think that Trustee Moser would not be a good choice. Thank you.

Schayden Gorai

I really wasn't planning on coming here, I came pretty late, but for the part that I was able to reach, I thought Ms. Silver brought up a really great point in her introduction about the keyword of democracy. I think it's very important to sometimes have someone who's second in command that maybe doesn't always agree 100% with what the others are doing. I might just be the youngest person in this room or one of the youngest people in this room so take that with the weight that it carries, but we're the next generation here and I think it's important to get more young people out here. Also, that the board meetings are run a little more efficiently, and I think there's only one trustee on this board that has Robert's Rules cards on them now, or Robert's Rules training. We all know who that is, and I think having someone that doesn't will always 100% vote with what the chair or the others are doing. It is probably a better idea for democracy like Ms. Silver has mentioned, if we really believe in democracy, I think it's important to support sometimes someone with a different view on certain things. Thank you.

Gayle Townsend

I would like to point out that this group here has a certain point of view, and I don't think they really represent the community. You have three nominations and five people on the board; I'm not sure how you will vote, but if you do really want to hear from the community, I think that the board in general should be representative of the community, not one particular group. I think unfortunately Trustee Jacks very definitely represents this group. I know she hasn't reached out to the whole entire County, and I think it is going to be difficult for you to make a choice. Thank you.

Alan Munson

Resident of Washoe County and Sparks; I just want to comment that some people think, well first of all, I'm representing myself and my family that lives here, and you know it's like a small voiceless group, but don't we all have reason to speak? I'm not representing any group, but I am a citizen paying taxes here living here and I have a right to speak whether I'm a minority or whether I'm addressing whatever I'm addressing. The vice chair and the chair, I think it's a wonderful thing that there's somebody who might step out and meet with us, already set up a public meeting and is just communicating, talking. Whoever gets the job, okay, I just hope that you do that listen to the public. Thank you.

Victoria Meyer

I agree with most everyone that's talked; I think Trustee Moser has been here for quite a while, over a year, and we really haven't heard any participation or addressing of issues. The only one so far who has addressed the issues or is looking forward to addressing them I should say is Trustee Jacks. I do want to mention that we are representative of a much larger group of people, regardless of what some of you might say. Trustee Jacks got appointed and Ms. Silver, when they were appointed, there was a petition signed by 770+ people who wanted to see diversity on this board. 770 people in 10 days who stood up and signed a petition directly relating to library board seats, the two vacancies, and the impetus of the petition was to see a change in direction of this board. So for some of you to get up here and say that we're the minority is kind of ridiculous. I think that petition now has over a thousand signatures.

I would support Trustee Jacks as Vice Chair. I think that also when the Chairperson retires, the Vice Chair steps up. You have Trustee Perez and there needs to be a nomination of a new Chair as well, but I do want to say too that this has been a summer of a lot of controversy for the library events. With Drag Queen Story Hour not any of you who have been on the board stood up and heard our concerns. There have been police reports filed against Mr. Scott; Human Resources complaints. The crowd that has attended the Drag Queen Story Hours have been bullies to other patrons, and patrons have been barred from entering the building to use the bathroom, having to ask permission to enter our publicly funded taxpayer buildings to use the bathroom. People have been pushed, people have had rainbow umbrellas shoved in their faces, and when we talk about diversity and bullying, it's really not coming from our side. Thank you.

Will Puchert

I've noticed Trustee Moser has been quiet, but that tells me she listens, and if it's not the will of the board to nominate her, raise her up to Vice Chair, then I think we need a consensus person. I think I made it clear who I'm very suspicious of and the orchestrated effort out here tonight, but who I think would bring consensus if Trustee Moser is not appointed, is Trustee Silver, who is the head of our local Chamber, she works with different business interests in the community. If it's not Trustee Moser who I hope it is, I think Trustee Silver would be a good choice to find some sort of consensus. I think at the end of the day that's what everybody is looking for, and I hope that just me suggesting that does not disqualify her. We want to have reasonable people on the board and not people going after a certain agenda. Thank you.

Reva Crump

I may step on a few toes, but I will say my observations of Trustee Moser are that she has been almost completely silent for the last year she's been on board. She had an anger management outburst at the first Library Board meeting I ever attended; Trustee Ghilieri reined her in and then she learned not to speak to the public in public. But it wasn't nice, and it wasn't pretty. In the last year she did not ask any questions about the finances at all, in fact she hardly asked any questions whatsoever. Mr. Rogers, we have not met, but at the Incline Village meeting, which was your first meeting, you were the only

trustee to drive up there, although you were not able to vote as a trustee because were not effectively on the board yet. Since you sat on so many boards before you should have known when your date of effectiveness was, so when it was suggested that you were okay to go ahead and vote by the Library Director and you didn't speak up either, you should have known better. We've read your biography and you've been on multiple committees.

You should know Ms. Jacks does have budgeting background through the tax firm, she can read the IRS, she can certainly interpret dollars and cents and line items, but of all the trustees, when many, many emails were sent and they did not have their own email accounts, not one single trustee bothered to ask when we were out here talking about the emails that were sent to you – we knew they were sent because we also blind sent them to an email to make sure they went out – not one trustee asked about them, 40 emails, if they weren't copied to them or they hadn't received them, no one cared enough to ask. Just be silent and get through meetings. I've had one trustee which I've written a couple emails to because we got a new board, and apparently I hit send way too frequently, but I have had one actually acknowledge that I sent the email. They're not agreeing, they're not disagreeing; they're just acknowledging that the email I sent made it to their inbox and was received. That is proper business protocol, and we have one trustee that could do that so far, and that happened to be Trustee Jacks.

At the conclusion of public comment, *Trustee Moser nominated Trustee Silver for Vice Chair of the Library Board of Trustees for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year.* Trustee Moser explained Trustee Silver would be a good consensus candidate for the position and praised her financial background.

Trustee Rogers praised Trustee Silver, but explained he would not support her nomination due to her short time on the Board.

*On motion by Trustee Moser, seconded by Chair Perez, which motion failed 3 to 2 with Chair Perez and Trustee Moser voting “yea” in favor, and Trustees Silver, Jacks, and Rogers voting “nay” in opposition, Trustee Silver was **not** selected Vice Chair of the Library Board of Trustees for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year.*

Yea (2)
Perez; Moser

Nay (3)
Rogers; Silver; Jacks

Motion Fails 3 votes nay to 2 votes yea.

Trustee Silver expressed gratitude for the nomination, but stated she could not accept. She indicated she would, however, support Trustee Rogers for Vice Chair.

Chair Perez called for a brief recess at 7:05 PM.

Chair Perez re-convened the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Trustee Silver requested her name be withdrawn from consideration for the position of Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Trustee Jacks nominated herself for the position of Vice Chair of the Library Board of Trustees for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Trustee Moser seconded the motion.

Trustee Rogers stated he would not support Trustee Jacks' nomination for Vice Chair.

Trustee Jacks reiterated her qualifications for the position of the Vice Chair, including her preparation for the Library Board meeting and work done to educate herself about the library system and its operations.

Public comment was opened before the Board vote.

Fred Myer

Let's do it, let's get this done. Don't you want to go home? She would like the job; she sounds qualified for the job; you seem to know that.

Victoria Myer

My understanding is that Trustee Jacks asked to meet with everyone here; I think she tried, she certainly reached out to the community. I'm with the previous guy; let's get this vote going and get her appointed and move on.

Nichelle Hull

I just think it's humorous that the folks that want to be Vice Chair didn't have any kind of solid items to point to in terms of homework or preparation that they did, any documents that they could refer to, not one. Everybody wants to be a Vice Chair but there's only one person who extended herself to the community, came in here with all the stuff that she printed off her home printer, and is really fighting, you know, verbally to say why she would be good, and I think it's great that you don't have a bunch of friends in the County and are not super familiar with the ins and outs of budgeting. If you can run a tax business, I'm sure you're more than capable of handling a financial report for this Library Board which seems very not together this evening. It's like you guys don't know anything about Robert's Rules; you don't know when to do this or when to do that, and she's got some kind of little cheat sheet up there for Robert's Rules, so she's even got that face covered.

Bruce Parks

Let's talk about diversity; there's no diversity on this board, or at least there hasn't been for a very long time. It was a condition that I brought up to the county commission; I pointed out to them that

the majority of the boards, committees, and everything else throughout Washoe County are extremely tilted. They are not diverse they are not inclusive and the last thing that they do is represent the demographics of Washoe County in any way shape or form. It's a rarity that you get any kind of balance on any of our boards.

Right now as I see it there's a little bit of balance to the makeup of this board but as I see things playing out here I notice that when it comes to the leadership of this board it all seems to want to go back to that same old tired you know. I agree with some of the comments that have been made previously, I've seen no leadership whatsoever from Ms. Moser, no leadership – now to his credit, Mr. Rogers has only been at two meetings – you all cancelled the August meeting so he was here for the July meeting and he was here for the September meeting and here we are in October – he's only been here for two meetings so he had no more experience basically than anybody else. The ones with the most experience are the Chair and Ms. Moser and well, you're the Chair sir and since Ms. Moser has not demonstrated any kind of leadership or responsibility to the community that she's supposed to represent I only see one person at this neighborhood has done so. I reiterate one of the previous comments; all the emails I've ever sent to the library board, to your individual email accounts, the only person that's ever responded was Ms. Jacks, that's it. It wasn't I agree with what you say or you're out to lunch, no; it was simply I acknowledge your email. Professional. I usually get a very quick response from the Director and I appreciate that, by the way. We'll get into that when we get to the next agenda item where we can make public comment. Here's the right person for the job in my opinion.

Reva Crump

Well this all is coming like the one very famous quote who knows who actually said it but the definition of insanity is doing the same old thing the same old way and expecting a different result, but this board wants to have different results you cannot be putting the same old people that have been on the same old committees and they are recycled over and over; you have to do something different, something new, something fresh, and then you'll have a different outcome. This board could really use that.

Gayle Townsend

I really don't like public speaking, I but I hate being railroaded even more. I think that Ms. Jacks came here to speak to this group of people. I know her outreach was advertised; I really would have appreciated being included. I don't know how you reached out, but you did not reach out me. And so, I definitely do not support Ms. Jacks.

Cliff Nellis

I would like to start out by thanking Trustee Jacks; I don't know her and never met her before, but I really like what she said; she wants to be a neutral person and I think that's what we need. Representatives of any side basically, and I really want the libraries to have a point, I really I do, but

I mean, children do need to be protected from pornography. You don't have a table here with illegal drugs, and say 'okay hey kids, touch this cocaine', you know. So yeah, there are limits, just like Mr. Munson said, about shouting fire in a crowded theater. But I'm pretty impressed with Ms. Jacks, that's a lot of work and that's commitment to the people, so I do recommend her.

Theresa Riley

It's been an interesting evening in terms of this process here. I would like to refer back to Trustee Silver's comments about being brand new on this board. This is their very first meeting and while I very much was impressed with Ms. Jacks' enthusiasm and the mission that she was on, I honestly think that for somebody who's brand new to the board they should basically be around for a little bit longer. Yeah, Mr Rogers has been on the board a little longer and has I think some experience, he has also had more experience on commissions, but frankly I think ignorance of the of the procedures is not a strength, it's knowledge that is strength. Ms. Jacks might prove herself quite formidable and a great presence, but I think that both she and Ms. Silver should basically be on the board a little bit longer before they take on more responsibility. I don't think that that is an uncommon thing or an unreasonable thing to expect or request. Thank you.

Janet Butcher

Your initiative is what you put forth as somebody said. Well, I didn't get an invitation, but I liked what I saw tonight, I've never anything like that over the last two or three years I've been coming to these; I haven't seen an outreach at all. So based upon that, evidently Ms. Jacks is really excited about moving forward and making this board a little run smoothly again. I'm going to send out an email to you guys because there's going to be a Robert Rules of Order seminar held, I would love to see you guys there so you can know the process of that; it would be wonderful. I truly love her enthusiasm and this business, sometimes at the commission meetings we are also accused of being organized; we're not organized, we are individual citizens who believe in something, believe in the same thing. There are a lot of people here tonight I've never seen before, some of them I have met them at the commission, but that doesn't mean that we're part of an organization, that means just bottom line that we want something good for our community, and I've said this before, there are some wonderful things in there; I don't understand why Director Scott wants to take away from it. Back to Ms. Jacks; I think she's showing she does have leadership qualifications, that she cares.

William Puchert

I'll be brief; many of these people go to County Commission meetings to speak on every single item, and it is an orchestrated effort, I mean it's obvious; it's disingenuous to say it's not. In 2016 there was a sentiment to throw the bums out; we got Donald Trump and see where that went. I'm just saying I would err on the side of or choose the side of experience and temperance instead of mob rule.

Fred Myer

This is ridiculous; this is not mob rule, this is your public coming in. Folks that are passionate; yes, my wife is here, I guess you could call us a consortium, whatever you call it. I mean we're passionate about what we're here to talk to you about. Whatever it is, whenever I get up there, I don't want to be up there, this is not my gig, this is not me, this is not who I am; I am not a public speaker – but to discount us like that is ridiculous. I just want to talk about Ms. Jacks here; she's working very hard it seems. And probably the gig is not brain surgery that she's applying for, I don't need to discount it, but I'm just saying, probably everybody here is qualified to be sitting there to do the job if he's willing to do it, but a lot of people would like to see her get it; you'd probably at least shut some of us up for a little bit if you gave it to her. Thank you.

Schayden Gorai

This is the most I've ever spoken at a public meeting before, unlike some people who speak at every agenda item. I again want to just express support for Ms. Jacks. A few people said they have not received any advertisements or outreach, but Ms. Jacks may be the only trustee that has made any effort to invite or involve the public. I also think she's gone a step further, notifying people of November's and December's meetings on her flyer, still reaching out to the community every week, inviting people to the coffee shop to talk about what's going on. That's more initiative than we have seen from the rest of the board, and this is just her first official meeting. It also seems she's taken time to learn about the history of the board from her own research. There's just more knowledge and a lot more passion.

I work for the largest nonprofit youth organization in this country and that passion is what gets younger individuals involved. That's the most important part; fighting for the future generation and involving them. I think her enthusiasm would be an excellent to help grow community involvement. I also think shortening meetings and making sure they proceed in an orderly manner would be good for younger people who don't have all the time in the world to sit here for 2 to 3 hours. If we knew the process a little better, we'd slim down the meeting a lot more. Someone who has experience with Roberts Rules of Order is good.

Bruce Foster

Ms. Jacks is that she has done her homework; I don't see that from the other Trustees. When I email – and I've been emailing for a long time over a lot of different issues – except for Director Scott, who responds mostly generically – Trustee Jacks is the only Trustee who has responded.

*On motion by Trustee Jacks, seconded by Trustee Moser, which motion duly carried 3 to 1 with Chair Perez and Trustees Silver and Jacks voting “yea” in favor, Trustee Moser abstaining, and Trustee Rogers voting “nay” in opposition, Trustee Jacks was **elected** Vice Chair of the Library Board of Trustees for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year.*

Yea (3)	Nay (1)	Abstain (1)
Perez; Jacks; Silver	Rogers	Moser

Motion Carries 3 votes yea to 1 vote nay and 1 abstaining.

d) Review and Possible Revision of Library Board of Trustee Bylaws [For Possible Action]

Item was tabled by the Chair.

e) Presentation and Discussion: Washoe County Library Annual Report by Library Director Jeff Scott [Non-Action Item]

Library Director Jeff Scott provided the annual report to the library board connecting library accomplishments toward strategic initiatives.

7. REPORTS

a) Library Director Update by Director Jeff Scott [Non-Action Item]

Library Director Jeff Scott reviewed the Library Director Update.

b) Introduction of new Assistant Library Director Stacy McKenzie [Non-Action Item]

Library Director Jeff Scott introduced Assistant Library Director Stacy McKenzie.

c) Sierra View Library Presentation by Branch Manager Sarah Jaeck [Non-Action Item]

Branch Manager Sarah Jaeck provided a presentation regarding the Sierra View Library.

d) Marketing and Communication (MARCOM) Team Presentation by Development Officer Jamie Hemingway [Non-Action Item]

Development Officer Jamie Hemingway reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was provided within the Board packet, regarding recent marketing and communication (MARCOM) team activities.

Trustee Rogers praised the report and discussed how needed the cross-functional teams were. He also inquired whether there was a liaison for Washoe County's PIO team.

8. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

9. BOARD COMMENT

Chair Perez welcomed the new library trustees again and commented on the length of the meetings. He said they may go long but that was sometimes the nature of public comment. He asked for security at the meetings to keep the peace and ensure things ran smoothly.

Trustee Silver welcomed Vice Chair Jacks to the board and spoke in support of her appointment. Trustee Silver also discussed support for a book collection which represented everyone. She desired a different set-up for the board better to face the audience, and mentioned that the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce did not support any political candidates and was funded by member dues, not City, County, State, or Federal funds.

Trustee Moser mentioned new RTC bus routes near Washoe County libraries and discussed having a community forum with RTC to increase access in the community. She wanted to see if locations could be supplemented with bookmobile stops. She also inquired about other themed story time events like Drag Queen Story Time. Director Scott replied that the library hosted a variety of story times, from Firefighter Story Time and Sheriff Story Time to the Community Help Story Times that happened over the summer.

Trustee Moser wanted to know more about third party applications to do new types of story times. Director Scott replied that there was a process that the library board approved in May which would be wrapping up to make assessments soon. Trustee Moser also inquired about having a library fun run fundraiser.

Trustee Rogers requested a future presentation regarding the Tax Initiative and the plan for renewal.

Chair Perez stated he was always open to agenda items and requests could be sent to him.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Perez adjourned the meeting at 8:54 PM.

Pending Board Approval



Renew Washoe County Libraries

Expansion Tax Election

On November 5th, 2024 Washoe County voters will decide whether to extend a 30-year tax dedicated to acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and operating Washoe County Library System. This is a renewal of a 30-year tax, not a new tax. An allotment of 2 cents for every \$100 of assessed property value goes directly to Washoe Libraries. This is not an additional tax on Washoe County citizens. Our goal is to maintain the award-winning outstanding library service Washoe County residents have come to enjoy.

Pass/Fail

What happens if the Library Tax Passes:

- Washoe Libraries will be able to renovate South Valleys and Spanish Springs Library.
- Washoe Libraries will be able to build a new North Valleys Library.
- Washoe Libraries will be able to expand library services through Bookmobile and Book Vending Machine Services in the North Valleys/Spanish Springs/South Valleys Regions.

What happens if the Library Tax Fails:

- Washoe Librarians will be laid off.
- Washoe Libraries book budget will be eliminated.
- Washoe Libraries technology budget will be eliminated.
- Washoe Libraries branches will lose weekend and evening hours.

History of Library Expansion Tax

In 1994, Washoe County Library Director Martha Gould had the vision to enhance Washoe County Libraries. Watching Las Vegas Clark County Library District pass a major bond to expand and renovate their public libraries, she believed Washoe County could do the same. She developed a tax plan that would enhance Washoe Libraries for the next 30 years.

This tax would tell Washoe County to give Washoe Libraries two cents from every \$100 in assessed property value in the county. With these two cents, Washoe Libraries would plant the seeds of growth over the next 30 years.

Passing in 1994, Washoe County Libraries took advantage of this Expansion Tax:

- Building Northwest Reno, South Valleys, Incline Village, and Spanish Springs Library.
- Assisting Washoe Libraries in weathering the economic recession of 2008-2016
- Renovating North Valleys, Downtown Reno, Northwest Reno, Sparks, and Sierra View Libraries.

30 years later, this tax is set to expire. If Washoe County did not pass the tax in 1994, there would not be many of our beautiful libraries providing needed critical services such as early literacy, workforce development, assistance for seniors, as well as our books and our friendly librarians.

For Washoe County Libraries to continue to effectively serve Washoe County citizens, we must look to renewing this tax. Our Renew Washoe Libraries plan will allow the library to continue to expand and grow with our community. The next 30 years will see continued community growth and we need to ensure their quality of life for the foreseeable future.

Our Plan: Renew Washoe Libraries

Washoe County Library has a three-phase plan to ensure the future of service for Washoe County residents. The library tax is part of the Washoe County 2022-2025 Strategic Plan as well as the Washoe County Strategic Plan Fiscal Sustainability Initiative.

Phase I Emerge/Educate/Plan (Now to January)

Phase I, the library will begin to emerge with information about the need for continued funding. Using information from groups like Everylibrary and the book *Before the Ballot*, we have formed a plan to renew our library tax. Our goal in this stage is for the library to emerge as a candidate. The public needs to be aware and educated about the need for continued funding, explaining what's been accomplished and what will happen next. We will work with a consultant who will provide guidance on the plan and check-ins as to our progress.

A group of library supporters may be created who are committed to renewing the library tax. Washoe County Library Staff will conduct specific outreach to library champions to ensure their support and what they can do to help. We will have a standard presentation that will discuss what the tax does, what happens if it passes, and what happens when it fails. We will provide this presentation to rotary clubs, neighborhood groups, advisory boards, and more. This will be further accelerated in Phase III of our plan. We will grow our allies as well as conduct targeted outreach for supporters and keep them connected through our webpage and newsletter. This will include Friends of Washoe County Libraries, library patrons, library supporters, education supporters, library partners, and more. If a SuperPAC is created, the library leadership cannot coordinate messaging. Library staff cannot promote the tax or persuade the public. Outreach to our Library Partners is essential. Libraries are the backbone of many community initiatives and now is the time to ask for support. Community members can do more to support library funding and provide testimonials for the library. Many of our partners can develop Public Service Announcements to raise awareness about the library.

Information on the plan will be on the library website. Frequently asked questions (FAQ) will be established so residents can determine how this tax has helped improve library services.

Phase II Solidify Outreach (January to May)

Phase II will focus on solidifying and activating library activists with library supporters. Washoe County Library staff will meet quarterly with Washoe County staff to coordinate efforts as part of the Washoe County Strategic Plan's Fiscal Sustainability Initiative.

Library staff will develop Public Service Announcements to promote the library and tell the public about all our services. This will include photos, videos, audio, and other produced media. We will have regular social media posts that talk about how the tax has helped the library and how it will continue to help the library. This information will also be included in the quarterly Explorer brochures. We will have a standard presentation that will discuss what the tax does, what happens if it passes, and what happens when it fails. We will provide this presentation to rotary clubs, neighborhood groups, advisory boards, and more.

Phase III Election (May to November)

Phase III will be the home stretch of the tax renewal plan. Washoe County Board of Commissioners will place the tax renewal plan on the ballot for November 5th 2024.

Media Blitz/Library Campaign with library staff. Get on the radio, get on TV, get on the news about the great services we provide. Discuss Library Tax to local TV Radio, newspapers, and other outlets. Increase presentations to rotary clubs, neighborhood groups, advisory boards, and more.

Community Partners promote the library, library supporters pay for advertisements.

Countdown to November 5th vote, develop a plan to vote, continue to get library spotlights on local media.



Washoe County Library Board of Trustees Bylaws

The Board of Trustees of the Washoe County Library System, pursuant to the authority vested by Nevada Revised Statutes 379.025, hereby establishes the following bylaws:

I. Purpose

The Washoe County Library Board of Trustees shall, consistent with provisions of applicable state and federal law, exercise the powers and duties granted pursuant to NRS 379.025. The Board shall endeavor to administer and manage the resources of the Washoe County Library System in a manner consistent with the public trust, the Library Mission Statement, and the Library Vision Statement.

II. Organization and Membership

A. The name of the organization shall be "The Board of Trustees of the Washoe County Library System"

B. Membership:

1. The Board of Trustees will be comprised of five (5) members.
2. Trustees will be appointed by the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.
3. Trustees will meet the minimum requirements as determined by the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.
4. Trustees will [be appointed to](#) serve a 4-year term, as provided in NRS 379.020.
5. Trustees will be eligible [to be appointed](#) for no more than two full [consecutive](#) four-year terms. Any appointment for the remainder of a term of less than 2 years will not count toward this limitation. In the event a Trustee's term expires, the Trustee shall continue to serve as Trustee until such time a replacement is appointed pursuant to NRS 379.020(1). Notwithstanding the term limitation set forth herein, nothing in this provision shall be construed to prohibit the reappointment of a trustee for additional terms to be served after a break of one term of non-service prior to re-appointment.
6. Resignation: If any Trustee resigns at any time, written notice must be provided to the Board of Trustees Chair and the Library Director. Any such resignation shall take effect at the date of receipt of such notice or at any later date specified therein. Unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
7. Removal: The board of county commissioners may remove any trustee who fails, without cause, to attend three successive meetings of the trustees.

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C. Trustees are public officers as defined in NRS 281.005(1) and NRS 281A.160(1). Accordingly, Trustees are subject to the Ethics in Government Provisions codified in NRS 281A.010 et. seq. Trustees shall comply with the Code of Ethical Standards of NRS 281A.400 et. seq.

D. Duties of a Trustee:

1. Regularly attend meetings and actively participate in such meetings and actions;
2. Review meeting materials prior to each meeting;
3. Be attentive to the needs and concerns of library patrons, volunteers, library staff, library administration, county staff, county commissioners and the general public;
4. Set policies governing the operation of the library system as appropriate;
5. Hire and evaluate the job performance of the Library Director;
6. Work with the Director, library staff, community members, and political leaders to plan for the future of the library system;
7. Acknowledge the annual budget for the library system, and monitor expenditures;
8. Monitor and evaluate library effectiveness; and
9. Advocate for the Washoe County Library System within the community and political organizations, as appropriate

III. Officers

A. Chair

1. Selection.
 - a. The Chair will be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees who are present at the meeting.
 - b. The term will be for one-year at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees.
 - c. Elections shall be held at the regular Board of Trustees meeting each June.
2. Duties. The chair shall:
 - a. Preside at all meetings of the Board of Trustees;
 - b. Execute all documents and actions authorized by the Board of Trustees;
 - c. Call special meetings as warranted;
 - d. Appoint committees;
 - e. Serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of all committees;

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- f. Work with the Library Director and staff.
- g. Review agendas and assist in scheduling meetings.
- h. Add or remove items on each meeting agenda.
- i. Draft correspondence as directed by the Board of Trustees; and
- j. Perform all duties associated with the office.

B. Vice-Chair

1. Selection

- a. The Vice-Chair will be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees who are present at the meeting.
- b. The term will be for one year, at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees.
- c. Elections shall be held at the regular Board of Trustees meeting each June.
- d. In the event the Vice-Chair must assume the duties of Chair for the one-year term because the Chair is no longer able to serve in that capacity, an election for a new Vice-Chair will be held at the next meeting following the succession.

2. Duties. The Vice-Chair shall:

- a. In the event of the absence or disability of the Chair, or of a vacancy in the office, the Vice-Chair shall assume and perform all duties associated with that office. In the event of an absence or short-term disability of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair for the period of his/her absence or disability. In the event the Chair is permanently vacated, the Vice-Chair shall assume the office of the Chair for the remainder of the vacated term.

IV. Meetings

- A. Regular meetings: The Board of Trustees will normally meet monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month. The time of the meetings will be set at the discretion of the Chair of the Board of trustees. The Chair shall have the authority to cancel a regularly scheduled meeting in the event it is determined, after consultation with the Library Director, that there is insufficient business to come before the Board or that other good cause exists to cancel the meeting.
- B. Meeting locations: When possible, the Board of Trustees will normally hold regular meetings on a rotational basis at Washoe County Library locations. A calendar of possible meeting locations will be provided annually to the Board of Trustees. Meetings may be held virtually at the Chair's discretion pursuant to the requirements of NRS Chapter 241.

- C. Nevada Open Meeting Law: All meetings of the Board are subject to the provisions of state and federal open meeting laws and shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable laws. The Library Director shall be responsible for ensuring the proper public notice is made for each meeting of the Board. Trustees should endeavor to refrain from discussing agenda items or actions by the Board outside of public meetings in groups that may constitute a quorum.
- D. Agendas: The Director shall ensure the preparation of the agenda for each Board meeting and the compliance with the applicable open meetings laws as set forth in NRS Chapter 241. An item may be placed on the agenda at the request of any Trustee or by written request by any individual to the Director 15 days prior to the scheduled meeting. However, whether and/or when the item is actually placed on the agenda remains in the discretion of the Chair.
- E. Pertinent Materials: The Director shall ensure that notices and ~~informational~~supporting materials pertinent to any agenda item for any Board meeting shall be ~~distributed~~made available to Trustees, Board legal counsel, and ~~the public in anyone with a written request of notification on file with the Board no later than 9 a.m. of the third working day before the meeting to ensure adequate time for review. In addition, pertinent materials shall also be posted on the Board of Trustees web site no later than 9 a.m. of the third working day before a scheduled meeting in accordance with the requirements set forth in the applicable open meeting laws (NRS Chapter 241). 241.020 section 3~~
- F. Quorum: A ~~minimum of three Trustees~~simple majority of the membership of the Board of Trustees must be present to have a quorum. If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board, the necessary quorum and number of votes necessary to take action on a matter is reduced as though the voting membership does not include the vacancy. A majority vote of those present at the meeting is required on any action items on the agenda for said action to be of any legal effect.
- G. The Director, or his duly appointed representative, shall attend each meeting of the Board.
- H. Special meetings: Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the Chair or upon the written request of any two Trustees.

I. Order of Business: To the extent possible, the order of business at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Board shall be:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Public comment
- Review/approval of minutes
- Old business
- New business
- Presentations
- Reports
- Public comment
- Board comment
- Staff Announcements
- Adjournment

J. ~~Where consistent with state law, and not otherwise provided in these Rules of Procedure, the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees may refer to the principles of the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order for guidance in conducting its meetings.~~

~~±~~

K. Committees: Committees shall be created as needed by the Chair, shall have a specific purpose, shall report regularly as to progress in completing their charge, shall be subject to annual review as needed, and shall automatically dissolve upon the completion of their charge.

L. Annual Bylaws Review: The ~~Bylaws~~ herein can be revised as needed by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees. Any proposed revisions must be placed on an agenda and addressed in a public meeting in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. The ~~Bylaws~~ shall be reviewed and approved at least once every calendar year annually, ~~at the regular June meeting of the Board of Trustees, or as soon thereafter in the event reasonable grounds exist so that the Bylaws cannot be reviewed during the June meeting.~~

DATED this 1st-19th day of July 20230

WASHOE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

_____ Amy Ghilieri

_____ Frank Perez

_____ Anne Medaille Al Rogers

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Lea Moser
Al Rogers
Gianna Jacks
Ann Silver

These bylaws were presented to the Board on ~~June~~ July 1924, 2023 and were adopted.

~~Amy Ghlieri~~ Frank Perez, Chair

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Collection Development and Management Policy

The mission of the Washoe County Library System is to connect people with information, ideas, and experiences to support an enriched and engaged community, one person at a time.

I. PRINCIPLES

The Washoe County Library System Collection Development and Management Policy is based on the following principles:

- A. Materials are selected which provide for the interest, information, enlightenment, entertainment, education, development, enrichment, and/or self-improvement of all library patrons, within budgetary constraints and availability of materials.
- B. The freedom to read, along with the freedom to hear and to view, is protected by the [First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#). This freedom, essential to our democracy, will be upheld, supported, and defended in the selection and accessibility of all library materials. In this regard, the library upholds the principles of the American Library Association's [Library Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read](#), [Freedom to View](#), [Statement on Labeling](#), and [Free Access to Libraries for Minors](#) as well as to the Nevada Library Association's [Intellectual Freedom Policies](#).
- C. Selection of materials does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content, viewpoint, implications, or presentation of the materials.
- D. The library staff does not serve *in loco parentis*. It is the parent(s), and only the parent(s), who may restrict their children, and only their own children, from access to library materials. Responsibility for children's reading rests with their parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s). Selection will not be inhibited by the possibility that materials may inadvertently come into the possession of children.

II. POLICY

In accordance with the above principles, the following policies apply in regard to materials selection and accessibility for the general library collection.

- A. Selection
 - As budgetary constraints limit the purchase of materials, the selections made follow the aforementioned principles while attempting to maintain diversity, quality and responsiveness to patron interest patterns. As such, selections are made on the basis of any one, several, or all of the following considerations:
 - 1. Diversity is pursued by attempting to meet the needs of all ages, backgrounds, and educational levels, by providing as many subject fields as possible, and by providing alternative perspectives on unpopular or unorthodox as well as popular materials. The collection represents various opinions and viewpoints on all issues of general concern and should broadly reflect the various ethnic and social groups in Washoe County.
 - 2. Quality is pursued by applying professional discretion and standards established by the library profession and through the use of appropriate selection aids, including book reviews, best seller lists, etc.
 - 3. Professional catalogers use Dewey and Library of Congress subject headings to place materials into the proper subject areas and assign them to Adult, Juvenile, Young Adult, areas of the library. Reviews by professionals in the field and the librarians' expertise contribute to the proper placement of material.

4. The Library staff responds to community interests by careful consideration of the following: patron requests for purchases, use patterns for existing materials, purchase trends of similar materials from retailers, and any other source of information indicating community interests. The Library collection serves, to the degree possible, the interests of a diverse community without exclusion. Responsiveness to the interest of one individual or group is not restricted on the basis of dislike or objection of another individual or group.
5. Undue duplication of materials is avoided, either in the library itself, or with other institutions in the community. Esoteric or very technical works, and materials available elsewhere to special interest groups, are generally excluded from the collection. Materials may also be excluded if the existing collection already covers the field.
6. Materials with formats that do not conform or lend themselves to library use are usually excluded.
7. Gifts, unsolicited materials, and citizen suggestions for purchases are all evaluated under the same policies, principles, and selection criteria as regularly purchased materials.
8. Materials are withdrawn from the collection to maintain the collection's usefulness, currency, and relevance. Withdrawn materials may be sold, used in collaboration with community agencies, recycled, or otherwise disposed of.

B. Criteria

Materials selections are made on the basis of any one, several, or all of the following specific criteria:

1. A positive review in at least one of the following review journals:
 - *Library Journal*
 - *Publisher's Weekly*
 - *Kirkus Reviews*
 - *Booklist*
 - *School Library Journal*
 - *Horn Book*
 - *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*
 - *New York Times Book Review*
2. High standards of quality in content, expression and physical attributes (binding, printing, paper quality).
3. Contents that are timely, accurate, and representative of various viewpoints.
4. Significant reputation of the author, editor, producer or illustrator.
5. Established reputation of publisher in the mainstream of the industry. Demonstrated acceptance of small presses by listings in standard selection sources.
6. Contemporary significance, potential usefulness, appeal or cultural value of the title.
7. Reasonable cost with regard to budget restrictions.
8. Availability through a library wholesaler.

C. Reconsideration of Library Materials

Washoe County Library System and the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees supports the American Library Association's [Library Bill of Rights](#). We also value the community member's right to express their concerns regarding materials that are a part of the library's collection. If there is an objection to an item being in the Library's collection, there is an option for individual Washoe County residents to request that the item be re-evaluated. The requesting library patron must complete this form and submit it to library staff.

1. Requestors must have read, heard, or viewed the entire work to have their challenge considered.
2. The Library Director will respond in writing to an individual's written request.
3. The Washoe County Library Board of Trustees, upon written request to the Board Chair, will hear appeals of the Library Director's written response.
 - a. Upon such written request being received, the appeal will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees or as soon as practicable.
 - b. The Requestor will be provided at least 5 days' notice of the Board of Trustees' review. The form of notice may be accomplished in any manner agreed upon by the Requestor.
 - c. The Requestor, in support of the review, will be given 5 minutes and may either rely upon his/her written submission or may appear in person to present the appeal.
 - d. After the Requestor has made his/her presentation, a representative from the Washoe County Library System may make a presentation regarding the appeal limited to 3 minutes.
 - e. After such presentations, the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees may ask the Requestor or the representative of the Washoe County Library System for additional information.
 - f. After hearing the arguments and considering the various factors involved, the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees shall render its decision either granting or denying the appeal. Washoe County Library Board of Trustees Decisions on appeals are based on this policy, the material, careful review of the objection and the American Library Association's [Bill of Rights](#), [Freedom to Read Statement](#), [Freedom to View Statement](#) and the Nevada Library Association's [Intellectual Freedom Policies](#).
 - g. The decision of the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees on any such appeal shall be final.
4. Items under consideration will remain in the collection for the duration of the reconsideration process.

Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials

Your name _____

Library Barcode Number _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone number (____) _____

Description of Item Concerned:

Title _____

Author/Artist _____

Book _____ DVD _____ Music CD _____ Other _____

Have you read, viewed or heard the entire work? (Requesters must read, hear or view the entire work to have their challenge considered.) Yes/No

What do you believe is the theme and/or major intent of this work?

Have you read professional reviews of this work? Yes/No

If yes, please list the publication here: _____

What is your objection to the work? Please be specific.

What would you like the library to do about this item?

In its place, what work of equal literary quality would you recommend the library purchase that would cover the same subject or content?

Your signature _____

Date _____

Received by Staff Member _____

Date _____





COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT POLICY

Collection Development is the ongoing process of assessing the materials available for purchase or licensing and making decisions about their inclusion and retention within the Library.

Scope of the Collection

The library materials collection, one of Washoe County Library System's (WCLS) major assets, is developed and managed to meet the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs of Washoe County Library customers. Since library systems cannot possibly acquire all print and non-print materials, they must employ a policy of selectivity in acquisitions. The Library System provides, within its financial limitations, a general collection of materials embracing broad areas of knowledge and literary and cultural genres. Included are works of enduring value and timely materials on current issues. Within the framework of these broad objectives, selection is based on community demographics and evidence of areas of interest.

Collections are reviewed and revised on an ongoing basis to meet contemporary needs. Collections are current and popular, not archival, and materials are not needlessly duplicated. Collections provide general coverage of subjects and reflect the characteristics of the community. Materials are withdrawn from the collection to maintain the collection's usefulness, currency and relevance. Withdrawn materials may be sold or used in collaboration with community agencies.

Other community resources and area library resources are taken into consideration when developing collections. Through Interlibrary Loan, librarians may obtain materials from other institutions for the use of WCLS patrons. Information may also be obtained through electronic access and the internet. Information sources made available electronically will be selected using the same principles that are applied to books and other formats. New formats will be considered when a significant portion of the community creates a demand.

The Library supports the individual's right to access ideas and information representing all points of view. To this end, the Library welcomes and solicits patron suggestions, comments and ideas about the collection and its development. The Washoe County Library Board of Trustees has adopted the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement and Freedom to View Statement. The Library recognizes and respects intellectual property rights and conforms to legislative mandates regarding copyright protections.

Collection Development and Management Criteria

To build and maintain a collection of merit, materials are evaluated according to one or more of the following criteria. An item need not meet all of these criteria in order to be acceptable.

- Current and potential relevance to community needs
- Suitability of subject and style for intended audience
- Attention by critics and expert reviewers
- Cost
- Requests by the public
- Comprehensiveness
- Skill, competence, purpose of author
- Reputation and significance of author
- Objectivity
- Authenticity of history or social setting
- Consideration of the work as a whole
- Representation of diverse points of view
- Suitability in physical form for library use
- Technical quality

Gifts of Library Materials

WCLS will accept unrestricted, irrevocable gifts of books and other library materials. Gifts and donations are accepted with the understanding that they will be evaluated by the same criteria used to select and purchase materials for addition to the collection. If gifts do not meet these criteria, they may be conveyed to the Friends of Washoe County Library for sales to benefit the Library System, used for Read and Exchange collections, recycled or otherwise disposed of.

Collection Structure

The placement of materials within the libraries is determined by several factors. The Library uses the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme which divides materials by subject. Professional catalogers use Dewey and Library of Congress subject headings to place materials into the proper subject areas and assign them to Adult, Juvenile, Young Adult, Reference or other specific areas of the Library. Reviews by professionals in the field and the librarians' expertise contribute to the proper placement of material.

Washoe County Library respects the rights of children to choose their own materials. It is the responsibility of parents to monitor the materials their children borrow or use in the Library.

Collection Responsibilities

Staff responsibility for the collection rests with the Library Director, who operates within the framework of the Washoe County Library Collection Development and Management Policy. The Director delegates to staff members authority to interpret and apply this policy in daily operation.

Staff in a centrally organized collection development unit provides continuity in the collections through an organized structure for planning, selecting, acquiring and managing library materials. All staff contributes to the development of collections driven by customer needs and expectations by:

- Engaging in open, continuous communication with customers
- Handling all requests equitably
- Understanding and responding to continually changing demographics, as well as societal and technological changes
- Recognizing that materials of varying complexity and format are necessary to satisfy diverse needs

Intellectual Freedom

A democracy presupposes an informed citizenry, and the public library has an integral role in achieving that goal. The Library provides a neutral environment in which individuals and their interests are brought together with the universe of ideas and information spanning the spectrum of knowledge and opinions. The American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read and Freedom to View statements are cornerstones of this policy and guide the acquisitions and management of the collection.

Collection development and management decisions are based on the merit of the work as it relates to the Library's mission and its ability to meet the needs and interests of the community. Decisions are not made on the basis of any anticipated approval or disapproval of the material. The inclusion of an item in the Library collection is in no way an endorsement of its contents. Materials are not marked or identified to show approval or disapproval of the contents.

The Library recognizes that some materials may be controversial and that any given item may offend some. Only the individual can define what materials are consistent with her/his own values. Individuals can apply those values to the use of library materials only for themselves. Parents and legal guardians have the responsibility for monitoring their children's use of library materials.

Reconsideration of Library Materials

A singular obligation of the public library is to reflect within its collection differing points of view. Individuals may request reconsideration of a selection decision of library materials by submitting a written request for reconsideration to any Washoe County Library using the form appended to this policy. The Library Director will respond in writing to an individual's written request.

The Washoe County Library Board of Trustees, upon written request to the Board Chair, will hear appeals of the Library Director's written response. Decisions on appeals are based on this policy, the material, careful review of the objection and the American Library Association's Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement, Freedom to View Statement and Guidelines on Intellectual Freedom. The final decisions on appeals rest with the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees.

APPROVED: December 15, 2004

REVISED: May 19, 2010

CITIZEN REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS AND ARTWORK

Author/Artist _____

Title _____

Book _____ Periodical _____ Other _____ Publisher/Date _____

Please state the reason for your request. _____

Have you read/viewed/listened to this work/exhibition in its entirety? _____

What are the positive points of this material? _____

What would you like the Library to do about this work? _____

In its place, what work would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of the subject? _____

Have you read the Washoe County Library Collection Development and Management Policy? _____

Have you read the Washoe County Library Public Use of Bulletin Boards, Exhibit Spaces and Display Spaces Policy? _____

Request initiated by: _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Do you represent:

Yourself
 Organization (name) _____

Date: _____ Signature of Patron: _____

Date: _____ Received by Staff Member: _____

First Amendment and Censorship

First Amendment Resources | Statements & Core Documents | Publications & Guidelines

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution passed by Congress September 25, 1789. Ratified December 15, 1791.

One of the ten amendments of the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment gives everyone residing in the United States the right to hear all sides of every issue and to make their own judgments about those issues without government interference or limitations. The First Amendment allows individuals to speak, publish, read and view what they wish, worship (or not worship) as they wish, associate with whomever they choose, and gather together to ask the government to make changes in the law or to correct the wrongs in society.

The right to speak and the right to publish under the First Amendment has been interpreted widely to protect individuals and society from government attempts to suppress ideas and information, and to forbid government censorship of books, magazines, and newspapers as well as art, film, music and materials on the internet. The Supreme Court and other courts have held conclusively that there is a First Amendment right to receive information as a corollary to the right to speak. Justice William Brennan elaborated on this point in 1965:

“The protection of the Bill of Rights goes beyond the specific guarantees to protect from Congressional abridgment those equally fundamental personal rights necessary to make the express guarantees fully meaningful. I think the right to receive publications is such a fundamental right. The dissemination of ideas can accomplish nothing if otherwise willing addressees are not free to receive and consider them. It would be a barren marketplace of ideas that had only sellers and no buyers.” *Lamont v. Postmaster General*, 381 U.S. 301 (1965).

The Supreme Court reaffirmed that the right to receive information is a fundamental right protected under the U.S. Constitution when it considered whether a local school board violated the Constitution by removing books from a school library. In that decision, the Supreme Court held that “the right to receive ideas is a necessary predicate to the recipient’s meaningful exercise of his own rights of speech, press, and political freedom.” *Board of Education v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982)

Public schools and public libraries, as public institutions, have been the setting for legal battles about student access to books, the removal or retention of “offensive” material, regulation of patron behavior, and limitations on public access to the internet. Restrictions and censorship of materials in public institutions are most commonly prompted by public complaints about those materials and implemented by government officials mindful of the importance some of their constituents may place on religious values, moral sensibilities, and the desire to protect children from materials they deem to be offensive or inappropriate. Directly or indirectly, ordinary individuals are the driving force behind the challenges to the freedom to access information and ideas in the library.

The First Amendment prevents public institutions from compromising individuals' First Amendment freedoms by establishing a framework that defines critical rights and responsibilities regarding free expression and the freedom of belief. The First Amendment protects the right to exercise those freedoms, and it advocates respect for the right of others to do the same. Rather than engaging in censorship and repression to advance one's values and beliefs, Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis counsels persons living in the United States to resolve their differences in values and belief by resort to "more speech, not enforced silence."

By virtue of the Fourteenth Amendment, the First Amendment's constitutional right of free speech and intellectual freedom also applies to state and local governments. Government agencies and government officials are forbidden from regulating or restricting speech or other expression based on its content or viewpoint. Criticism of the government, political dissatisfaction, and advocacy of unpopular ideas that people may find distasteful or against public policy are nearly always protected by the First Amendment. Only that expression that is shown to belong to a few narrow categories of speech is not protected by the First Amendment. The categories of unprotected speech include obscenity, child pornography, defamatory speech, false advertising, true threats, and fighting words. Deciding what is and is not protected speech is reserved to courts of law.

The First Amendment only prevents government restrictions on speech. It does not prevent restrictions on speech imposed by private individuals or businesses. Facebook and other social media can regulate or restrict speech hosted on their platforms because they are private entities.

First Amendment Resources

Clauses of the First Amendment (<https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/amendments/amendment-i>) | The National Constitution Center

First Amendment FAQ (<https://www.freedomforuminstitute.org/first-amendment-center/first-amendment-faq/>) | Freedom Forum

Freedom of Religion, Speech, Press, Assembly, and Petition: Common Interpretations and Matters for Debate (<https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/amendment/amendment-i>) | National Constitution Center

First Amendment - Religion and Expression (<http://constitution.findlaw.com/amendment1.html>) | FindLaw

What is Censorship?

Censorship is the suppression of ideas and information that some individuals, groups, or government officials find objectionable or dangerous. Would-be censors try to use the power of the state to impose their view of what is truthful and appropriate, or offensive and objectionable, on everyone else. Censors pressure public institutions, like libraries, to suppress and remove information they judge inappropriate or dangerous from public access, so that no one else has the chance to read or view the material and make up their own minds about it. The censor wants to prejudge materials for everyone. It is no more complicated than someone saying, "Don't let anyone read this book, or buy that magazine, or view that film, because I object to it!"

"Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment." — Article 3, Library Bill of Rights
(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>)



(<http://www.ala.org/tools/challengesupport/report>)

ALA Statements and Policies on Censorship

Challenged Resources: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/challenged-resources>) (2019)

A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is the removal of those materials. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view; rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others. ALA declares as a matter of firm principle that it is the responsibility of every library to have a clearly defined written policy for collection development that includes a procedure for review of challenged resources.

Labeling Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretation/labeling-systems>) (2015)

The American Library Association affirms the rights of individuals to form their own opinions about resources they choose to read, view, listen to, or otherwise access. Libraries do not advocate the ideas found in their collections or in resources accessible through the library. The presence of books and other resources in a library does not indicate endorsement of their contents by the library. Likewise, providing access to digital information does not indicate endorsement or approval of that information by the library. Labeling systems present distinct challenges to these intellectual freedom principles.

Rating Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/rating-systems>) (2019)

Libraries, no matter their size, contain an enormous wealth of viewpoints and are responsible for making those viewpoints available to all. However, libraries do not advocate or endorse the content found in their collections or in resources made accessible through the library. Rating systems appearing in library public access catalogs or resource discovery tools present distinct challenges to these intellectual freedom principles. Q&A on Labeling and Rating Systems

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/qa-labeling>)

Expurgation of Library Materials: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/expurgationlibrary>) (2014)

Expurgating library materials is a violation of the Library Bill of Rights. Expurgation as defined by this interpretation includes any deletion, excision, alteration, editing, or obliteration of any part(s) of books or other library resources by the library, its agent, or its parent institution (if any).

Restricted Access to Library Materials: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/restrictedaccess>) (2014)

Libraries are a traditional forum for the open exchange of information. Attempts to restrict access to library materials violate the basic tenets of the Library Bill of Rights.

Complete list of Library Bill of Rights Interpretations
(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations>)

Core Documents

Library Bill of Rights (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>) (1939)

Adopted by ALA Council, the Articles of the Library Bill of Rights are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries. (printable pamphlets (<http://www.ala.org/offices/oif/LBOR-FTR-statement-pamphlet>))

Freedom to Read Statement

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/freedomreadstatement>) (1953)

A collaborative statement by literary, publishing, and censorship organizations declaring the importance of our constitutionally protected right to access information and affirming the need for our professions to oppose censorship.

Libraries: An American Value (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/americanvalue>) (1999)

Adopted by ALA Council, this brief statement pronounces the distinguished place libraries hold in our society and their core tenets of access to materials and diversity of ideas.

Guidelines

Guidelines for Library Policies (<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarypolicyguidelines>) (2019)

Guidelines for librarians, governing authorities, and other library staff and library users on how constitutional principles apply to libraries in the United States.

Intellectual Freedom and Censorship Q&A

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/censorshipfirstamendmentissues/ifcensorshipqanda>) (2007)

Social Media Guidelines for Public and Academic Libraries

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/socialmediaguidelines>) (2018)

These guidelines provide a policy and implementation framework for public and academic libraries engaging in the use of social media.

Publications

Intellectual Freedom Manual (<https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/intellectual-freedom-manual-tenth-edition>) (2021)

Edited by Martin Garnar and Trina Magi with ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom

The 10th edition manual is an indispensable resource for day-to-day guidance on maintaining free and equal access to information for all people

Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy (<https://journals.ala.org/index.php/jifp>) (2016 - present)

Edited by Shannon Oltmann with ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom

Published quarterly, JIFP offers articles related to intellectual freedom and privacy, both in libraries and in the wider world.

True Stories of Censorship Battles in America's Libraries (<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=3524>) (2012)

By Valerie Nye and Kathy Barco

This book is a collection of accounts from librarians who have dealt with censorship in some form. Divided

into seven parts, the book covers intralibrary censorship, child-oriented protectionism, the importance of building strong policies, experiences working with sensitive materials, public debates and controversies, criminal patrons, and library displays.

Beyond Banned Books: Defending Intellectual Freedom throughout Your Library

(<https://www.alastore.ala.org/content/beyond-banned-books-defending-intellectual-freedom-throughout-your-library>) (2019)

By Kristin Pekoll with ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom

A level-headed guide that uses specific case studies to offer practical guidance on safeguarding intellectual freedom related to library displays, programming, and other librarian-created content.

Lessons in Censorship: How Schools and Courts Subvert Students' First Amendment Rights

(<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674057746>) (2015)

By Catherine J. Ross

Lessons in Censorship highlights the troubling and growing tendency of schools to clamp down on off-campus speech such as texting and sexting and reveals how well-intentioned measures to counter verbal bullying and hate speech may impinge on free speech. Throughout, Ross proposes ways to protect free expression without disrupting education.

Assistance and Consultation

The staff of the Office for Intellectual Freedom is available to answer questions or provide assistance to librarians, trustees, educators, and the public about the First Amendment and censorship. Areas of assistance include policy development, minors' rights, and professional ethics. Inquiries can be directed via email to oif@ala.org (<mailto:oif@ala.org>) or via phone at (312) 280-4226.

Updated October 2021

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the *Library Bill of Rights* are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations>).

The Freedom to Read Statement

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and

librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

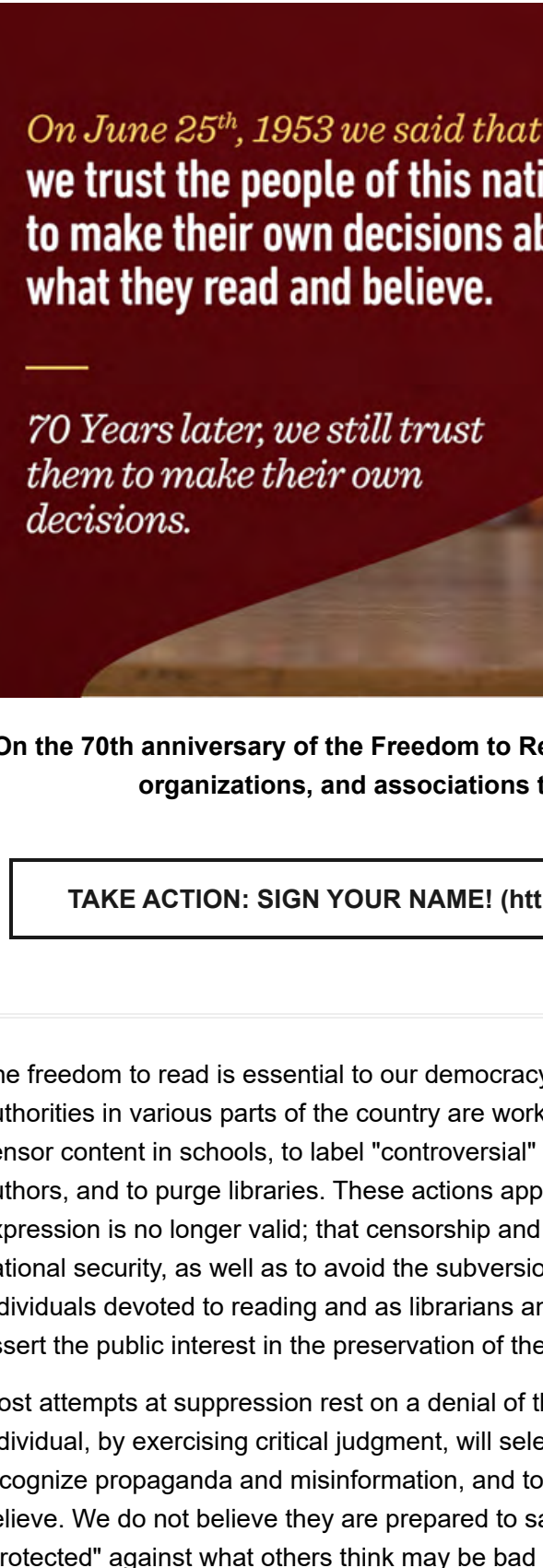
A Joint Statement by:

[American Library Association](#)
[Association of American Publishers](#)

Subsequently endorsed by:

[American Booksellers for Free Expression](#)
[The Association of American University Presses](#)
[The Children's Book Council](#)
[Freedom to Read Foundation](#)
[National Association of College Stores](#)
[National Coalition Against Censorship](#)
[National Council of Teachers of English](#)
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

The Freedom to Read Statement



On June 25th, 1953 we said that
**we trust the people of this nation
to make their own decisions about
what they read and believe.**

*70 Years later, we still trust
them to make their own
decisions.*

On the 70th anniversary of the Freedom to Read Statement, we are asking for individuals, authors, organizations, and associations to sign on to support the freedom to read.

TAKE ACTION: SIGN YOUR NAME! (<https://uniteagainstbookbans.org/freedomtoread/>)

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

- 3. It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

- 4. There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

- 5. It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

- 6. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

A Joint Statement by:

American Library Association (/)
Association of American Publishers (<http://www.publishers.org/>)

Subsequently endorsed by:

American Booksellers for Free Expression (<http://www.bookweb.org/abfe>)
The Association of American University Presses (<http://www.aaupnet.org/>)
The Children's Book Council (<http://www.cbcbooks.org/>)
Freedom to Read Foundation (<http://www.ftrf.org>)
National Association of College Stores (<http://www.nacs.org/>)
National Coalition Against Censorship (<http://www.ncac.org/>)
National Council of Teachers of English (<http://www.ncte.org/>)
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

Freedom to View Statement

The **FREEDOM TO VIEW**, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council

(/offices/oif)

Labeling Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms the rights of individuals to form their own opinions about resources they choose to read, view, listen to, or otherwise access. Libraries do not advocate the ideas found in their collections or in resources accessible through the library. The presence of books and other resources in a library does not indicate endorsement of their contents by the library. Likewise, providing access to digital information does not indicate endorsement or approval of that information by the library. Labeling systems present distinct challenges to these intellectual freedom principles.

Labels may be a library-sanctioned means of organizing resources or providing guidance to users. They may be as simple as a colored dot or strip of tape indicating reference books or fiction or as elaborate as the Dewey Decimal or Library of Congress call number systems.

Labels as viewpoint-neutral directional aids are intended to facilitate access by making it easier for users to locate resources. Users may choose to consult or ignore the directional aids at their own discretion. Viewpoint-neutral directional labels are a convenience designed to save time. These are different in intent from attempts to prejudice, discourage, or encourage users to access particular library resources or to restrict access to library resources. Labeling as an attempt to prejudice attitudes is a censor's tool. The American Library Association opposes labeling as a means of predisposing people's attitudes toward library resources.

Prejudicial labels are designed to restrict access, based on a value judgment that the content, language, or themes of the resource, or the background or views of the creator(s) of the resource, render it inappropriate or offensive for all or certain groups of users. The prejudicial label is used to warn, discourage, or prohibit users or certain groups of users from accessing the resource. Such labels sometimes are used to place materials in restricted locations where access depends on staff intervention.

Directional aids can also have the effect of prejudicial labels when their implementation becomes proscriptive rather than descriptive. When directional aids are used to forbid access or to suggest moral or doctrinal endorsement, the effect is the same as prejudicial labeling. Even well-intentioned labels may have this effect.

Prejudicial labeling systems assume that the libraries have the institutional wisdom to determine what is appropriate or inappropriate for its users to access. They presuppose that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. The American Library Association opposes the use of prejudicial labeling systems and affirms the rights of individuals to form their own opinions about resources they choose to read, view, listen to, or otherwise access.

Adopted on June 30, 2015, by ALA Council.

Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association supports equal and equitable access to all library resources and services by users of all ages. Library policies and procedures that effectively deny minors equal and equitable access to all library resources and services available to other users is in violation of the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*. The American Library Association opposes all attempts to restrict access to library services, materials, and facilities based on the age of library users.

Article V of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." The right to use a library includes free access to, and unrestricted use of, all the services, materials, and facilities the library has to offer. Every restriction on access to, and use of, library resources, based solely on the chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, emancipatory or other legal status of users violates Article V. This includes minors who do not have a parent or guardian available to sign a library card application or permission slip. Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness should be able to obtain a library card regardless of library policies related to chronological age.

School and public libraries are charged with the mission of providing services and resources to meet the diverse interests and informational needs of the communities they serve. Services, materials, and facilities that fulfill the needs and interests of library users at different stages in their personal development are a necessary part of providing library services and should be determined on an individual basis. Equitable access to all library resources and services should not be abridged based on chronological age, apparent maturity, educational level, literacy skills, legal status, or through restrictive scheduling and use policies.

Libraries should not limit the selection and development of library resources simply because minors will have access to them. A library's failure to acquire materials on the grounds that minors may be able to access those materials diminishes the credibility of the library in the community and restricts access for all library users.

Children and young adults unquestionably possess First Amendment rights, including the right to receive information through the library in print, sound, images, data, social media, online applications, games, technologies, programming, and other formats.¹ Constitutionally protected speech cannot be suppressed solely to protect children or young adults from ideas or images a legislative body believes to be unsuitable for them.² Libraries and their library governing bodies should not resort to age restrictions in an effort to avoid actual or anticipated objections, because only a court of law can determine whether or not content is constitutionally protected.

Article VII of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use." This includes students and minors, who have a right to be free from any unreasonable intrusion into or surveillance of their lawful library use.³

The mission, goals, and objectives of libraries cannot authorize libraries and their governing bodies to assume, abrogate, or overrule the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians. As “Libraries: An American Value” states, “We affirm the responsibility and the right of all parents and guardians to guide their own children’s use of the library and its resources and services.”⁴ Libraries and their governing bodies cannot assume the role of parents or the functions of parental authority in the private relationship between parent and child. Libraries and their governing bodies shall ensure that only parents and guardians have the right and the responsibility to determine their children’s—and only their children’s—access to library resources. Parents and guardians who do not want their children to have access to specific library services, materials, or facilities should so advise their own children. Libraries and library governing bodies should not use rating systems to inhibit a minor’s access to materials.⁵

Libraries and their governing bodies have a legal and professional obligation to ensure that all members of the communities they serve have free and equitable access to a diverse range of library resources and services that is inclusive, regardless of content, approach, or format. This principle of library service applies equally to all users, minors as well as adults. Lack of access to information can be harmful to minors. Libraries and their governing bodies must uphold this principle in order to provide adequate and effective service to minors.

¹ *Brown v. Entertainment Merchant’s Association, et al.* 564 U.S. 08-1448 (2011).

² *Erznoznik v. City of Jacksonville*, 422 U.S. 205 (1975): “Speech that is neither obscene as to youths nor subject to some other legitimate proscription cannot be suppressed solely to protect the young from ideas or images that a legislative body thinks unsuitable for them. In most circumstances, the values protected by the First Amendment are no less applicable when government seeks to control the flow of information to minors.” See also *Tinker v. Des Moines School Dist.*, 393 U.S.503 (1969); *West Virginia Bd. of Ed. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *AAMA v. Kendrick*, 244 F.3d 572 (7th Cir. 2001).

³ “[Privacy: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#),” adopted June 19, 2002, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 2014; and June 24, 2019.

⁴ “[Libraries: An American Value](#),” adopted on February 3, 1999, by ALA Council.

⁵ “[Rating Systems: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#),” adopted on June 30, 2015, by ALA Council; amended June 25, 2019.

Adopted June 30, 1972, by the ALA Council; amended July 1, 1981; July 3, 1991; June 30, 2004; July 2, 2008 *under previous name* "Free Access to Libraries for Minors"; July 1, 2014; and June 25, 2019.



Nevada Library Association Handbook

Board of Trustees
Appointed Officers & Standing Committees

Intellectual Freedom

HISTORY

Intellectual freedom, the right to read, and freedom of the press figured prominently in the 1962 annual meeting in Reno, and the "Committee for Intellectual Freedom" was formed that year. The Committee's and NLA's first of many Nevada legislative battles came shortly afterwards, during the 1969 Nevada legislative session. The state "harmful to minors act," dealing with showing obscenity to minors (AB70), passed despite the committee's opposition under the leadership of Thomasine Kleffen. (See NRS 201.265.) The committee's actions to defeat AB70 had the support of Hank Greenspan, editor of the Las Vegas Sun, who editorialized on the bill that "if something is to be banned, someone must ban it." As a follow-up, the 1969 annual meeting centered around the theme, *The Challenges of Intellectual Freedom*. The first record (in the NLA archives) of an association policy or statement on intellectual freedom comes from the Aug. 1, 1970 issue of Nevada Libraries.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee worked very hard during the 1970's and early 1980's on various fronts. Legislative battles were fought to improve Nevada intellectual freedom legislation, various policies were drafted and adopted by NLA supporting intellectual freedom in Nevada libraries, while education and training materials were developed for those on the "front lines." In 1975, the committee worked to defeat AB722, and then supported more positive legislation in 1977 (ACR 6), which called for an interim study of obscenity legislation. The committee actively participated in the work of the legislative study committee and in the drafting of proposed legislation that met the guidelines set by NLA. In 1977, the resulting legislation (AB143) passed, which provided a school/library exemption to the harmful to minors statute (NRS 201.237), the requirement of prior civil proceedings, incorporated the obscenity-test language of Miller v. California (NRS 201.243) and provides that the community standard be that of the area from which the jury is drawn (NRS 201.235). The April 1978 issue of High Roller was on censorship, with Martha Gould guest editor.

During the period of 1975-79, the committee drafted, published and distributed a *Form for Reconsideration of Questioned Materials*, the NLA policy on intellectual freedom was revised, and sponsored booths and presentations at the NLA conventions and the Nevada State Fairs. In 1979, AB630, an open public records bill, was defeated, and in 1981, the committee and others were successful in getting SB25 passed (NRS 239.013). That important bill exempts library circulation and use records from the open records laws of the state, and makes it a misdemeanor for librarians to tell others what books a patron has checked out.

In 1984 and 1994 the Intellectual Freedom Committee published the Intellectual Freedom Handbook as a guide for Nevada's libraries and their staff. NLA's and ALA's policies and statements on censorship and intellectual freedom are printed there. *Resolution on Access to Library Materials and Services* was proposed by the committee and adopted by NLA at the October 1994 conference in response to various book challenges and censorship attempts at the local level in both northern and southern Nevada.

The term of office of the intellectual freedom chairperson has varied over the years and is currently a two-year position appointed in even numbered years (to alternate with the government relations chair, appointed for two-years in odd numbered years).

OFFICERS

- 1962-1963, David Brunton, Nevada State Library
- 1963-1966, Herbert K. Ahn
- 1966-1967, vacant
- 1968-1969, Thomasine Kleffen, North Las Vegas Public Library
- 1970-1971, Jack Gardner
- 1971-1973, Americo Chiarito, University of Nevada, Reno
- 1974, Charles Manley, Washoe County Library
- 1975, Pauline Hayes, Elko County Library
- 1976-1979, Martha Gould, Washoe County Library
- 1979-1981, Nancy Cummings, Clark County Library District
- 1982-1983, Lamont Downs, Clark County Library District
- 1984-1986, Lynn Ossolinski, Incline High School
- 1987-1990, Jim McPhee, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- 1991-1992, Marilyn Grosshans, Las Vegas High School
- 1993, vacant
- 1994-1995, Suzy Sepahpour, Eagle Valley Junior High, Carson City
- 1996-1999, Lynn Ossolinski, Incline High School
- 2000-2014, Eva Stowers, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- 2015-2019, Katherine Rankin, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- 2020, Carrie Stewart, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

PURPOSE AND DUTIES

The committee works to create an atmosphere of intellectual freedom in Nevada. It is responsible for carrying out the basic policies of intellectual freedom embodied in the U.S. Constitution, the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*, the *Freedom to Read Statement*, and other pertinent documents.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The chairperson interprets instructions of the board of trustees to the committee.
2. The chairperson submits copy for association publications concerning information relative to the committee's work.
3. The chairperson will be prepared to address the membership at annual meetings.
4. The chairperson shall supervise the work of the committee in fulfilling its responsibilities to NLA.
5. During a legislative session the chairperson of the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the chairperson of the Government Relations Committee will cooperate closely in all legislative matters affecting the association and libraries.
6. The committee shall keep itself informed on intellectual freedom activities and issues. It should work closely with the ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee and Office of Intellectual Freedom, the Freedom to Read Foundation, other organizations, etc., and its members should read the [Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom](#) and other pertinent documents regularly. It should also follow state activities as reported in newspapers and other communications media, and to attempt to determine the true state of affairs with respect to each issue.
7. The committee will contact Nevada librarians and keep them informed of important issues by publishing articles in [Nevada Libraries](#) and/or by publishing a newsletter.
8. The committee shall support anyone, by public statement or other practical means, who requires assistance in promoting intellectual freedom or in fighting censorship. Decisions as to when or how to perform intellectual freedom or in fighting censorship. Decisions as to when or how to perform such support will be reached by agreement of at least three-fifths of the committee membership; when such an agreement cannot be reached, the chairperson may request instructions from the Board of Trustees. Members should be prepared to speak on intellectual freedom issues.
9. The committee shall work against any existing or proposed legislation which would limit intellectual freedom in library services; it should coordinate such activities with the government relations committee, and may request the assistance of that committee and of other NLA members.
10. The committee will keep the Intellectual Freedom Handbook up-to-date and request funds of NLA to see to its publishing and distribution as necessary. This Handbook contains the forms, etc. adopted by NLA.

Policies

Current official NLA policies regarding intellectual freedom are printed in the [Nevada Intellectual Freedom Handbook](#) and in this Handbook. They included:

1. *Intellectual Freedom in Libraries: A Statement of Policy* (adopted 1976)
2. *Intellectual Freedom Policy Recommendations* (adopted 1976)
3. *Intellectual Freedom Policy Resolution* (adopted 1976)
4. *Resolution on Access to Library Materials and Services* (adopted 1994)

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM IN LIBRARIES**A Statement of Policy****Nevada Library Association**

The Nevada Library Association is directly concerned with the freedom and right to privacy of all members of a democratic society to use what materials they will in the course of making the social, educational, and political judgments on which that society is based. We are further agreed that the right to privacy of library patrons is of utmost importance. Without such freedom, the very fabric of democracy is in danger. It is a professional obligation of librarians to give highest priority to the freedom of inquiry and to observe the charges in the Library Bill of Rights and the American Library Association Freedom to Read statement with the utmost integrity.

The Association, as a matter of principle, opposes any legislation at the state, local, and school district levels which might place library collections in jeopardy, restrict, prejudice, or interfere with free and unbiased selection and acquisition of library materials, or which might otherwise restrict the basic concept of the freedom of use or inquiry.

The Association, as a matter of principle and policy, opposes any proposed or actual restrictions imposed on whatever parties or individuals upon the selection, acquisition, maintenance, administration and dissemination of library materials, and with similar restrictions on cultural activities or educational programs in libraries and other institutions.

The Association is concerned with affecting liaison between itself and other organizations which support the Freedom to Read.

The Association is concerned with school librarians and the general public to the philosophy inherent in the Library Bill of Rights and the American Library Association Freedom to Read statement.

The Association supports the concept of the library user's right to privacy, and maintains, as a vital principle, that official or unofficial surveillance, without due process, of library circulation records represents a violation of intellectual freedom and the traditional right of free inquiry.

Adopted 1976

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**Nevada Library Association**

The freedom to communicate is a necessary function of a democracy and no institution makes this freedom more meaningful than the library. The library has the responsibility for providing the widest possible range of views and expressions and must, therefore, resist any attempts to restrict this responsibility.

To fulfill this responsibility, libraries must institute policies to implement it, and thus the Nevada Library Association recommends to members and all library bodies that they:

- I. Adopt the ALA Bill of Rights, the School Library Bill of Rights, and the Freedom to Read statements as official basic policies for insuring freedom of access to information and libraries.
- II. Formulate and use explicit, written criteria for selecting library materials.
- III. Establish a clearly defined procedure for handling complaints, specifying what authority will make the final decision, i.e., Librarian, Library Board or a duly constituted committee appointed by the governing body.
- IV. Authorize the Intellectual Freedom Committee to examine and make recommendations on existing and proposed legislation at all political levels, so such legislators will recognize the responsibilities of the library as a media of communication.
- V. Obtain all complaints in writing and forward copies to the Chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee and keep the committee apprised of all developments relating to any complaints.
- VI. Inform the Intellectual Freedom Committee of any attempts, successful or not, by individuals or groups, or administrative authority to restrict the selection or acquisition of materials in libraries or administrative practices of librarians.

Adopted 1976

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM POLICY RESOLUTION

Nevada Library Association'

Whereas, the Freedom to communicate is a necessary function of a democracy, and no institution makes this freedom more meaningful than the library, and

Whereas, the Library has the responsibility for providing the widest possible and must, therefore, resist any attempts to restrict this responsibility,

Therefore: be it resolved that the Nevada Library Association reaffirms, as a matter of principle, its adoption of the American Library Association Bill of Rights, the School Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read statements as official policies for assuring freedom of access to information for and in libraries.

Adopted 1976

RESOLUTION ON ACCESS TO LIBRARY MATERIALS AND SERVICES

Nevada Library Association

WHEREAS, Libraries have the important mission of protecting the right of free speech by making the widest diversity of views and modes of expression available to everyone.

WHEREAS, Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues, and should not proscribe or remove materials because of personal, partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

WHEREAS, Libraries should provide the best information and materials on various subjects and literature in response to what is in demand, and to make them freely available so that people may make their own choices.

WHEREAS, Libraries enable citizens to make intelligent decisions based on information on all sides of a question - including minority, as well as popular points of view.

WHEREAS, Libraries serve the entire community, with all its social, political, economic, religious and cultural diversities and alternative lifestyles.

WHEREAS, Libraries provide books and other materials, programs, and services for the interest and enlightenment of people of all ages.

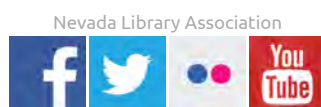
WHEREAS, Libraries should not restrict access to library resources to avoid objections from parents or pressure groups.

WHEREAS, Parents, and only parents, have the right and the responsibility to restrict access of their children, and no others, to library resources.

RESOLVED, That the Nevada Library Association defends citizens' rights to free access to library collections and services and opposes all attempts by pressure groups or individuals to limit access to the full range of library materials, programs or services.

RESOLVED, That the Nevada Library Association defends intellectual freedom and opposes censorship or discrimination against any group or segment of society.

Adopted 1994





INTERLIBRARY LOAN POLICY

Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services are based on mutual relationships between U.S. libraries and are governed by the American Library Association's National Interlibrary Loan Code for the United States.

Library materials may be requested within the scope of Washoe County Library System's ILL procedures. The supplying library determines whether the material can be provided and may charge a fee, which is the responsibility of the borrower.

Supplying institutions set fees and charges for items not returned or returned damaged, which will be assessed to the individual borrower.

APPROVED: June 16, 1999
REVISED: January 15, 2014

2023-2024 Q1 Donation List

We receive monetary and in-kind donations throughout the year that assist in providing services and materials. These donations are greatly appreciated by the Library Board of Trustees, staff, and the public. The list includes the names of donors from July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023.

Cash Donations: \$11,606.58

**Better World Books – For as needed \$226.58
DLM Painting – (IV) For as needed \$50.00
Lisa Davis & Deepa Lele – For (SS) as needed \$200.00
Friends Of Washoe County Library – (SP) Senior Tech Program \$10,000.00
Friends of Washoe County Library – For Children’s Reading Program \$500.00
Friends of Washoe County Library – For the purchase of E-Books \$50.00
Joshua M. Glantz – For as needed systemwide \$30.00
Alec Holland – for as needed systemwide \$300.00
Reno Fiber Guild – (SO) For as needed \$200.00
Sy Thompson – For (SO) library as needed \$50.00**

We strive to ensure that our donors and supporters are recognized accurately. If we have inaccurately not listed you, or if a mistake has been made, please let us know so we can correct it. Thank you!

2023-2024 Q1 Monthly Gift Totals

ACCOUNT	BALANCE											
	.Jul-23	.Aug-23	.Sept-23	.Oct-23	.Nov-23	.Dec-23	.Jan-24	.Feb-24	.Mar-24	.Apr-24	.May-24	.Jun-24
GADMINBAGS	\$ 2,359.50	\$ 2,359.50	\$ 2,359.50									
GCCERWIN	\$ 912.72	\$ 912.72	\$ 912.72									
GDTBERKBIGLER	\$ 885.25	\$ 885.25	\$ 885.25									
GIVROSENBERG	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00									
GNVHYDRATE	-	\$ -	\$ -									
GNVWEBER	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00									
GNWFOLGAL	\$ 60.58	\$ 60.58	\$ 60.58									
GRNBENNETT	\$ 3,039.91	\$ 3,039.91	\$ 3,039.91									
GSOFOLGAL	\$ 486.79	\$ 486.79	\$ 486.79									
GSOSTEAM	\$ 3,219.73	\$ 3,021.73	\$ 3,021.73									
GSSHARTUNG	-	\$ -	\$ -									
GSSKERMOADE	-	\$ -	\$ -									
GSSSTEAM	-	\$ -	\$ -									
GSYSBEATE	\$ 2,552.81	\$ 2,552.81	\$ 2,552.81									
GSYSDIST3	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00									
GSYSFOL001	-	\$ -	\$ -									
GSYSHEADPHONES	\$ 2,996.87	\$ 2,908.22	\$ 2,908.22									
GSYSFOLHOLD	\$ 728.39	\$ 728.39	\$ 728.39									
GSYSINT	\$ 32,017.25	\$ 32,506.01	\$ 33,014.20									
GSYSMKT	\$ 4,952.38	\$ 36.76	\$ 36.76									
GSYSREADCAMPAIGN	\$ 18,381.94	\$ 18,381.94	\$ 18,381.94									
GSYSTACCHINO	-	-	-									
GSYSFRIENDSTECH	\$ 64,264.89	\$ 62,361.23	\$ 60,195.48									
GSYSTRAIN	\$ 6,748.18	\$ 6,748.18	\$ 6,639.14									
GSYSWHYMAN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
GIFT	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,898.02	\$ 1,898.02									
GAUBERT	\$ 125.24	\$ 125.24	\$ 125.24									
GIVSMALLWOOD	\$ 3,502.05	\$ 3,502.05	\$ 3,502.05									
GMAGS	-	-	-									
GNWHOLOCAUST1	\$1,901.86	\$1,501.86	\$865.38									
GADMIN1	\$ 6,115.05	\$ 6,215.05	\$ 6,315.05									
GDUNCAN1	\$ 447.51	\$ 447.51	\$ 447.51									
GINCLINE1	\$ 3,612.60	\$ 3,521.63	\$ 3,558.37									
GNVALLEY1	\$ 824.26	\$ 919.26	\$ 1,025.76									
GNORTHWEST1	\$ 23,339.73	\$ 22,911.46	\$ 20,379.31									
GRENO1	\$ 17,162.85	\$ 17,229.60	\$ 17,205.49									
GSENIOR1	\$ 105,278.10	\$ 105,278.10	\$ 105,283.10									
GSPARKS1	\$ 21,124.72	\$ 20,789.16	\$ 20,983.66									
GSPRINGS1	\$ 20,745.24	\$ 21,546.70	\$ 21,864.79									
GSVALLEYS1	\$ 15,219.33	\$ 15,471.72	\$ 15,685.81									
GSVIEW1	\$ 6,097.00	\$ 5,961.36	\$ 5,748.84									
GSYSREAD	\$ 1,557.31	\$ 1,557.31	\$ 1,557.31									
GSYSTEMS1	\$ 136.44	\$ 136.44	\$ 136.44									
GTECH1	\$ 61.11	\$ 61.11	\$ 61.11									
GVERDI1	\$ 354.22	\$ 354.22	\$ 354.22									
TOTALS:	\$ 375,811.81	\$368,817.82	\$364,620.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

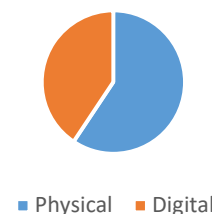
Stimulate Imagination

Checkouts

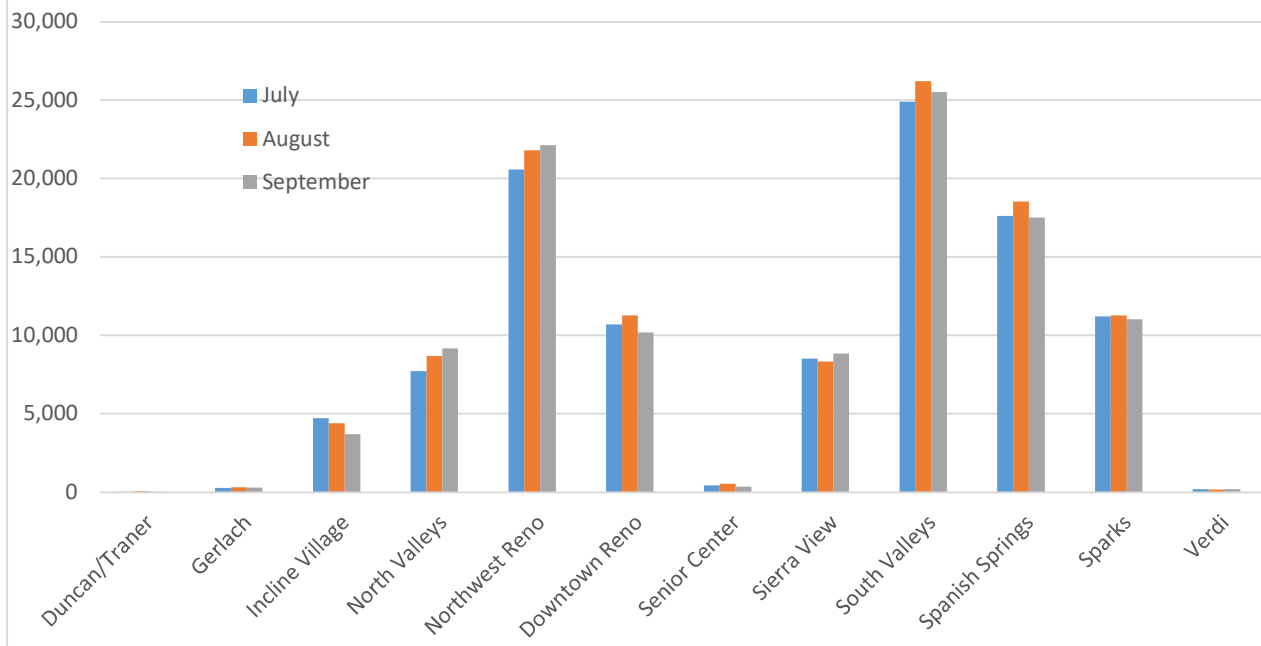
	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	33	60	24	117
Gerlach	268	305	288	861
Incline Village	4,719	4,385	3,700	12,804
North Valleys	7,714	8,677	9,175	25,566
Northwest Reno	20,571	21,799	22,123	64,493
Downtown Reno	10,706	11,272	10,186	32,164
Senior Center	429	542	360	1,331
Sierra View	8,506	8,323	8,836	25,665
South Valleys	24,915	26,220	25,511	76,646
Spanish Springs	17,613	18,530	17,524	53,667
Sparks	11,201	11,273	11,028	33,502
Verdi	186	164	182	532
Total	106,861	111,550	108,937	327,348

Physical	107,076	111,688	109,060	327,824
Digital	73,261	74,208	74,633	444,204

Physical versus digital
Check Outs



Check Outs by Branch



New Card Registrations	
July	2,730
August	4,843
September	2,903
Total	10,476

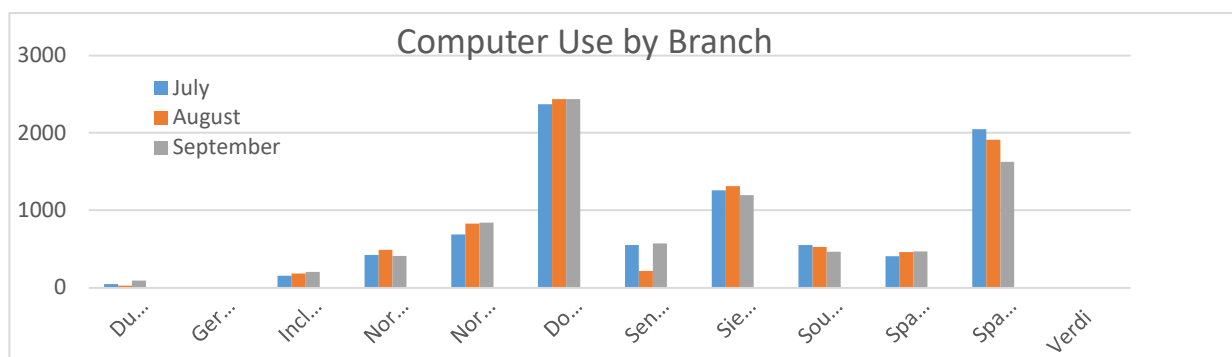
	July	August	September	Total
Kiosk	180	97	87	364
Bookmobile	0	0	0	0
Homebound	35	41	36	112
Total	215	138	123	476

Welcoming Spaces

	Gate Count				Reference			
	July	August	September	Total	July	August	Sept	Total
Duncan/Traner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	8,260	8,760	6,596	23,616	1,479	1,284	1,230	3,993
North Valleys	3,229	3,382	3,382	9,993	648	615	597	1,860
Northwest Reno	5,239	6,976	6,962	19,177	571	480	536	1,587
Downtown Reno	7,594	10,074	9,053	26,721	1,217	1,195	1,150	3,562
Senior Center	0	0	0	0	132	62	152	346
Sierra View	0	0	0	0	501	471	433	1,405
South Valleys	14,712	15,210	13,686	43,608	650	864	688	2,202
Spanish Springs	7,014	6,674	5,802	19,490	459	532	642	1,633
Sparks	10,707	9,346	8,462	28,515	167	89	405	661
Verdi	89	198	314	601	10	11	11	32
Total	56,844	60,620	54,257	171,721	5,834	5,603	5,844	17,281

NOTE: Some branches do not reflect a gate count due to a technology issue that is being corrected.

	WiFi				Computer Use			
	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	299	114	86	499	45	27	93	165
Gerlach	58	87	72	217	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	1,306	1,265	1,092	3,663	152	181	205	538
North Valleys	654	781	818	2,253	423	489	410	1,322
Northwest Reno	1,640	1,897	1,794	5,331	688	826	840	2,354
Downtown Reno	3,151	3,718	3,632	10,501	2,369	2,436	2,435	7,240
Senior Center	786	844	767	2,397	551	217	573	1,341
Sierra View	1,550	1,755	1,500	4,805	1,256	1,313	1,194	3,763
South Valleys	2,769	3,040	2,968	8,777	551	526	462	1,539
Spanish Springs	1,696	1,497	1,571	4,764	405	461	468	1,334
Sparks	2,670	2,651	2,472	7,793	2,046	1,910	1,624	5,580
Verdi	93	124	142	359	0	0	0	0
Total	16,672	17,773	16,914	51,359	8,486	8,386	8,304	25,176



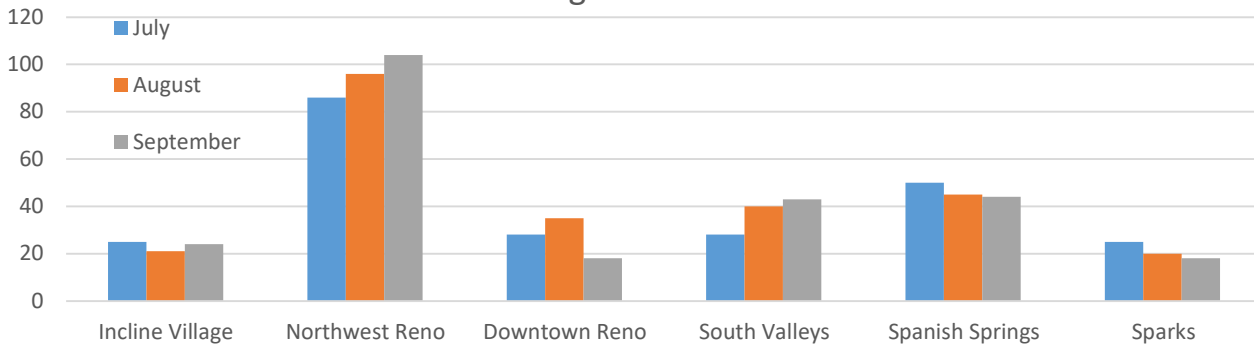
Workforce Development

Meeting Rooms: Number of Uses

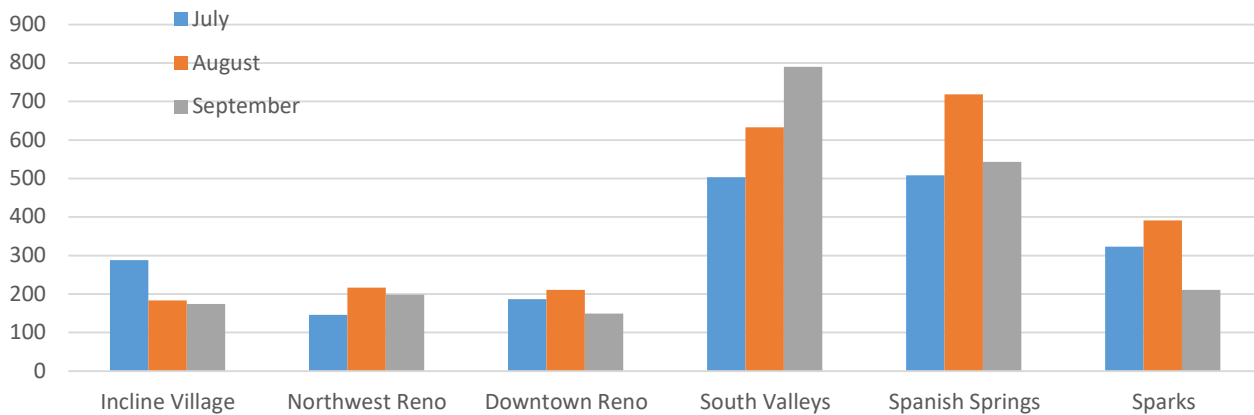
Meeting Rooms: Number of People

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Incline Village	25	21	24	70	288	183	174	645
Northwest Reno	86	96	104	286	146	217	198	561
Downtown Reno	28	35	18	81	187	211	149	547
South Valleys	28	40	43	111	503	633	790	1,926
Spanish Springs	50	45	44	139	508	719	543	1,770
Sparks	25	20	18	63	323	391	211	925
Total	242	257	251	750	1,955	2,354	2,065	6,374

Meeting Room Uses



Meeting Room Attendance

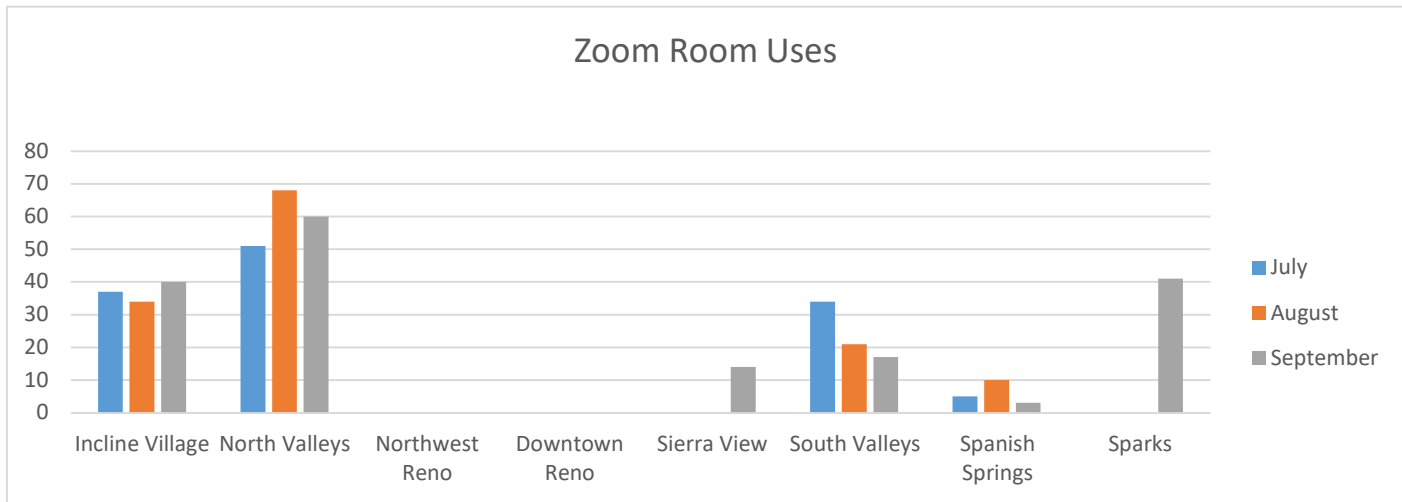


Zoom Rooms: Number of Uses

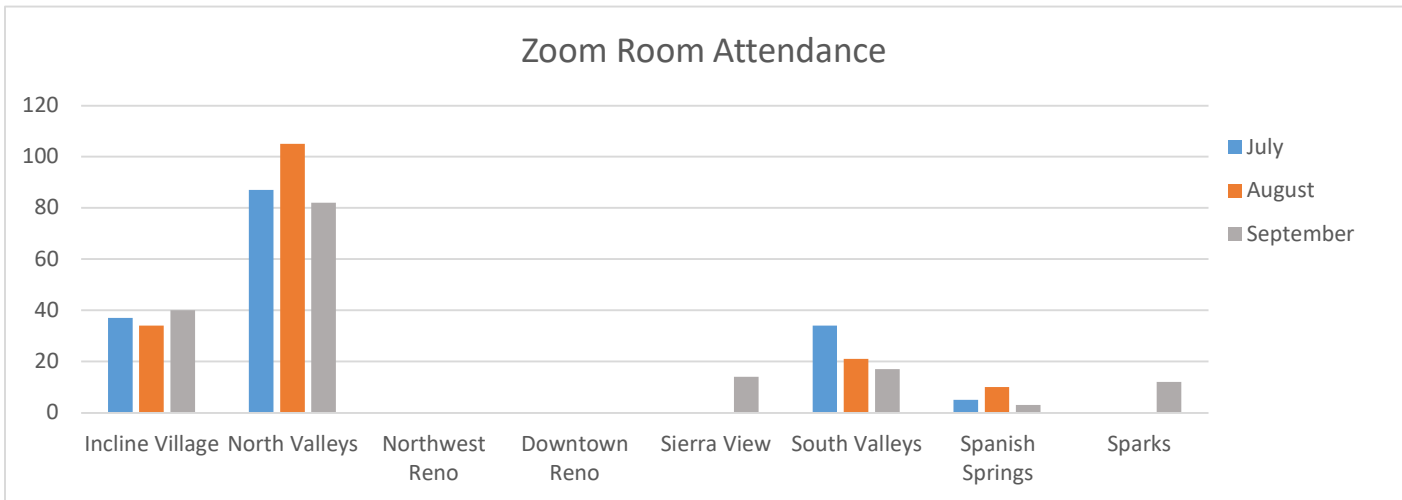
Zoom Rooms: Number of People

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Incline Village	37	34	40	111	37	34	40	111
North Valleys	51	68	60	179	87	105	82	274
Northwest Reno	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Downtown Reno	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sierra View	0	0	14	14	0	0	14	14
South Valleys	34	21	17	72	34	21	17	72
Spanish Springs	5	10	3	18	5	10	3	18
Sparks	0	0	41	41	0	0	12	12
Total	127	133	175	435	163	170	168	501

Zoom Room Uses



Zoom Room Attendance



NOTE: usage reporting guidelines are still in development for the new Zoom Room services, and data may be inconsistent. Some branches' usage is included with meeting rooms, on the previous page.

School Support

Number of Youth Outreaches

Youth Outreach Attendance

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Valleys	1	0	2	3	135	0	57	192
Northwest Reno	0	1	0	1	0	25	0	25
Downtown Reno	0	0	1	1	0	0	100	100
Senior Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sierra View	0	0	1	1	0	0	26	26
South Valleys	0	1	0	1	0	49	0	49
Spanish Springs	0	5	3	8	0	354	284	638
Sparks	0	1	3	4	0	120	190	310
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	8	10	19	135	548	657	1,340

In-Person Youth Programs

In-Person Youth Program Attendance

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	24	18	17	59	285	349	272	906
North Valleys	22	21	16	59	347	470	278	1,095
Northwest Reno	29	27	31	87	540	579	610	1,729
Downtown Reno	48	31	18	97	355	196	48	599
Senior Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sierra View	26	25	29	80	285	379	221	885
South Valleys	27	27	19	73	942	828	617	2,387
Spanish Springs	43	45	4	92	923	1,153	0	2,076
Sparks	41	36	27	104	739	312	212	1,263
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	261	231	162	654	4,416	4,266	2,258	10,940

Virtual Youth Programs

Virtual Youth Program Attendance

July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
2	2	2	6	4	8	12	24

Lifelong Learning

Number of Adult Outreaches

Adult Outreach Attendance

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Valleys	1	0	1	2	824	0	18	842
Northwest Reno	0	1	0	1	0	45	0	45
Downtown Reno	1	0	0	1	35	0	0	35
Senior Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sierra View	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Valleys	0	0	1	1	0	0	81	81
Spanish Springs	0	0	3	3	0	0	19	19
Sparks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	1	5	8	859	45	118	1,022

In-Person Adult Programs

In-Person Adult Program Attendance

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	10	11	21	42	14	10	32	56
North Valleys	6	4	3	13	56	51	31	138
Northwest Reno	6	2	2	10	210	22	52	284
Downtown Reno	16	20	20	56	114	95	39	248
Senior Center	4	4	5	13	4	4	4	12
Sierra View	29	37	46	112	59	68	218	345
South Valleys	6	13	33	52	48	68	99	215
Spanish Springs	2	2	0	4	11	12	0	23
Sparks	22	18	31	71	79	56	131	266
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	102	111	161	374	595	386	606	1,587

Virtual Adult Programs

Virtual Adult Program Attendance

July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
2	1	1	4	64	52	29	145

Celebrate Diversity

In-Person Youth Programs

In-Person Youth Program Attendance

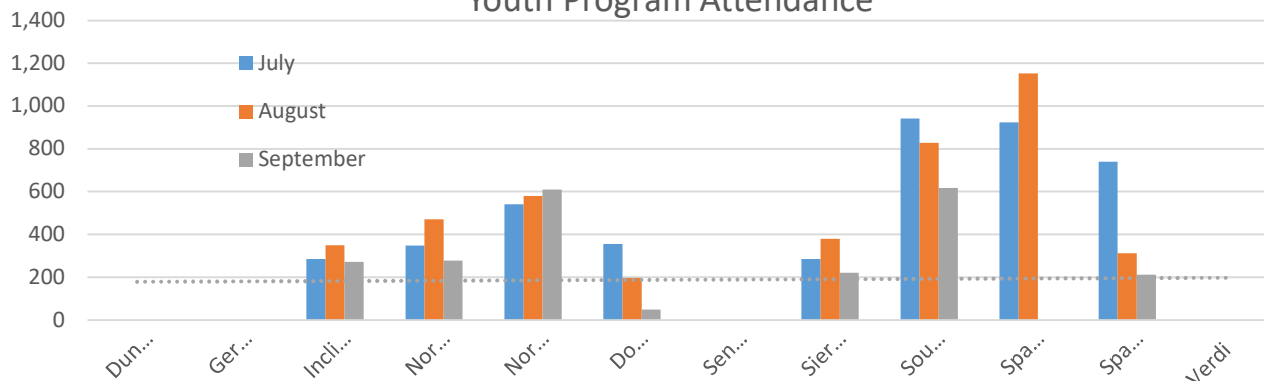
	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	24	18	17	59	285	349	272	906
North Valleys	22	21	16	59	347	470	278	1,095
Northwest Reno	29	27	31	87	540	579	610	1,729
Downtown Reno	48	31	18	97	355	196	48	599
Senior Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sierra View	26	25	29	80	285	379	221	885
South Valleys	27	27	19	73	942	828	617	2,387
Spanish Springs	43	45	4	92	923	1,153	0	2,076
Sparks	41	36	27	104	739	312	212	1,263
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	261	231	162	654	4,416	4,266	2,258	10,940

In-Person Adult Programs

In-Person Adult Program Attendance

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Duncan/Traner	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gerlach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incline Village	10	11	21	42	14	10	32	56
North Valleys	6	4	3	13	56	51	31	138
Northwest Reno	6	2	2	10	210	22	52	284
Downtown Reno	16	20	20	56	114	95	39	248
Senior Center	4	4	5	13	4	4	4	12
Sierra View	29	37	46	112	59	68	218	345
South Valleys	6	13	33	52	48	68	99	215
Spanish Springs	2	2	0	4	11	12	0	23
Sparks	22	18	31	71	79	56	131	266
Verdi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	102	111	161	374	595	386	606	1,587

Youth Program Attendance



Promote the Library

Email Communication

Total Recipients

July	August	September	Total
73805	91042	91692	256539

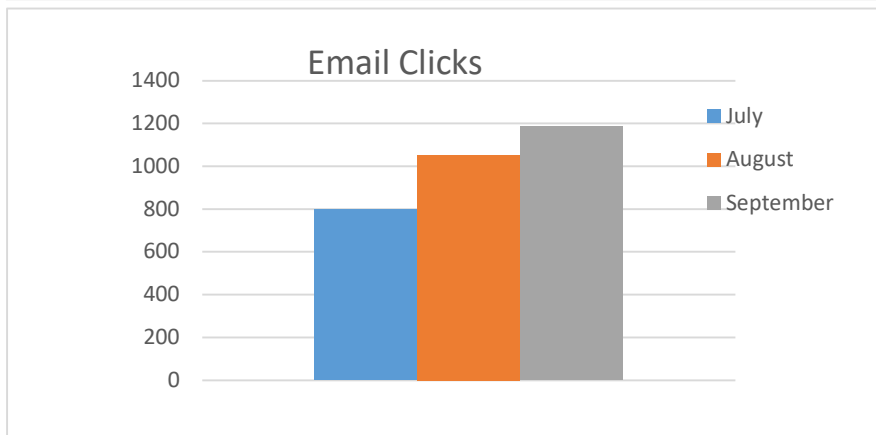
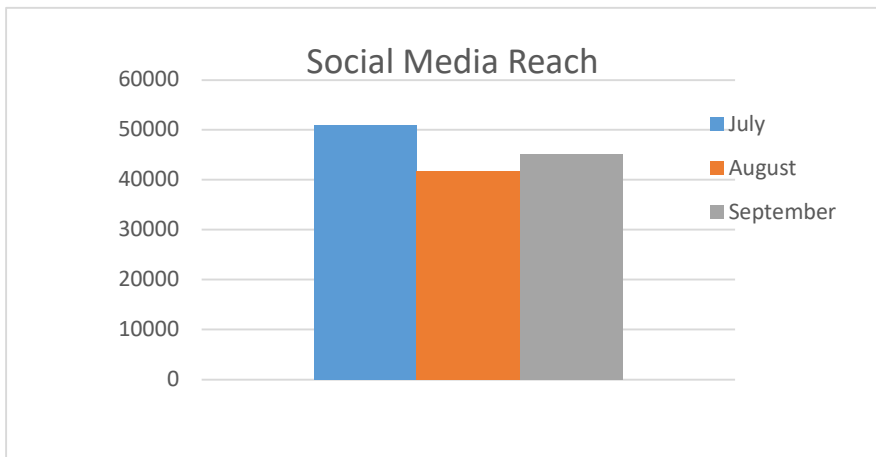
Opens

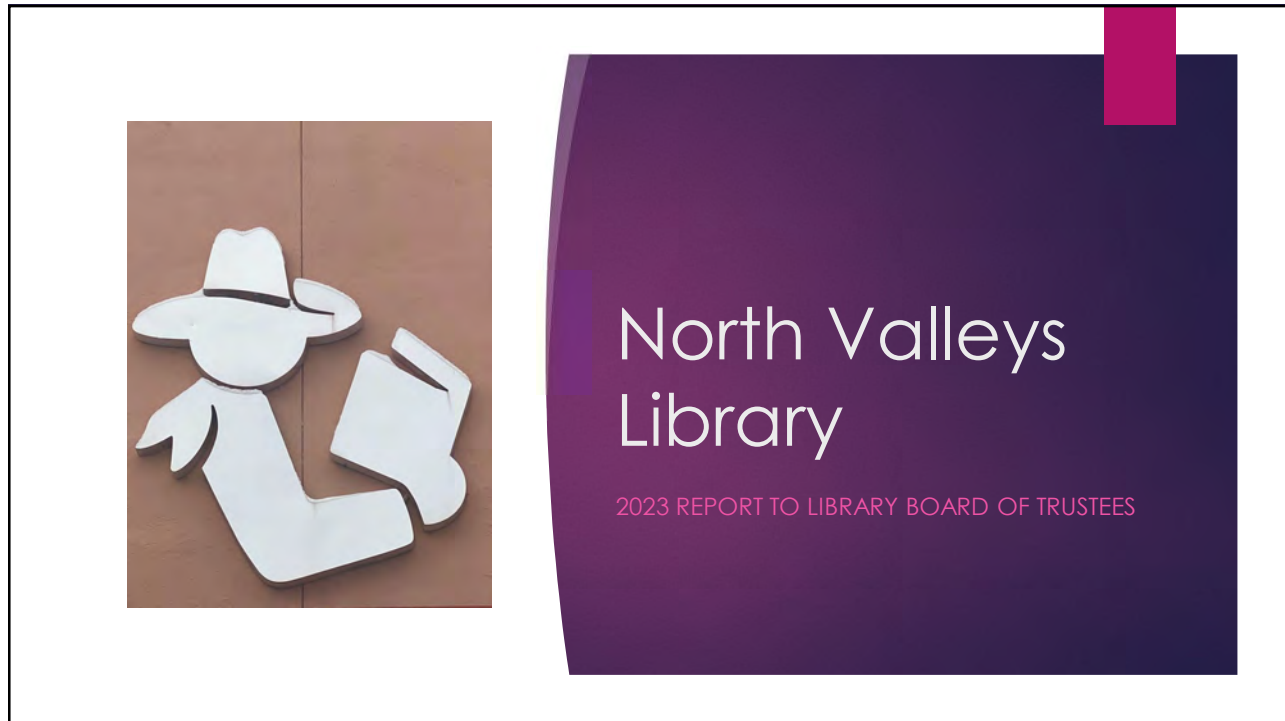
Click Through

	July	August	September	Total	July	August	September	Total
Weekly Newsletter	26941	27393	34571	88905	597	863	1011	2471
Incline Village Newsletter	217	214	231	662	8	7	20	35
Email Blasts	711	7590	1333	9634	193	182	155	530
Total	27869	35197	36135	99201	798	1052	1186	3036

Social Media Reach

	July	August	September	Total
Facebook	31099	31640	18536	81275
Twitter	17300	8209	22500	48009
Instagram	2491	1877	4142	8510
Total	50890	41726	45178	137794

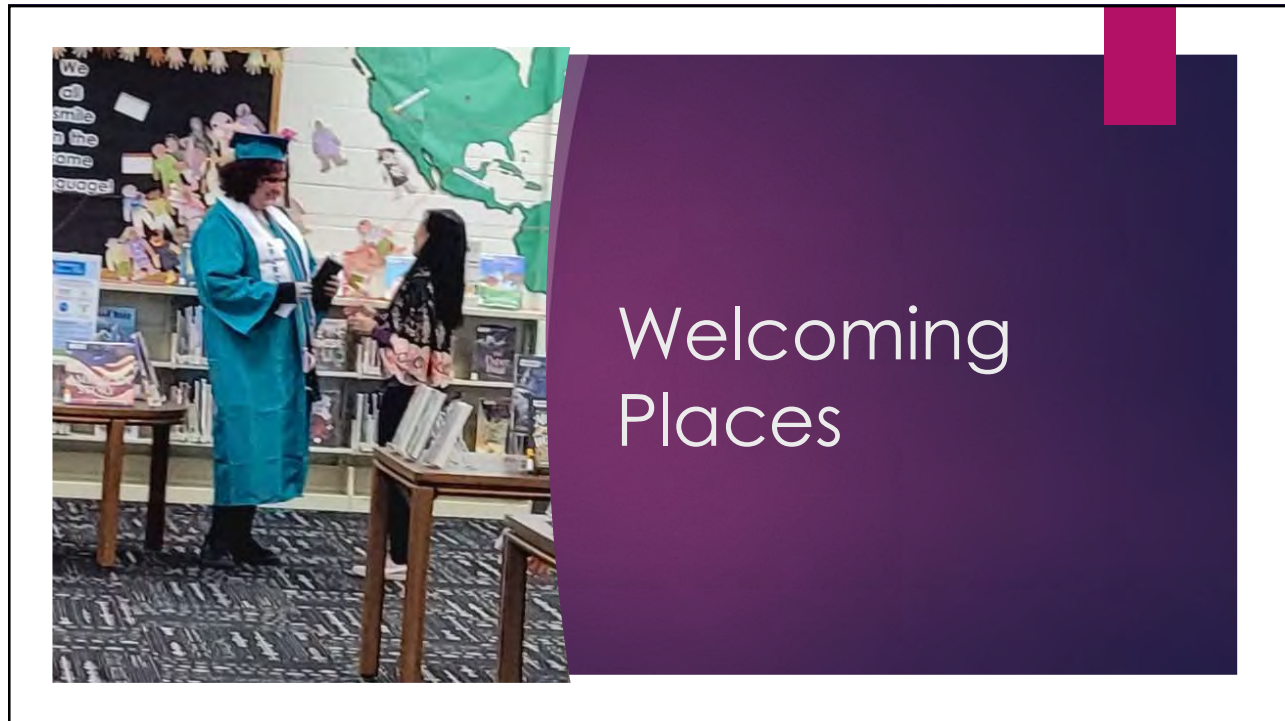




1



2



3


New Team Members

- ▶ Welcome:
 - ▶ Pam Larsen, Librarian I
 - ▶ Stephanie, Library Aide
 - ▶ Nicole, Library Aide
 - ▶ Bailey, Library Assistant II

4

New Services

- ▶ Library To Go
 - ▶ 24/7 kiosk
 - ▶ Sun Valley
 - ▶ Installed May 25, 2023
- ▶ Daily
 - ▶ Cold Springs Family Center
 - ▶ Installed Nov. 7, 2023




SUN VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER
115 W. 6th Ave.


5

New Services

ZOOM ROOM



6




New Services

LEGAL KIOSK BY NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES

7

Popular Events

- ▶ Welcome Blanket Project
- ▶ <https://www.welcomeblanket.org/>
- ▶ <https://www.unr.edu/nic>
- ▶ Learn to crochet, knit and sew



8

Popular Services

- ▶ STEAM manipulatives
- ▶ Bonding and learning



9

Popular Events

- ▶ Crafternoon



10



POPULAR EVENTS

FIND THE YETI, ESCAPE ROOM

11



POPULAR EVENTS

GODFATHER THEMED ESCAPE ROOM!

12



POPULAR EVENTS

ESCAPE THE '70S!


13

Mystery Sleuths Book Club

Wednesday 09.13.23

5:45 - 6:45 pm

Meets on the second
Wednesday of the month



Popular Events

14



Popular Events

▶ Bingo Nite!

15




Popular Events

HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE WASHOE PEOPLES

16

POPULAR EVENTS


- ▶ Imagine It, Sew It, Make It, Show It!
 - ▶ Sewing Camp



17

POPULAR EVENTS

- ▶ Imagine It, Sew It, Make it, Show It!
 - ▶ Sewing Camp Runway Show



18



Popular Events

UNDERSTANDING SYSTEMIC RACISM WITH PROFESSOR GRETA DE JONG

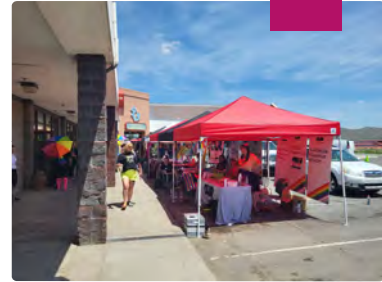
19



Popular Events

- ▶ Yangqin of Melody of China
- ▶ Support from Pioneer Center Youth Events Series

20



RainbowFest with Our Center, Reno

21



Popular Events

RETRO VIDEO GAME NIGHT

22



POPULAR EVENTS

TAKE YOUR GRANDPARENTS TO STORYTIME

23



EXCITING OUTREACH Santa Fly-In with Reno-Stead Airport

24




EXCITING OUTREACH

- ▶ Sun Valley PreK Head Start
- ▶ Summer school visits

25

Exciting Outreach

- ▶ Back to school nights
- ▶ Classroom visits



THANK YOU!
Dear Mrs. Larsen,
I appreciate how you shared to us about your past and how you got older and read better I also love the stories you read to us.
Sincerely,
[signature]

26



EXCITING OUTREACH

WORLD REFUGEE DAY WITH NORTHERN NEVADA INTERNATIONAL CENTER

27



EXCITING OUTREACH

- ▶ Halloween Trunk or Treat with City of Reno

28



Exciting Outreach

▶ STEAM with Sierra Nevada Job Corps

29

What's Next?



30

On the Shelf: Increasing Community Awareness through Radio



Melisa Garcia

Sierra View Librarian

Becca Reed

Technical Services Librarian

Jennifer Cole

South Valleys Librarian



Melisa, her son, and Noah Glick

Introduction

History of partnership between KUNR and
the Washoe County Library System

- Partnership initiated in February 2021 in response to COVID
- On the Kids' Shelf segments began airing in June 2021
- On the Shelf segments began in July 2021

Why do segments?

- Reader's advisory and book promotion
- Strategic Plan 2022-2025
 - Stimulate Imagination, Promote the Library, School Support, Lifelong Learning, and Celebrate our Diverse Community



Presentation title

3

KUNR Producers

Noah Glick, now with *Sierra Nevada Ally*

Michele Ravera, On-Air Host & Content Producer

- Works with staff to record their segments
- Provides feedback and coaching
- Edits and produces segments with music and sound effects



Michele Ravera and Jennifer Cole

Michele Ravera KUNR



5

Segments



Contributor, Melissa
recording a segment with her
grandson

How long are the segments?

- Two minutes of airtime
- Approximately 300 written words

How many people hear them?

- An estimated 65,000 people listen to KUNR per week
- 88.7 FM and affiliated translators
- Listening area includes Elko and Eureka as well as Susanville and Bishop, both in CA

6

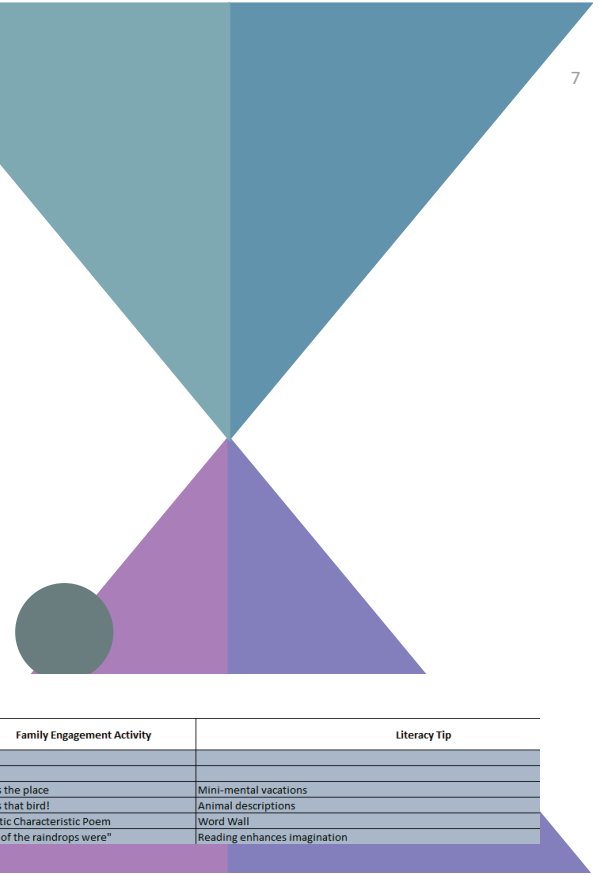
On The Kids' Shelf

Segments air on Tuesdays at 6:42 am, 8:42 am, and 3:48 pm.

We currently have 10 staff members creating Kids content.

Segments target at a family audience and feature:

- Book suggestion
 - Picture Books, Early Readers, Juvenile Non-Fiction, and Juvenile Fiction
- Family engagement/interactive component
 - Song, rhyme, riddles, games, etc.
- An early literacy tip or learning extension



Second Quarter Deadline:

Scripts due to Sharepoint by April 1, 2023; Recordings Completed by May 1, 2023

Recording Date	Staff Name/Branch	Book Title	Author	Publisher	Family Engagement Activity	Literacy Tip
5/1/2023	Jackie/IV	Oliver	John Taesoo Kim	Page Street Kids		
5/1/2023	Jackie/IV	Usha and the Big Digger	Amitha Jagannath Knight	Charlesbridge		
5/1/2023	Russell/IV	Vampire Vacation	Laura Lavoie	Viking	Guess the place	Mini-mental vacations
5/1/2023	Russell/IV	Elwood Bigfoot : wanted : birdie friends!	Jill Esbaum	Sterling Children's Books	Guess that bird!	Animal descriptions
5/16/2023	Samantha/SV	Acorn was a Little Wild	Jen Arena	Simon & Schuster	Acrostic Characteristic Poem	Word Wall
5/16/2023	Samantha/SV	Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs	Judi Barrett	Simon & Schuster	"If all of the raindrops were"	Reading enhances imagination

Lysa's On the Kids' Shelf Segment

*Eyes that Kiss in the
Corners*
by Joanna Ho



[On the Kids' Shelf Aspen List](#)
[On the Kids' Shelf Segments](#)




On the Shelf segment picks

On the Shelf segments

On the Shelf

Segments air on Mondays
at 6:42 am, 8:42 am, and 3:48 pm



On the Shelf

Segments feature:

- Three to four reading suggestions focused on book news, genres, themes, audiobooks, resources. or hot topics
- Most segments feature a corresponding reading list
- Segments are promoted via social media posts
- Scripts and segment recordings are posted to the library website



Jennifer's On the Shelf Segment

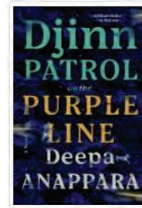
Edgar Award Winners



Bluebird, Bluebird by Attica Locke



Before the Fall by Noah Hawley



Djinn Patrol and the Purple Line by Deepa Anappara

Getting Started

- Started small and grew
- Turned into an opportunity for staff
- Created recorded training
- There are 11 contributing staff members throughout the system



Contributor, Christine



Positive Experience

- Learning about radio and production process
- Growing presenting skills and confidence
- Having fun at work
- Opportunity to connect with patrons

Presentation title

13

Getting Organized

- Contributors sign up for KUNR segments on the calendar
- Contributors create drafts of their segments featuring materials from the library collection
- Drafts are reviewed by KUNR Lead Librarians
- Schedule with KUNR Calendly
- Monthly meeting

	Holiday	Theme	Slot
2023		New Year's Day, Autism Awareness Month, Tolkien birthday (1/3)	
2023			Theme/ge
2023	MLK		Theme
2023			Theme/ge
2023			Theme/ge

/2023		Black History Month, American Heart Month, Groundhog Day, Darwin Day, President's Day	Book New:
3/2023			Theme/ge
0/2023	Pres. Day		Theme/ge
/2023			Theme

2023		National Women's History Month, Dr. Seuss Day, Pi Day, Ides of March, St. Patrick's Day	Book New:
2023			Genre
2023			Theme/ge
2023			Theme

Social media promotion

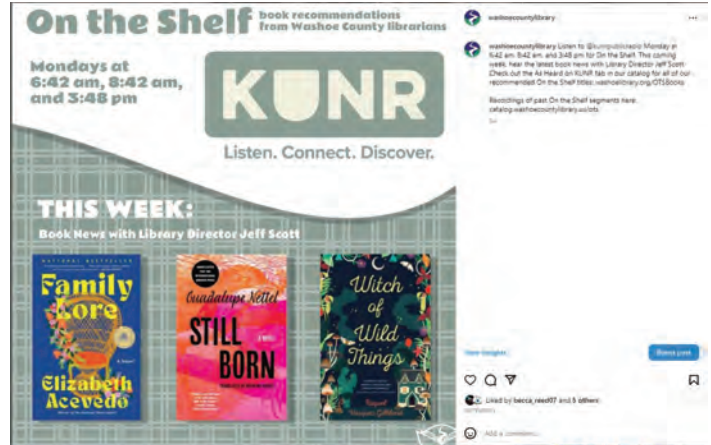
Washoe County Library
1d · 🌐

Listen to KUNR Public Radio's "On the Shelf" Monday at 6:42 am, 8:42 am, and 3:48 pm and catch Christine sharing her favorite fiction featuring Hollywood and the film industry. Find the list in our catalog under the #WhatToRead tab: washoelibrary.org/3EMfZp.

Recordings of past On the Shelf segments here: catalog.washoecountylibrary.us/ots



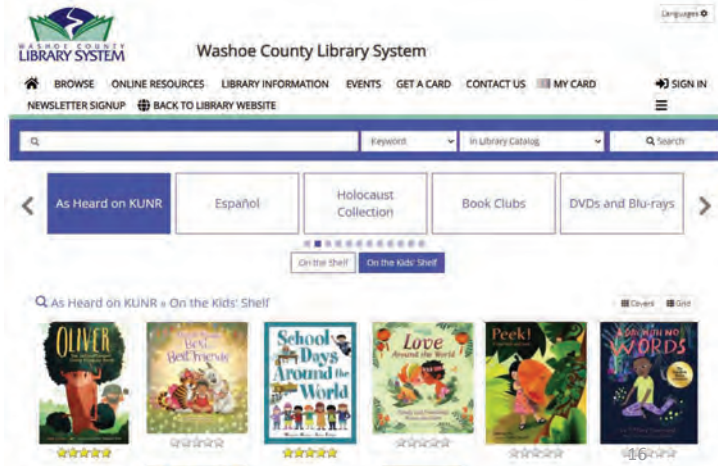
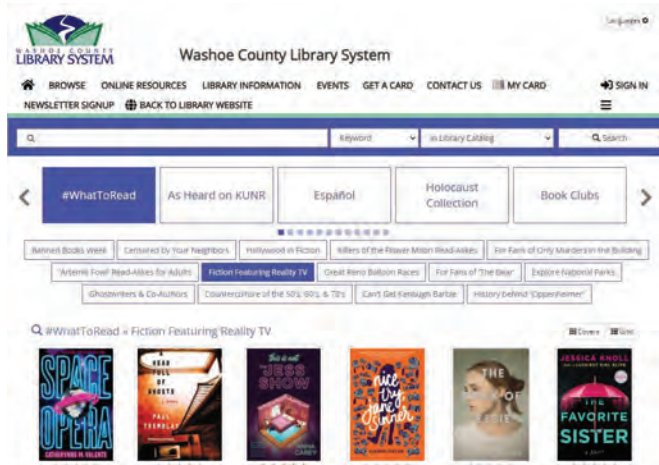
- Posts are scheduled for Sunday mornings prior to segments airing
- KUNR is tagged in each post and links to past segments are included
- On three active platforms (Facebook, Instagram, X)



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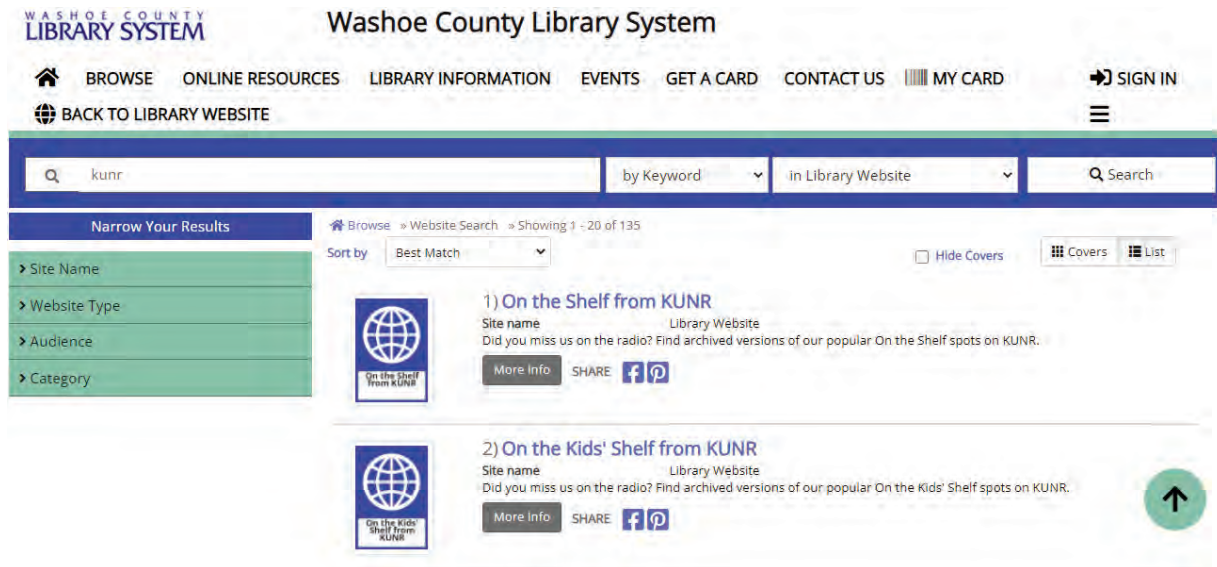
Library catalog promotion

- Contributor-created lists are promoted under our #WhatToRead tab
- These lists have at least 20 related titles
- As Heard on KUNR tab has chronological running lists for both segments



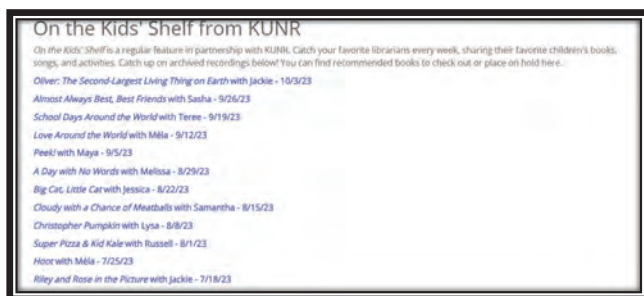
Where can you find aired segments and lists?

Search the Library Website to find previous segments and Readers' Advisory lists.



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Full segment archives



• A full lists of all previous segments can be found on our website

• Clicking the links opens a window with the sound file, book cover, catalog link for the title, and full transcript for accessibility

[On the Shelf segment archive](#)

[On the Kids' Shelf segment archive](#)



Social Media and Website Impressions & Engagement

Platform	Impressions	Engagement
X (Twitter)	14,454	256
Facebook	26,935	8,559
Instagram	16,340	880

- Unpaid/unpromoted posts
- Increase in holds/circulation including older titles
- Positive patron comments
- "As Heard on KUNR" browsing category clicks = 30/week avg

Russel's On the Kids' Shelf Segment

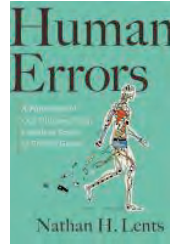
Super Pizza and Kid Kale
by Phaea Crede



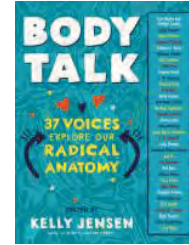
Jessica's On the Shelf Segment



Dark Archives by Megan Rosenbloom



Human Errors by Nathan H. Lent



Body Talk by Kelly Jense

Presentation title

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Thanks to our Staff!

On the Kids' Shelf Participants

Melissa Currie
Maya Delgado-Almada
Russell Dorn
Jessica Fanaselle
Melisa Garcia
Jamie Hemingway
Lysa Lee
Sasha McLaughlin
Nicole Mortimer
Jackie Peacock-Burton
Robin Posniak
Samantha Rees
Tyna Sloan
Melissa Wilson
Teree Yount

Special Shoutout!

Jessica Fanaselle
Sasha McLaughlin
Maya Delgado -
Almada

On the Shelf Participants

Jennifer Cole
Maya Delgado - Almada
Jessica Fanaselle
Sasha McLaughlin
Laurie Newman
Becca Reed
Libby Rheault
Jeff Scott
Carla Trounson
Terri Van Hoozer
Christine Werlein

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THANK YOU

Melisa Garcia

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Jennifer Cole

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LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES TASK RECORD/FOLLOW-UP

DATE ASSIGNED	TRUSTEE	TASK/AGENDA ITEM REQUESTED	ANTICIPATED COMPLETION	DATE COMPLETED
10/18/23	Rogers	Presentation on Tax Renewal Plan	11/18/23	
10/18/23	Moser	Inquiry into holding a Library Fun Run Fundraiser.	No date, currently inquiring.	