



Monthly Report, August 31, 2024

Reports are posted on the State Library of Ohio website at
<https://library.ohio.gov/about/publications/state-librarian-reports>

Updates from the State Librarian

- The search for the next State Librarian of Ohio is in full swing. The State Library Board will hold a Special Meeting on September 16 to review applications that were submitted to Organizational Architecture by the deadline of September 10.
- The State Library is preparing its budget request for Fiscal Years 2026 – 2027 as instructed by the Ohio Department of Budget and Management. The submission deadline is September 27.
- The State Library of Ohio is seeking nominations for appointment to a five-year term on the State Library Board. The successful appointee will serve January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2029. Board members are eligible to serve two terms on the State Library Board. To be considered for appointment or to nominate someone else, please complete and return the [State Library Board Nomination Form](#), a resume or curriculum vitae, and at least two letters of support to Julia Ward, Executive Secretary to the State Librarian, at jward@library.ohio.gov by 11:59 p.m. on September 22, 2024.
- John Stewart, Michael Postlethwait, Jay Miley, and Ron Woods of SEO were the presenters for the State Libraries and AI Technologies (SLAAIT) Seminar: **Embracing AI Technology at the State Library of Ohio** on August 27. They did an excellent job of showcasing many of the ways SEO is using AI technology to support member libraries.

Announcements

Website – What’s new announcements



- [Library Leadership Ohio 2024 Concludes](#)—August 17, 2024

Building Equity-Based Summers

- For the third year, Ohio is participating in the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant-funded national initiative **Building Equity-Based Summers Through Libraries & Communities (BEBS)**.
- BEBS will empower library staff to weave equity into their summer library programs. The goals of BEBS are:
 - To provide a shared language of equity
 - To provide library staff with the knowledge and confidence to create equitable summer programs and services
 - To promote equity across the communities served by their library
- The State Library of Ohio is looking for five public libraries to participate in the third year of this three-year initiative. Each participating library will be represented by a team of at least two staff members. Applications are due by Friday, September 13.
- For more information about joining the third-year Ohio cohort, contact [Katy Hite](#) or [Janet Ingraham Dwyer](#). To learn more about BEBS, see <https://equitybasedsummers.org/>.

Buckeye Children's and Teen Book Awards

- Voting for the 2024 Buckeye Book Awards is open September 1 through November 10 at bcbookaward.info. All Ohio students in grades K-12 are eligible to vote.
- Students can also nominate titles for the 2025 awards. Eligible books are first published in 2023 or 2024 and not part of a series that has previously won the award. Nominations run through March 10, 2025. See the [Buckeye Book Awards](#) website for details.
- The Buckeye Children's and Teen Book Award program, Ohio's readers' choice book award, was established in 1981 and is a collaborative project of the Ohio Educational Library Media Association, Ohio Council of Teachers of English Language Arts, Ohio Library Council, Ohio Literacy Association, Kent State University School of Information, and State Library of Ohio. Contact [Janet Ingraham Dwyer](#) with any questions.

Government Documents

- The State Library of Ohio is a Congressionally designated depository for U.S. Government Publications and the official Ohio government documents depository. If you have questions about Government Documents, feel free to contact Government Documents Librarian/Regional Depository Coordinator Elissa Lawrence with at questions at elawrence@library.ohio.gov.

List of New Acquisitions



- A list of print books, ebooks, and audiobooks recently added to the State Library's collection for August is available on our [website](#).



LSTA

- The State Library of Ohio's LSTA Competitive Grant application window opened on Wednesday, September 4. Applications will be accepted through Sunday, November 3, with awards being announced in December. The LSTA Competitive Grant offers eligible libraries the opportunity to apply for up to \$50,000.00 in LSTA funds for projects that address one of three possible focus areas: Literacy, Library as Community Anchor, and Outreach and Engagement. More information on the State Library of Ohio's LSTA Competitive Grant can be found here: <https://library.ohio.gov/libraries/grants/competitive-grants>.
- The State Library of Ohio's LSTA Open Grant initiative was relaunched on August 2. The Open Grant application has been moved to a wholly online format with a new, streamlined set of application questions. It also directs applicants to submit proposals that align with the goals set out in the State Library's LSTA Five-Year Plan. The LSTA Open Grant program is designed to offer flexibility, while supporting libraries as they address a specific need within their community. Project proposals for up to \$4,999.00 may be submitted by eligible applicants at any time throughout the year. For more information visit: <https://library.ohio.gov/libraries/grants/open-grant>.
- The State Library of Ohio's LSTA Conservation and Preservation Grant application period closed on August 15, 2024. Prospective applicants were required to attend a special conservation and preservation workshop hosted by the State Library on Wednesday, May 8.
 - Applications are currently under review by a team comprised of State Library of Ohio staff members and Ohio Preservation Council members.
 - Libraries awarded funding will have from November 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025, to complete their projects.
 - The Conservation and Preservation grant is offered with the support of the Ohio Preservation Council and provides qualifying libraries up to \$4,999.00 to conserve a single item or small, discrete group of items within their collections.
- A brief informational page describing the State Library of Ohio's LSTA program was recently published on our website. This page offers an overview of the LSTA program that includes an explanation of where LSTA funds come from, how they are spent, and who is eligible to apply. Read more here: <https://library.ohio.gov/libraries/grants/supporting-docs/overview>
- Questions regarding the LSTA program should be addressed to Jeff Regensburger, Library Consultant/LSTA Coordinator, at: LSTA@library.ohio.gov.

Meeting Rooms

- The State Library of Ohio provides meeting rooms that can be booked by State of Ohio agencies and members of the library community. In August, 316 hours of meetings were held in our 7 meeting spaces by groups including Department of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio Attorney General, Ohio Board of Nursing, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and many more.
- Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our meeting rooms.

Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative

- The [Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative](#) (OCAI) is an original, self-paced, collection analysis tool for considering collections that empower children and young adult readers by respecting and appreciating what makes them different and the same. OCAI is a collaborative project of the State Library of Ohio and TeachingBooks.net. The project is funded in whole or in part with Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal funds, granted to the State Library of Ohio. [Register for access here!](#)



- Notable highlights from this impactful initiative:
 - Free for staff working in all types of Ohio libraries! It is available at no cost to you.
 - There are no time constraints for completing this program. Set your own goals and progress at your own pace.
 - Personalized support. You have access to a dedicated, full-time specialist for assistance at any time.
 - Unlimited access to a Collection Analysis Toolkit. This toolkit complements the collection development work you already have in place.
 - Unlimited access to a vetted collection of materials about children's and young adult books and authors.
 - Identifiable action steps. You will receive a custom Implementation Plan that outlines your collection development decisions and next steps.
- [Click here](#) to check out recorded workshops and webinars related to the Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative to learn more.
- Through August, OCAI has over 800 users in 88 of 88 Ohio counties!
- Erin Kelsey and TeachingBooks staff continue to host a slate of [thematic webinars and workshops](#), teaching users how to enhance their youth-focused library collections. Upcoming webinars and workshops include:
 - **Getting Started | Intro to the Ohio Collections Analysis Initiative**
 - Join us for an introduction to the State Library's Collection Analysis Initiative, with an overview of the available resources to consider the children's and young adult books in a library's collections, programs, and displays. This webinar will guide attendees through learning how to import data and use the tools to purposefully reflect, augment, compare, and determine which titles best fit their community's needs. Attendees will leave prepared to integrate these tools into their collection management routines.
 - Audience: Libraries & PK-12 | All Educators, Library Staff, and Administrators
 - When: Tuesday, September 17, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST
 - [Registration Link](#)
 - **Dive Back Into the Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative**
 - Diving back into analyzing your collections or looking for a refresher on the available tools? In this workshop, we will review how to generate Collection Analysis Reports and explore how you can use the data to inform your collection development decisions. Learn about tools to help identify, evaluate, and bring to life a diverse range of books for children and teens. Live participants will have the opportunity to workshop their own collection spreadsheets and gather immediate insights.
 - Audience: Libraries & PK-12 | All Educators, Library Staff, and Administrators
 - When: Tuesday, October 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST
 - [Registration Link](#)
 - **Impactful Book Selection with Collection Analysis and Book Resume**
 - Collection Analysis Reports give you insights into diversity, recency, fiction/non-fiction, and more, but TeachingBooks can also help you identify titles to augment those collections. Learn how Book Resumes can assist with book selection, providing full professional reviews, awards details, metadata, and more – all in one place. Leave this session equipped with tools that offer a time-saving and transparent process for documenting collection development decisions.
 - Audience: Libraries & PK-12 | All Educators, Library Staff, and Administrators
 - When: Tuesday, October 24, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST
 - [Registration Link](#)



- **Simplifying Audits of Large Collections**
 - With new tools from the State Library, it's never been easier to analyze thousands of titles at once! This practical session focuses on efficiently uploading your large collections to TeachingBooks' Collection Analysis Tool. The session is tailored to library staff and educators seeking to enhance their collections without the time commitment of a months-long auditing endeavor. All registrants will receive access to valuable resources and action plans that document their collection development decisions.
 - Audience: Libraries & PK-12 | All Educators, Library Staff, and Administrators
 - When: Tuesday, November 14, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST
 - [Registration Link](#)
- **The Power of Teaching Books' Resources**
 - Explore the rich offerings of TeachingBooks in this engaging workshop. Learn how to seamlessly integrate resources into your existing library or classroom setting, with diverse and authentic titles across genres. Whether you're a librarian or educator, discover valuable insights on building Custom Reading Lists and utilizing TeachingBooks to address specific needs within your collection. Participants come away with a list full of authentic resources that bring titles to life, as well as a plan that equips them to implement their collection decisions.
 - Audience: Libraries & PK-12 | All Educators, Library Staff, and Administrators
 - When: Tuesday, December 12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST
 - [Registration Link](#)
- Additionally, Erin Kelsey and TeachingBooks staff continue to host drop-in [Office Hours](#), where interested parties can ask a quick question or learn more about the initiative.
 - Drop-in Office Hours are from Noon to 1 p.m. (EST) on October 1, October 29, and December 3.
 - Drop in Office Hours are from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (EST) on October, November 19, and December 17.

Ohio Digital Library

- In the month of August, ODL patrons checked out 866,847 items. The total for 2024 stands at 6,873,306 checkouts.
 - The most popular non-magazine title in August was *The Locked Door*, a quick-paced thriller written by bestselling author Freida McFadden. The most popular magazine title was *The New Yorker*.
- In mid-March 2020, ODL enabled the opportunity for Ohioans to take advantage of the Overdrive [Instant Digital Card](#). A user can sign up with his/her phone number and gain quick access to e-content via ODL. Users that sign up via the Instant Digital Card will be directed to their local library to fill out a physical library card. In August 2024, 4,116 registrations took place.
- Curious about what's being checked out? Take a look at [the real-time checkouts and holds](#).

Ohio Digital Network [Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Project]

- The State Library of Ohio will be hosting the 6th Annual **ODNFest** in-person on October 3, 2024. ODNFest is an opportunity for library and museum digitization professionals to gather to explore current and relevant digitization topics. The ODNFest name comes from the Ohio Digital Network (ODN), Ohio's Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)'s service hub. Attendees do not have to be contributors to ODN participate.
 - Speakers include Chelsea Denault of Michigan Digital Preservation Network and Danielle Taylor of Indiana University.
 - Register [here](#).



- Penelope Shumaker is available to speak to libraries and cultural heritage institutions about DPLA and ODN. For details, contact Penelope at: pshumaker@library.ohio.gov.
- For those interested in being a part of the ODN or who want to learn more, please visit the ODN Website and subscribe to the ODN listserv: <https://lists.library.ohio.gov/mailman/listinfo/odn>.
- Questions on DPLA or the Ohio Digital Network should be addressed to Penelope Shumaker, pshumaker@library.ohio.gov.

Ohio Memory

- [Ohio Memory](#) is the collaborative statewide digital library program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. On this free website, you can explore digital content from over 390 cultural heritage institutions representing all 88 of Ohio's counties covering a wide range of topics from prehistory to present day.
- If you have questions about this program, you can contact our Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch at strausch@library.ohio.gov.
- Contact Ryan Burley at rburley@library.ohio.gov with any questions concerning the Talking Book Program.

Ohio Ready to Read

- [Early Literacy 101](#) is a free, full-day (6 contact hour) hands-on workshop to help library staff build a firm foundation in early literacy. Participants learn how brain development impacts how young children learn; discover effective, research-based early literacy resources and activities; and explore how storytime supports early literacy. Registration is open for an Early Literacy 101 workshop on [Monday, October 7 at the Medina Library](#), Medina County District Library, 210 South Broadway St., Medina (northeast Ohio). [Learn more about the Early Literacy 101 workshop](#).
- [Ohio Ready to Read](#) is a partnership initiative of the Ohio Library Council and State Library of Ohio that helps librarians and library workers to educate Ohio's families on the importance of early childhood literacy. Contact [Janet Ingraham Dwyer](#) with any questions about Ohio Ready to Read.

Presentations

- Anne Kennedy provided an in-person presentation on the Ohio Digital Library—both an overview and training session—for the staff at Marvin Memorial Library.

Reference Services

- In August, we provided reference and research assistance to state agencies, businesses, universities, and the public. Here are some of the organizations that we served this month:
 - Bricker Graydon Law Firm
 - Department of Developmental Disabilities
 - Office of the Ohio Public Defender
 - Ohio Attorney General
 - Ohio Department of Aging
 - Ohio Department of Education
 - Ohio Department of Health
 - Ohio Department of Job & Family Services
 - Ohio Department of Medicaid
 - Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
 - Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction



Reimagining School Readiness

- The State Library of Ohio is proud to support the [Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit](#), a suite of research-backed resources created for library staff to help families prepare children ages birth to 8 years for success in school and in life. The toolkit was developed by the [Bay Area Discovery Museum](#) in collaboration with the California State Library and the Pacific Library Partnership.
- Please keep an eye on the various library listservs and traditional communication channels for additional workshop announcements and registration openings
 - These workshops cover such topics as:
 - key findings from current cognitive and developmental psychology research
 - the implications of those findings for library staff's daily work
 - practical ready-to-implement ideas for activities
 - resources for staff training and for parents/caregivers
 - If your library is interested in hosting a Reimagining School Readiness training for your staff, contact Penelope Shumaker, pshumaker@library.ohio.gov.
- Additional information about this initiative can be found [here](#). Questions regarding Reimagining School Readiness should be addressed to Penelope Shumaker (pshumaker@library.ohio.gov).

SEO Service Center

- Total automation consortium circulation for the past 30 days—**1,053,915**
- Total number of new users created in the past 30 days—**9,793**
- In-house periodicals filled—**4**
- Interlibrary loans initiated for the past 30 days—**628**
- Total number of support tickets created for the previous month—**956**
- Support tickets logged with Integrated Library Software (ILS) vendor SirsiDynix—**16**
- **Consortium Service Highlights**
 - The SEO Customer Support Team worked with the Bellaire Public Library on setting up fine-free rules.
 - The SEO Customer Support Team finished the optional patron bill purge with 53 libraries partaking in this opportunity.
 - Paula Clark onboarded Brumback Library, Putnam County District Library, and St. Marys Community Public Library onto the Patron Point Marketing platform.
 - On August 6, the SEO Migration Team met with Carrie Hulett, Director of Evergreen Community Library, to discuss the migration to the SEO Library Consortium.
 - On August 14, Don Winland, Michael Postlethwait, and Jay Miley met with David Lubin and Kate Hill from EBSCO to discuss the EBSCO Discovery Service.
 - On August 15, Heather Miller met with the Director of Milton-Union Public Library.
 - On August 16, the SEO Customer Support Team began the annual patron purge.
 - On August 16, SEO Team Members met with representatives from Bibliotecha to discuss ways to support the SEO Library Consortium members better.
 - On August 23, the SEO team held the Advisory Committee meeting.
 - On August 26, Nicole Brown, Brenda Miley, and Jay Miley met with the Marvin Memorial Library team to discuss final preparations for the migration to the SEO Library Consortium.



- On August 27, Ron Woods, Michael Postlethwait, Jay Miley, and John Stewart presented on how the SEO Library Consortium is embracing the use of artificial intelligence technology the State Libraries and AI Technologies (SLAAIT) working group meeting.
- On August 28, the SEO Migration Team visited the Bucyrus, Galion, and Mt. Gilead Public Libraries. These locations will be joining the SEO Library Consortium in December 2024.
- On August 29, the SEO Customer Support Team held Open Office Hours and presented on “Finding Matching Records in OCLC and WorkFlows.” There were 16 attendees from SEO member libraries.
- **Niche Academy Stats**
 - Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views – 443
 - Online Catalog Tutorial views – 986
 - Technical Services Committee – 2

Services for the Blind and Print Disabled

- Library services for the blind and print disabled in the United States are delivered through a network of libraries and agencies coordinated by the [Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled \(NLS\)](#). In partnership with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (OLBPD) at the Cleveland Public Library, the State Library of Ohio serves as the machine lending agency for the state providing playback equipment to eligible blind, visually impaired, and print disabled residents.

Staffing

- The State Library of Ohio is hiring a Library Consultant, with a focus in strategic planning. Some specific duties include:
 - Assisting libraries in their strategic planning process (i.e. traveling to conduct and/or facilitate focus groups, analyzing survey data, working with library boards of trustees and library directors, facilitating meetings, preparing reports and more).
 - Training library staff on how to lead their own ongoing internal strategic planning processes as needed.
 - Reviewing and recommending grant applications for federal assistance funding, conducting research related to strategic planning and other topics, and maintaining files.
- For full position description, minimum qualifications, salary information, and more, [click here](#).

Strategic Planning

- Libraries currently receiving strategic planning services from State Library consultants include:
 - Milton-Union Public Library
 - Williams County Public Library
 - Alexandria Public Library
 - Pemberville Public Library
 - Coshocton Public Library
 - Mansfield-Richland County Public Library
- If you have questions about the [State Library’s strategic planning services](#), or would like to be placed on the waiting list for this service, please contact Evan Struble at estruble@library.ohio.gov.



Summer Library Program

- Breaking news! The 2027 [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#) slogan will be “Mysteries Await at Your Library” (theme of Mystery / Detective / Suspense) and the 2028 theme will be Mythical Creatures. These were selected by vote of the CSLP state reps at the CSLP annual meeting in late August, informed by library worker input via two national surveys. Thank you to the 385 Ohio library workers who completed the national survey for 2027 slogan and the 340 who completed the 2028 theme survey!
- The [2024 Ohio Summer Library Program evaluation survey](#) is open until September 9. All Ohio public libraries are asked to complete this survey after your summer program ends. Your response helps ensure high-quality resources and support for future SLPs. Your response also helps document the value and impact of summer programs at Ohio libraries. Many thanks to the 150+ librarians who have already completed the survey on behalf of their libraries! Find the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/slpeval2024>.
- The 2025 CSLP programming manual access code will be distributed in fall 2024. The 2025 theme will be Art, with the slogan “Color Our World / Colorea Nuestro Mundo” and featuring artwork by [Mike Mullan](#).
- See the [Ohio Summer Library Program website](#) for resources to support summer planning, and contact [Janet Ingraham Dwyer](#) with any questions about SLP.