

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY

February 15, 2017

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

State Library Closed Feb. 20

The State Library will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in observance of President's Day.

Project Next Generation Grant Applications Available

The FY18 Project Next Generation (PNG) Program grant application instructions and program information are now available [online](#). Applications are being accepted from public libraries that are full members in an Illinois library system. The deadline to submit is **March 31, 2017**.

For questions concerning this grant offering, contact Vandella Brown at vbrown@ilsos.net, 217-785-9075 or Karen Egan, kegan@ilsos.net, 217-782-7749.

Report Addressing the Needs of Autistic Patrons Now Available

[Libraries Partnering to Serve the Autism Community: National Forums Offer Direction](#) is the result of two national forums, known as "Targeting Autism," that convened in 2015 and 2016 at the State Library. The forums, which were funded through the National Leadership Grant Program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, exposed the need for libraries throughout Illinois and across the nation to better serve patrons and families affected by autism. For more information about the "Targeting Autism" initiative, visit the State Library's [website](#).

Library Trustee Web Page Updated

The [Illinois Public Library Trustee Manual 2016](#) has been posted on the State Library website. Developed as a national project with Chief Officers of State Library Agencies ([COSLA](#)) and modified by State Library staff to reflect the Illinois perspective, this publication can be used as an educational tool for new and current public library board trustees and library directors.

The manual provides a broad overview of trustee responsibilities. Topics covered in the manual include: Capital Planning & Building Projects; Running Effective Board Meetings; Friends & Foundations; Library Associations; Privacy & Confidentiality; and Hiring an Effective Library Director.

Additional resources are posted on the State Library's Trustee [Web page](#). For questions or comments about any of the library trustee resources, please contact Pat Boze, pboze@ilsos.net, 217-782-1891.

FY18 Adult Literacy Grant Volunteer Reviewers Needed

The State Library is inviting librarians, literacy professionals and interested members of the public to be volunteer grant reviewers for the [Adult Literacy Grant Program](#). This committee will evaluate FY18 Adult Literacy grant applications in accordance with [23 Ill. Adm. Code 3035.230](#). If you are interested in assisting the State Library in recommending Adult Literacy grant applications for funding, please compose a brief letter of application with your name, address, phone, fax and email. Indicate where you are employed including the address. Briefly explain why you would like to assist the State Library in reviewing the grant applications. Please be specific in explaining your knowledge of adult literacy. Email your letter of application containing all the requested information to [Beth Paoli](#) by **February 28, 2017**.

E-rate Application Window Opening Soon

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) announced that the FY17 application filing window will open on **Monday, February 27, at 1 p.m.** and will close on **Thursday, May 11, at 12:59 p.m.** Visit the State Library's [website](#) for more information about applying for the USAC Schools and Libraries Program.

Annual Library System Certification Underway

Over 65 percent of libraries have completed certification. The Annual Library Certification online form is available through **March 31**. The annual certification process is required of all library system members in order to qualify for continuing system services and grant programs from the Illinois State Library.

Libraries are required to complete the [ILL ILLINET Traffic Survey](#) before completing certification. More information about certification is available at the State Library's Annual Library Certification [Web page](#). For more information on the certification process, contact [Pat Boze](#).

"Illinois Reads" Poster Mailing

All public libraries and school districts with libraries should have received a mailer from the State Library containing "[Illinois Reads](#)" posters, a brochure and a letter from the Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White. As the honorary chair of the Illinois Reading Council's "Illinois Reads" program, Secretary White encourages all libraries to get involved in the program by hanging the posters in their buildings, hosting a Family Reading Night program, attending an "Illinois Reads" author event or by becoming an "Illinois Reads" Ambassador.

If you did not receive the posters or would like to order additional materials, visit the "Illinois Reads" [website](#). For more information, contact [Bonnie Matheis](#), Coordinator of the Illinois Center for the Book.

Celebrate Día!

El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day), commonly known as Día, is a celebration of children, families and reading that culminates yearly on April 30. The common goals of all Día programming are to:

- celebrate children and connect them to the world of learning through books, stories and libraries;
- nurture cognitive and literacy development in ways that honor and embrace a child's home language and culture;
- introduce families to community resources that provide opportunities for learning through multiple literacies; and
- recognize and respect culture, heritage and language as powerful tools for strengthening families and communities.

The Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, encourages libraries and community organizations to connect children with diverse books and programming opportunities through [Día](#). Experts say children must have access to and awareness of books that reflect their culture and language.

Illinois World War I Centennial Committee

The 100th anniversary of America's entry into the First World War is fast approaching. A national ceremony will recognize the declaration of war on April 6. In addition to a national commission, each state has its own centennial body. To commemorate the centenary of Illinois' involvement in the Great War, the **Illinois World War I Centennial Committee (IWW1CC)** has a mission to:

- **Advocate.** Encourage other entities in Illinois to recognize the contributions of Illinois to the First World War.

- **Educate.** Develop tools to educate others about the contributions of Illinois to the First World War.
- **Facilitate.** Support other entities that are recognizing the contributions of Illinois to the First World War.
- **Elevate.** Recognize and celebrate Illinois veterans and civilians for their sacrifices and contributions to the First World War.
- **Participate.** Join other states in a national effort to recognize veterans and civilians for their sacrifices and contributions to the First World War throughout the United States.

The IWW1CC would like to recognize World War I exhibits or programs Illinois libraries may have hosted or will be hosting. Events and stories will be shared on their page. To share your program details, contact the chair of the Illinois World War 1 Centennial Committee, [Jeanne Hamacher](#). For more information and education resources, visit the [WW1CC](#) website.

FY16/17 IPLAR Now Available

The FY16/17 Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) survey is now open. The instructions and worksheet are available on the survey [website](#).

New data elements being collected include:

- Number of meeting rooms and usage
- Number of study rooms and usage
- Capital Needs Assessment Survey
- Passive programming statistics
- Successful retrieval of electronic information (database usage)
- One-on-one tutorials

For more information about the IPLAR survey, please visit the [ISL IPLAR Web page](#).

“Illinois Reads” Author Spotlights

Each of the highlighted authors has published a book that has been selected to be on the 2017 “Illinois Reads” [book list](#) for children from birth–4 years of age. These authors will be at the 2017 launch at Wilmington Middle School.

Paul Gude is an actor, musician, writer and cartoonist. He grew up in Dorsey, Illinois and currently resides in Edwardsville. Initially, he wrote solely for adults. His debut children’s book, “When Elephant Met Giraffe,” is the first in a children’s picture book series about the budding friendship between a lively elephant and a silent giraffe. The book is written and illustrated by Gude and is a book that will entertain young children and early readers alike.

Candace Fleming and Eric Rohmann are native Illinoisans and award-winning children’s authors. Rohmann is also a Caldecott-winning illustrator. Individually, Fleming and Rohmann have each received the Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children presented by the Illinois Reading Council. Together, they have created three books. Their second collaboration, “Bulldozer’s Big Day,” is an irresistible construction site read-aloud book.

Ruth Spiro is an award-winning children’s book author and freelance writer. She currently resides in Deerfield. Her newest writing venture is the innovative “Baby Love Science” book series. Her book, “Baby Loves Quarks!” explores the basics of particle physics and chemistry quarks, protons, neutrons, atoms and molecules and ties it all to a baby’s world. Spiro has a variety of programs that she enjoys presenting at schools and to writing groups.

To learn more about Paul, Candace, Eric or Ruth, visit their author profiles in the [Illinois Authors Wiki](#), a project of the State Library’s [Illinois Center for the Book](#).

Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights **YWCA of Elgin** which runs a Secretary of State supported Penny Severns Family Literacy Program. A woman joined the family literacy program in January 2015 and enrolled her young daughter in the infant/young toddler class. Both were shy, but excited to learn. They attended classes weekly, including Parenting and English as a Second Language. As the woman participated more in community building activities, she began to build friendships with other students. The learner and her daughter returned the next fall, and the woman became a vocal leader in class. Later that fall, the woman had another baby born with Down's syndrome. The tutors informed the learner about available services, developmental issues and special education. With the help of the tutors at the YWCA, the learner is thriving in the classroom and able to assist her newborn's special needs.

GovDocInfo

The National Park Service's Park History Program maintains a listing of [national historic sites, parks and monuments](#) celebrating African-American Heritage. View museum exhibits, follow a travel itinerary or read in depth histories and interviews of famous African-Americans and how they shaped the United States.

Illinois Digital Archives

In honor of African-American Heritage Month we call your attention to the [Illinois Digital Archives](#) and the contents of the [Bloomington-Normal Black History Project](#) provided by the McLean County History Museum. The collection contains photographs, portraits, booklets, articles and photocopies related to club organizations and churches of the local black community. In 1989, the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project became affiliated with the McLean County Historical Society, which now serves as a repository for the project's collections.

State Library's Comprehensive Online Calendar

To view the State Library's calendar of events and deadlines, visit <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/calendar/home.html>.

Sign up for E-News

E-News is the best way to find out what's happening at the State Library, including grant offerings, continuing education opportunities and other news. Nearly 5,000 subscribers receive E-News each month. To subscribe to E-News or for more information, contact [Kyle Peebles](#) at 217-558-4029.