

THIS MONTH AT THE ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY

March 2018

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

Back to Books Applications Due: March 30, 2018

The State Library is accepting Back to Books Grant applications to support the efforts of public and school libraries to develop their collections, which in turn engage readers of any age or ability in formal and independent reading or research. The intent of this offering is for print material only. Public and private school districts and public library agencies are eligible to apply.

Date and time of receipt will be a primary determining factor in recommendations for funding this competitive grant offering. For more information about the application, eligibility and specific requirements visit the State Library's [Back to Books: Grant Offering](#) webpage.

Annual Library Certification/ILLINET Traffic Survey Deadline is March 31

The deadline for the [online certification](#) process is fast approaching and will end on March 31, 2018. Certification is required of all library system members in order to qualify for continuing system services and grant programs from the State Library. Libraries are also required to complete the [ILL ILLINET Traffic Survey](#) before completing certification. The ILL ILLINET Traffic Survey can be completed any time prior to the certification deadline of March 31.

Logging in to the certification portal requires the agency's control number and the main administrative branch number. These numbers can be obtained by searching the library agency's record on [L2](#). For more information on the certification process, contact [Pat Boze](#).

Illinois History Digital Imaging Grant Offering Applications Due April 16, 2018

The State Library is offering competitive grants for eligible libraries to digitize and provide web access to their important historical and cultural collections. The priority of the program is digitization of original source materials relevant to Illinois' history and culture, which includes local and/or regional history or events. This grant supports the digitization of existing materials and creates digital collections to be viewed via the [Illinois Digital Archives](#) and Digital Public Library of America.

The intent of this offering is to digitize, not create, original source materials. The applicant must demonstrate the unique nature of the materials to be digitized, show how they can be characterized as original source and explain what value or benefit will accrue to the citizens of Illinois and others by making these materials available in digital format.

For more information about the application, required application supplement, eligibility and specific requirements visit the State Library's [Illinois History – Digital Imaging Grant Offering](#) webpage.

New Inform Available

The latest issue of Inform, the State Library's quarterly newsletter, is available [here](#).

Targeting Autism Forum at the State Library

The Targeting Autism Forum will be held on May 17-18, 2018 in the atrium of the State Library in Springfield. The full agenda for the forum is available at the State Library's [website](#). To register, send an email to [Suzanne Schriar](#) with a subject line that reads "Registration for the forum." Please include your name, job title, name of your library or other professional affiliation and a brief statement about your interest in the topic of autism and libraries. As in

previous years, there is no registration fee to attend. Lodging for May 16-17 will be provided at no additional charge at the [Wyndham Springfield City Centre](#). Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registrations will be accepted now through Friday, April 27.

The Illinois School Library Media Association/Library Book Selection Service Endowment Fund Readers' Choice Grant

The Illinois School Library Media Association/Library Book Selection Service Endowment Fund announces its 2018-2019 Readers' Choice Grant. Private and public schools along with public libraries registered to participate in any of the 2018-2019 Readers' Choice program, Monarch, Bluestem, Rebecca Caudill or Lincoln Award, are eligible to apply for this competitive grant. You must be registered for the program by midnight, April 29, 2018. Grant recipients will be awarded one set of the 2018-2019 campaign books for the award program indicated on their application.

The grant application form, guidelines, checklist, rubric and FAQ's are available at the Endowment Fund website: www.lbssfund.org. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2018. If you have questions about the grant, contact [Jean Baile](#) or [Becky Robinson](#).

Celebrate National Library Week: April 8-14

April 8-14 is National Library Week, an annual celebration of the life-changing work of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries are more than just places to borrow books or study, they are also creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies and develop their skills and passions.

Libraries of all types have long been evolving to meet the needs of the communities they serve. Diverse groups including elected officials, small business owners and students depend upon libraries and the resources they offer. Resources like e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners and programs for job seekers are just a few ways libraries and librarians are transforming to lead their communities. Community members can also develop their own leadership skills at the library, with endless opportunity to build skills and confidence through resources and programming.

For a list of events and ideas of how your library can participate, visit the American Library Association's [website](#).

Directors University

Directors University will be held June 4-8 in Springfield. This weeklong training program is available to all sizes of public libraries and intended for first-time public library directors and those directors new to Illinois. The workshops will focus on training public library directors with both administrative and leadership skills. Directors University will also provide opportunities for networking, team building, small informal discussion and more.

Lodging will be available at the State House Inn, 101 E Adams St, Springfield. All workshops will be held at the State Library, 300 S. Second St, Springfield. Participants are required to attend **all** workshops. Topics for the week will include library law, policies, budgeting, board/director relations, leadership, community partnerships, employment laws, State Library and system competencies.

Visit the [Illinois Library Association](#) website for additional information.

ILA Award Nominations

This is an opportunity to honor colleagues and the innovative programs and ideas of hard-working librarians, staff and trustees of Illinois through the Illinois Library Association (ILA) Awards. Inspiration and good ideas should be shared.

Award nominations are due by May 15, 2018. Nominating someone for an ILA Award is easy to do. Visit <https://www.ila.org/about/awards> to learn about the awards and to submit a nomination.

Salute to veterans

This issue of E-News is saluting Randolph Prunty. Mr. Prunty served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1970. He was a Gunner's Mate on both an aircraft carrier and engaging in shore warfare on a Patrol Boat, River (PBR). Mr. Prunty shares his experiences on both vessels and his post Navy experiences as a civilian contractor for the Department of Defense as a certified EPA Water Operator working at US Military bases overseas. His Illinois Veterans History Project oral history interview is available at <https://youtu.be/Y9o1dvKmpTA>.

"Illinois Reads" author spotlights

The authors and illustrators below have published a book on the 2018 "Illinois Reads" [book list](#) for children from grades K-2. "Illinois Reads" is an initiative of the [Illinois Reading Council](#) that highlights the importance of reading at all ages and supports Illinois authors. Each year, the program offers a new list of thirty-six titles written and/or illustrated by Illinois authors at six different age levels from birth to adult.

Peoria resident, [Deborah Ruddell](#), was a teacher and a graphic artist before becoming a children's author. Her books are colorfully illustrated and full of fun rhymes and poems for younger readers. Color coordinated by the four seasons of the year, Ruddell's book "[The Popcorn Astronauts: And Other Biteable Rhymes](#)," received starred reviews from Kirkus and Publishers Weekly. Triopia School District Librarian, Leslie Forsman says, "Keep this one in mind for April's Poetry Month celebrations."

Chicago author, [Rachel Ruiz](#) worked as a TV writer and producer for Oprah Winfrey for 20 years. She wrote her first book "[When Penny Met POTUS](#)" after working for President Barack Obama on his re-election campaign in 2012. The book was inspired by the questions Ruiz's then three-year-old daughter would ask her after she would get home from her days of working for POTUS. But, just who was POTUS anyway? This colorful adventure to find out from a child's perspective is imaginative and heartwarming.

Winnetka native, [Josh Schneider](#) is a children's author and illustrator. His first book, "You'll Be Sorry," was named the "Book That Provides Best Ammunition to Parents Weary of Warning Their Kids About Socking Their Siblings" by Publishers Weekly magazine. His latest book, "[Everybody Sleeps \(But Not Fred\)](#)," is about rambunctious Fred who will do anything to resist going to bed. This new laugh out loud bedtime book received a starred review from both Kirkus and Publishers Weekly.

Literacy Spotlight

This month's Literacy Spotlight highlights **Baby TALK** in Decatur, which runs a Secretary of State supported Penny Severns Family Literacy Program. A young single-expectant woman reached out to Baby TALK because she had negligible family support. Baby TALK staff helped her during the birth of her child and with the transition to motherhood. By utilizing resources provided through her involvement with Baby Talk, the young woman was able to find care for her son while she attended school. She and her son are thriving in their respective new environments. The woman is grateful for Baby TALK, as she has achieved more than she ever thought possible and continues to set new goals.

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.