

SHOW ME EXPRESS

 **State Library Newsletter**

December 2024



Missouri Secretary of State
John R. Ashcroft

State Librarian Message



It was April 6, 2018 when I walked into the Missouri State Library for the first time as your state librarian. I attended my first Secretary's Council on Library Development that day and each division (Reference Services, Library Development, and

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library) were all presenting, and I remember thinking, "Wow, this job is much bigger and better than I could have ever imagined." Six and a half years later, I still think, "Wow, this job was much bigger and better than I ever dreamed, and I GOT TO DO IT!!" What an honor it has been to be your state librarian all these years, and all these successes and challenges that we've endured together have been a distinct pleasure that only a few people in history get to be a part of.

There are so many people to thank and I know I'm going to miss some of you, but I want to be sure and recognize our library partners for the work they've done to help the State Library team better serve Missouri's library community. MOREnet's Jeanne Sullivan, MALA's Jane Mulvihill-Jones, Executive Director of Missouri

Evergreen Steve Potter, and Amigos' Tracy Byerly have all been great partners to the State Library, and I am grateful for their guidance and friendship.

Thank you, state library team! We have laughed and cried together and took a virtual trip on the Oregon Trail together, who knew there were so many ways to die, and why was that "educational" computer game so popular back in the day? I still want the t-shirt that says, "Get in Loser, We're Going to Die of Dysentery" and shows a covered wagon. But in all seriousness, this has been the best work team I've ever had the privilege to be a part of and I know you will continue to do amazing things!

And finally, thank you Missouri's library community. You are simply the best and while many of you were my friends before getting this gig, I've gotten to know many more of you during my time here and I am constantly inspired by you and how you serve your communities at such a high level. I can't wait to steal, I mean borrow, some of your programs and processes as a director at Daniel Boone Regional Library. I'm so glad I get to be "one of you" again!



State Library News

Secretary Ashcroft Announces Acting State Librarian

Janet Caruthers, former Technology and Resource Sharing Consultant, has been named acting state librarian by Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft. Janet has worked for the State Library since 2019, and she has managed the Ploud project and been instrumental in Missouri Evergreen, MALA Courier and OCLC projects. Janet's duties begin immediately, and while her email address remains the same, her phone number is now (573) 526-4783.

"I am honored to be selected as the acting state librarian and look forward to leading the Missouri State Library and serving the State Library staff, Missouri libraries and Missouri citizens."

-Janet Caruthers, Acting State Librarian

Book Resumes: A TeachingBooks Tool

Book Resumes, one of the newest features on TeachingBooks, are instantaneously generated reports that aggregate professional and credentialed information about children's and young adult books. They save time and ensure confidence in book selection and purchasing by helping librarians determine if a book is relevant for their needs. Visit teachingbooks.net/bookresumes and sign up [here](#) to learn more.

What's Included in a Book Resume?

- Reviews from professional sources
- Award and recognition details
- Key metadata, including reading levels and subject headings
- Digital previews like audio or eBook excerpts

Reference Services for YOU: Financial Aid Tips for Students

Preparing for college can be daunting, but managing the costs and financial aid doesn't have to be overwhelming for your patrons. These helpful tools from the state and federal government are available to assist students in navigating the complex financial aid process.

- [FAFSA](#): Students can begin or continue filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) tool. The [Who's My FAFSA Parent? Wizard](#) also takes the guesswork out of identifying which parent(s) will be required contributors to the FAFSA.
- [Federal Student Aid Estimator](#): Before filling out a FAFSA, students can use the estimator to predict how much federal student aid they may be eligible to receive.
- [Loan Simulator](#): This tool estimates monthly loan payments and options for repayment strategies when taking federal student loans.

- [Financial Path to Graduation](#): This Consumer Financial Protection Bureau tool estimates potential debt from student loans as well as how much students need to earn to repay those loans in the future.
- [College Affordability and Transparency Center](#): Browse lists of institutions with the highest and lowest tuition & fees, review net prices, or view summaries of state appropriations for state aid, post-secondary education and more.
- [Show Me the Money: Scholarship & Grants Search Engine](#): Learn about Missouri student scholarship and grant opportunities with the scholarship search from the Missouri State Treasurer's Financial Literacy Portal.

Questions? Contact Reference Services at (573) 751-3615, libref@sos.mo.gov or mostate.libguides.com.



Featured Government Document from the State Library

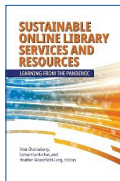


The [State of the Federal Depository Library Program](#) report recently released by the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) highlights 2023 Biennial Survey data and the conditions of depository libraries from Jan. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2023. Discover more federal government publications to share with patrons on our [Federal Government Information Guide](#). For assistance accessing government information or publications, contact the Reference Services team at the [State Library](#).

Featured Books from the State Library



Selecting and Implementing Technologies in Libraries



Sustainable Online Library Services and Resources



Disabilities and the Library



The Librarian's Guide to Bibliotherapy

Discover more of our new Library Professional Development titles as well as recorded webinars, government publications and more on the [Missouri Library Staff Guide](#).

Directors and branch managers are able to sign up for a State Library card from the guide and are encouraged to borrow items for themselves or any of their library's staff. State Library books

are also available for borrowing through both MOBIUS and WorldShare.

For assistance placing holds, requesting or replacing a card, or for additional information, please contact Reference Services by phone, email or chat. We are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and are always happy to help!

Around the State

Wolfner Display at Windsor Branch of Jefferson County Library



Dawn from the Windsor Branch of the Jefferson County Library recently created this fabulous display showcasing Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library services. Please let Jami at Wolfner know if you need to replenish your Wolfner materials and get creative with your Wolfner promotions.

This display features a demo player and a sampler cartridge of talking books as well as various pamphlets and flyers. Every library and branch can receive a demonstration talking book player to show patrons. Contact Jami today at jami.livingston@sos.mo.gov or (573) 522-2768 for any Wolfner materials! Thanks to Dawn and her staff for promoting Wolfner services!

StoryWalk at Marion County Library

Marion County Library recently participated in a pilot project to test out one of the Missouri State Library's Braille Enhanced StoryWalk® kits. As part of the pilot, libraries are encouraged to display and promote their selected StoryWalk® book and, if possible, utilize the additional tools in the kit during programming. These tools include an additional copy of the picture book with Braille added to read and explore during story hours, a Braille alphabet card, and a slate and stylus that allows patrons to experience writing and reading Braille.

Using the kit containing *Harvest Days: Giving Thanks around the Word* by Kate DePalma and Martina Peluso, Marion County Library displayed their StoryWalk® at their Fall Family Festival held on Oct. 19. Partnering with the local parks activity

director and community volunteers, the library's fall festival offered carnival games, a nature craft, caramel apples, cotton candy and, of course, the StoryWalk®. As reported by Library Director Devon Payne, the festival attracted more than 120 attendees and received overwhelmingly positive responses. Payne anticipates additional partnerships with their parks department to include StoryWalks® at the park and around the community. She says, "If the State Library grows this program, we can't wait to utilize the kits in the future!"

If you are interested in borrowing a Braille Enhanced StoryWalk® for your library, please contact the Missouri State Library at mostlib@sos.mo.gov.

Grant Opportunities

[Educational Presenter Grant](#) • **Deadline: Ongoing**

This open-call grant is a combination of the previously offered Author Visit Grant and the Bicentennial Programs Grant and replaces the two separate grants. Libraries can apply to bring an author or educational presentation to their community. This application is open to Missouri

public libraries certified to receive FY25 state aid, Missouri school libraries publicly supported and publicly controlled, and Missouri academic libraries supported publicly or privately.

Professional Development Offerings

Coming Soon! MOREnet Trainings to Support Summer Library Programs

As a part of the Color Our World theme for the 2025 Summer Library Program, MOREnet has created a series of online and in person classes that use common tech tools to enhance your summer programming.

- We chose some common tools like Scratch, Micro:Bits and a few others.
- We picked some of our favorite books like "The Day the Crayons Quit," "Mouse Paints" and "A Color of His Own."
- We blended them together into fun activities you can learn and adapt to your programs!



These sessions run January through early March! Registration opens on Dec. 1 at www.more.net/trainingschedule and is free to MOREnet member libraries. For more information or other questions, contact us at training@more.net.



CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop

The Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) is holding their Virtual Winter Workshop Feb. 5, 2025, from 2 – 4:30 p.m. and Feb. 6, 2025, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. CLiC Virtual Winter Workshop is designed for practical content geared toward

rural communities. [Registration](#) is open now until Jan. 31, 2025 for \$25, and registration gives you access to the live sessions as well as the recordings for one year.

MASL 2025 Spring Conference

A reminder that individuals affiliated with public libraries are encouraged to register for the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) [2025 Spring Conference](#) scheduled for April 13 – 15 at the Tan-Tar-A Conference Center in Osage Beach. In an effort to further connect librarians throughout our state, MASL would like

to invite all youth and children's public librarians to attend and is offering a discounted rate to public librarians at the member rate of \$395 (prior to Jan. 31, 2024). Please contact us at info@maslonline.org if you have any questions and to let us know if you are interested in participating!

Amigos Library Services

Trainings include:

- Know & Go: Crafting Compelling Copy, Dec. 9, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Amigos Community Conversations: Developing Community Support through Creative Partnerships, Dec. 11, 1 – 3 p.m.
- Know & Go: Recovering from a Wind and Rain Event, Dec. 16, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
- Know & Go: Emerging Adulthood and Adulting Programs for Teens and College Students, Jan. 6, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [Amigos Continuing Education Services Schedule](#).

Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative

Trainings include:

- The Power of TeachingBooks' Resources, Dec. 12, 2:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [Missouri Collection Analysis Initiative Webinars & Thematic Workshops](#).

MOREnet

Trainings include:

- Creating a Makerspace (CS), Dec. 5, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., MOREnet Training Room – the MILL Columbia
- Equip Students for Life With Rosen's Comprehensive Online Resources, Dec. 18, 9 – 10 a.m.
- E-rate Training: Competitive Bid Form 470, Dec. 12, 9 – 10 a.m.

For the complete training list, visit the [MOREnet Training Schedule](#).

Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM)

Trainings include:

- Demystifying LIS Profession to BIPOC Undergraduate Students: BIPOC Become Librarians, Dec. 5, 1 – 2 p.m.
- A Librarian's Guide to Consumer Health, Jan. 6 – 31, self-paced

For the complete training list, visit [NNLM Training](#).



Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

Trainings include:

- Caring for Scrapbooks, Dec. 5, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- History of the Book and its Structure, Dec. 10, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Digitizing Scrapbooks, Dec. 12, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For the complete training list, visit [NEDCC Current Training Programs](#).



Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft

John R. (Jay) Ashcroft is Missouri's 40th secretary of state. Each year Secretary Ashcroft travels to all of Missouri's 114 counties to talk with local officials, students, library executives and business owners to promote Missouri and learn how he can help make Missouri even better.

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