



Illinois Youth Services Institute

YOUR NEXT CHAPTER



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Join the Illinois Library Association (ILA) as an Institutional Member and take advantage of exclusive benefits designed to support your library's growth, advocacy, and access to essential resources.

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DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY
Butler Children's Literature Center

Institute Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, February 27

10:00 AM	Help Desk Opens
10:00 AM	Quiet Room Opens
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Virtual Fireside Chat with Author Samira Ahmed during Luncheon
12:45 – 1:45 PM	Breakout Sessions
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Breakout Sessions
3:00 – 3:15 PM	Snack Break
3:15 – 4:15 PM	Breakout Sessions
4:30 – 6:30 PM	Dinner on Your Own
5:00 – 5:15 PM	Meet & Eat
6:30 – 8:30 PM	Evening Sponsor Reception
7:00 – 8:00 PM	After-Hours Storytime

Friday, February 28

8:00 AM	Help Desk Opens
8:00 AM	Quiet Room Opens
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibits (No Conflict)
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Sponsor Tables
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Keynote Workshop with Kate Reynolds
10:15 – 11:15 AM	Breakout Sessions
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Buffet Luncheon
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Breakout Sessions
1:45 – 2:45 PM	Breakout Sessions

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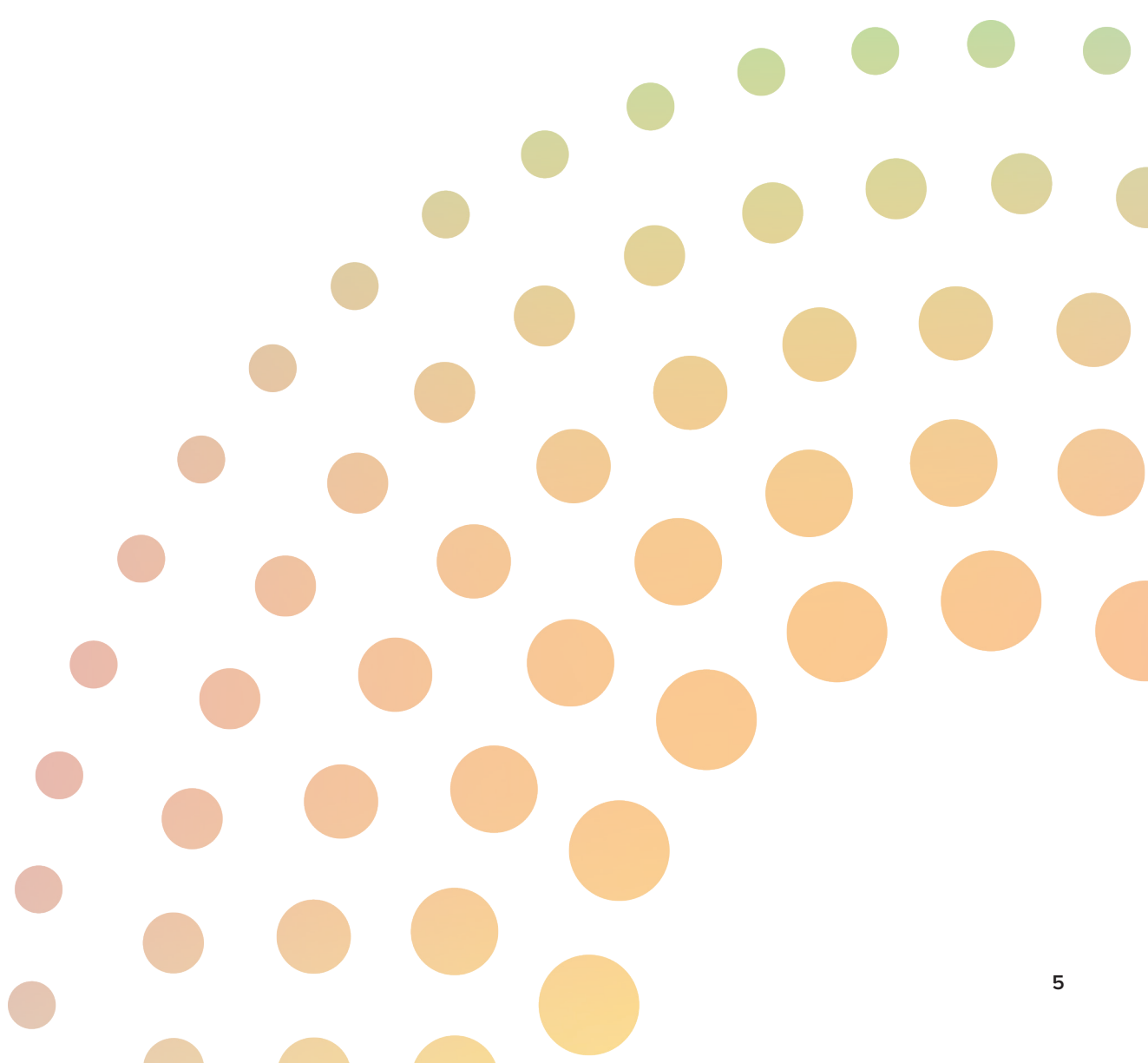
IYSI Planning Committee

Co-Chairs

Tina Ruzala, Palos Heights Public Library
Alissa Janchenko, New Lenox Public Library

Members

Jess Alexander, Morton Grove Public Library
Ann Baillie, Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library
Sara Bell, Dunlap School District
Lyndsey Carney, Normal Public Library
Leah Gregory, Illinois Heartland Library System
Andie Kelch, Brimfield Public Library
Kate Kite, Illinois Heartland Library System
Margae Schmidt, Reaching Across Illinois Libraries System



IYSI Information

Badges

Institute badges must be worn at all times to gain admission to programs and exhibits.

Sponsor Exhibit Hours

Thursday, February 27

6:30 – 8:30 PM	Sponsor Exhibit Reception (no conflict)
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Friday, February 28

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Sponsor Exhibits Coffee (no conflict)
9:00AM – 1:00 PM	Concurrent Sponsor Exhibits

Handouts

Handouts will be available on the event website if speakers have made them available. Search by session or schedule; files will be listed underneath the program's description if available.

Hashtag

#IYSI2025

Help Desk Hours

Thursday, February 27
10:00AM – 5:30 PM

Friday, February 28
8:00AM – 3:30 PM

Lost & Found

Articles may be turned in and reclaimed at the Help Desk.

Meals

Lunch is included in each day's registration.

Meet & Eat

Looking for dinner plans? Meet up with fellow conference-goers in the Marriott Hotel lobby. We'll sort ourselves by restaurant destination and head out together. **Note:** Dinner is NOT covered by IYSI registration.

Location: Marriott Hotel Lobby; Thursday, February 27, 5:00–5:15 PM

Mothers' Room

A mothers' room will be available throughout the Institute.

Quiet Room

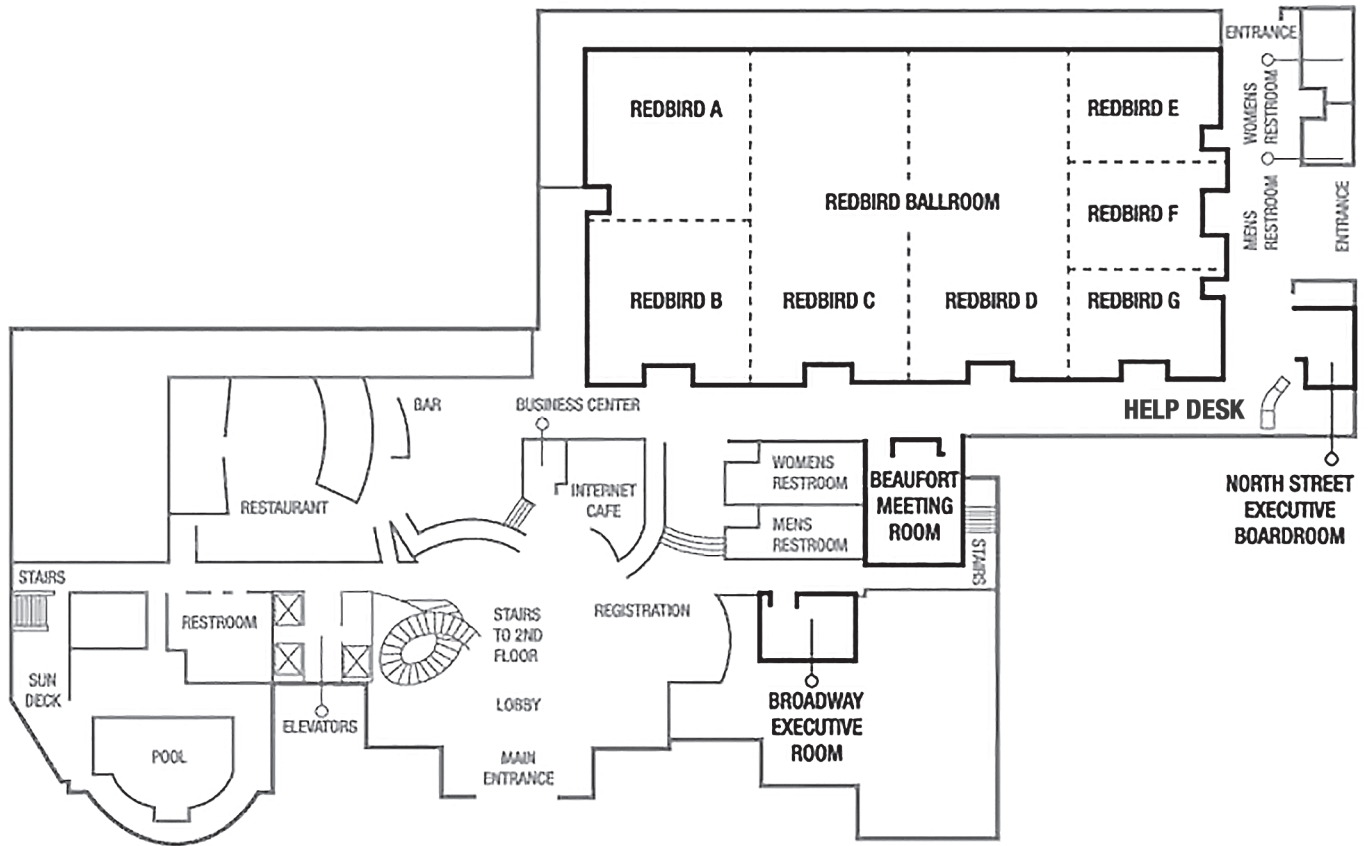
The North Meeting Room is available for attendees who need a break from the hustle and bustle of conference. Please respect others in the room and take conversations out of the room.

WiFi

Complimentary WiFi is available for Institute attendees.
Choose: Youth Services 2025
Enter code: IYSI2025

Marriott Floor Plan

FIRST FLOOR



Thursday, February 27

10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Help Desk Open

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM



Virtual Fireside Chat with Author Samira Ahmed

Room: Redbird CD

Samira Ahmed is the *New York Times*-bestselling and award-winning author of young adult novels *Love, Hate & Other Filters*; *Internment*; *Mad, Bad & Dangerous to Know*; and *Hollow Fires*, as well as the Amira & Hamza middle grade fantasy series and her newest 2024 novel, *This Book Won't Burn*. She is the first South Asian Muslim writer of the popular Marvel Comics superhero *Ms. Marvel*. Her short stories and poetry have appeared in publications and anthologies including *The New York Times*, *Who Will Speak for America*, *Take the Mic*, *Color Outside the Lines*, *Vampires Never Get Old*, and *A Universe of Wishes*.

Born in Bombay, India and raised in Batavia, Illinois (Go Bulldogs!), Samira spent countless hours at the library in her small hometown nestled in an oversized armchair next to an old Victorian fireplace with her nose in an Agatha Christie novel or re-reading *Little Women*, hoping that Jo would somehow end up with Laurie this time. Samira always loved to write — especially poetry — but never actually dreamed of becoming a writer until she was an adult and an idea for a story captured her imagination and wouldn't let go.

She received her BA and MAT from the University of Chicago and went on to teach high school English in both the suburbs of Chicago and New York City Public Schools. After she left the classroom, she worked in education non-profits, helping to create more than seventy small high schools in New York City, and fought to secure billions of dollars in public school funding throughout New York State.

Samira's work is often informed by her own encounters with racism, the alarming rise in hate crimes throughout the United States, and her steadfast belief in the power of hope and human connection. These days, Samira lives in the Midwest. When she's not writing or reading, she can be found on her lifelong quest for the perfect pastry.

Visit her at SamiraAhmed.com

12:45 – 1:45 PM

Active Engagement through Passive Programming and Drop-in Programs

This session will share the great experience The Urbana Free Library has in creating different passive programs and drop-in programs each month at the library. Come get ideas for creating your own passive and drop-in programs in your Children's Department. Passive programming is an economic way to encourage more trips to the library by providing fun, new activities for families to explore outside of the toy area. It provides activities for patrons at their convenience — unlike set program times — and most importantly provides fun and fresh learning opportunities for our young patrons, especially related to STEAM ideas.

Speaker: Rachel Vellenga, The Urbana Free Library

Room: Redbird G

Designing for Neurodiversity: How We Reframed Our Perspective and Our Space

This session will examine how small and medium-sized libraries can effectively support neurodiverse children and their caregivers. The presentation will equip participants with tools to develop sensory-friendly programming and provide guidance on establishing a dedicated low-sensory space. In doing so, we sought to take a close look at how our spaces and offerings are experienced by all individuals, aiming to make meaningful changes that ensure our library is as welcoming and accessible as possible. Additionally, the discussion will cover the use of grant funding for the construction of the low-sensory space, strategies for obtaining staff buy-in to support sensory-friendly programming outside of regular operating hours, and the collaborative efforts among various departments — including the Director, Youth Services Manager, and Facilities Manager — that contributed to the success of this initiative.

Speakers: Joanna Bertucci, Park Ridge Public Library;
Staci Greenwald, Park Ridge Public Library

Room: Redbird E

Thursday, February 27

Empowering Teen Librarians: How to Maximize Your Teen Volunteer Program with Minimal Effort

Finding volunteer opportunities for your teens can be overwhelming! You already manage programming, school visits, ordering books, and managing the afterschool crowd. What do you do? What do you give them? How do you manage teen volunteers when it's just you? In this presentation, we will explore effective strategies for providing simple, flexible, and impactful volunteer projects that teens can engage in without the need for heavy oversight or management. We'll also discuss how to foster community involvement to equip your teens with additional volunteering opportunities as well as address how to encourage your coworkers to get involved to help you meet the needs of your teens. By the end of this session, you'll have insights into building a teen volunteer program that thrives on simplicity, collaboration, and community engagement. You will also receive step-by-step instructional handouts so you can implement this program at your library.

Speaker: Kalea Phillips, Matteson Area Public Library District

Room: Redbird B

"I'm Doing Storytime! Now What?!" Tips for In-House and Outreach Storytimes

New to storytime? Were you given the task to do a language storytime? Are you heading out on the road to local businesses or schools? Don't know where to start? Trying to find what works and what doesn't? Learn tips that have worked from Miss Rosie Reads. From marketing, executing, and growing your numbers Miss Rosie has been leading storytime privately and publicly for 20+ years. She has led outreach storytimes and bilingual storytimes at businesses and daycares/preschools. She is Deputy Director for Storytime Solidarity, and has a forthcoming publication with ALA Editions, *Storytime Deconstructed*, which she co-authored with Kate Reynolds — AKA "The Lavender Librarian. Leave with an abundance of information, a resource list, and tips and tricks of the trade. Ample time for Q&A so bring your questions.

Speaker: Rosie Camargo, South Holland Public Library

Room: Redbird A

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2:00 – 3:00 PM
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eResources for Everyone: Showcasing Library Digital Resources for Youth

There are so many digital resources out there, and so little time and budget. How can youth library staff best identify and incorporate eResources in their collection that are enticing to young users and also provide enrichment? What are the best ways to promote and utilize the resources already in the collection? A panel of presenters will showcase the current landscape of library eResources for youth, share experiences, and highlight tips, ideas, and practical applications to help you get the most out of your library's digital collections.

Speakers: Dawn Brunson, Belvidere CUSD 100; Holly Zehr, Zimmerman Library at Thomas Metcalf School; Maggie Thomann, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Mary Miller, St. Charles Public Library; Suzanna Jones, Illinois State Library

Room: Redbird E

Once Upon a Time Again: Finding New Narratives in Old Tales

Award-winning author, educator, and storyteller Janice M. Del Negro will briefly discuss the place of fairy tales in youth literature as well as the process of retelling tales, including a storytelling demonstration of classic tales retold. Workshop includes demonstrations, discussion, language games, and exercises on retelling tales and changing points of view. Includes resource handouts.

Speaker: Janice M. Del Negro, SOIS Dominican University

Room: Redbird B

Resumania: Resources & Programs for Teen Job Seekers

Getting your first job is tough, especially in today's competitive job market, and especially when you're a teen. Luckily, libraries are here to help! We'll talk about what programs and tools have (or haven't) worked for our teen job seekers, talk about ways you can collaborate with business and career services at your library and schools, and tips on getting career programming up and running.

Speakers: Lindsay Harmon, Naperville Public Library; Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library

Room: Redbird F

Thursday, February 27

2:00 – 3:00 PM (Continued)

Unusual Storytimes: Beyond the Basics

Have you ever felt bored or even constrained by your storytime programming? Storytimes are a staple and tradition for any Youth Services Department, but that doesn't mean there's only one way to do them. Join us as we discuss some of our thoughts on storytimes and adjacent programming. We'll share some of our unique ideas, successes we've had, challenges we've faced, and future plans. Our hope is to broaden your minds on what constitutes a storytime and what storytime elements can be part of other types of programming.

Speakers: Cristina Bueno, Deerfield Public Library;
Tom Malinowski, Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District

Room: Redbird A

We're Bringing That BLE (Big Library Energy)

Just because we're little, doesn't mean we can't do big library things. A collective of very small Illinois libraries are finding ways to channel that Big Library Energy. By pooling a variety of resources and starting a brainstorming session that never stops, our group of libraries is evolving in ways we didn't think possible and giving our communities opportunities we only used to dream about. Learn how we created partnerships with and beyond the library community, overcame obstacles, navigated funding, everything we've accomplished together, and walk away with concrete steps you can take to go big!

Speaker: Kimber Martin, North Pike District Library;
Tiffany Holland, West Central Child Care Connection

Room: Redbird G

3:00 – 3:15 PM

Snack Break

Room: Redbird CD

3:15 – 4:15 PM

iREAD 2025: Level Up at Your Library

Join us for ideas, tips, tricks, and hidden gems for iREAD Summer Reading 2025: *Level Up at Your Library* (Games and Puzzles). There will be time for sharing and brainstorming at the end of the session.

Speakers: Becca Boland, Illinois Library Association;
Kara DeCarlo, Orland Park Public Library;
Maisie Iven, Naperville Public Library

Room: Redbird B

Lightning TitleTalks with CATS

Discover what's hot off the press and what trends to look out for in spring 2025 as your friendly neighborhood CATS manager booktalks the latest and greatest titles for kids and teens from lots of different publishers. What are the upcoming season's buzziest titles? Can Sara get through at least 45 titles? Check out this session to get ideas for books your library needs to order for your book displays and book lists.

Speaker: Sara Shepard, Baker & Taylor

Room: Redbird F

Little Explorers: Programming Adventures in the Library

Interested in new adventures at your library? This session will focus on library programming geared toward the littlest learners in the library. If you are new to baby and toddler programming or a veteran, new ideas are sure to be discovered by all who attend. Join us to hear tips and tricks to creating successful storytimes, art programs, sensory times, playgroups and most importantly getting those littles in your library!

Speakers: Erica Hanke-Young, Six Mile Regional Library District;
Jacqui Williams, Sycamore Public Library; Lauren Manu,
Sycamore Public Library; Megan Prueter, Edwardsville
Public Library

Room: Redbird A

Thursday, February 27

Strengthening the Library Ecosystem

Our panel presentation will have a focus on the importance of forging partnerships between public and school libraries as a foundation for literacy efforts. This session aims to equip youth services professionals with innovative strategies for enhancing engagement and promoting literacy through collaborative programming across different types of libraries and organization and system engagement. RAILS, IHLS, and AISLE members will share best practices, strategies for networking with library groups and organizations, and an update of resources and information. We will also cover various entry points into schools and cross-type library programming. This session will focus on strengthening the partnership between school and public libraries for the benefit of all with support from various stakeholders.

Speakers: Carolyn Kinsella, Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE); Janette Derucki, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Jessica Silva, Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS); Leah Gregory, Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)

Room: Redbird G

Young Dungeoneers: What T(w)eens Taught Me about DND

Learn what to know before running your first library Dungeons and Dragons (DND) campaign! Launching a library DND campaign may seem daunting because of the supposed complexity of the rules. Attendees will receive resources and learn how they, as dungeon master, can make the most of their campaign through spontaneity. Many resources available are all-encompassing and can be tedious. This session will cover: processes to streamline character creation so that young patrons can create a character in under an hour, helpful resources to refer to throughout campaigns, "life skills" such programs can offer (importance of collaboration, problem solving, and familiarity with numbers), and solutions to keep in your back pocket for problematic behavior such as tardiness, conflicting personalities, boundaries, and even BO. Finally, this session will tackle the topic of creativity, rules, and spontaneity.

Speaker: Ash Lee Simons, Nippersink Public Library District

Room: Redbird E

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5:00 – 5:15 PM
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Meet & Eat

Looking for dinner plans? Meet up with fellow conference-goers in the Marriott Hotel lobby. We'll sort ourselves by restaurant destination and head out together. **Note:** Dinner is NOT covered by IYSI registration.

Location: Marriott Hotel Lobby

.....
4:30 – 6:30 PM
.....

Break for Dinner

Dinner is NOT included in IYSI Registration

.....
6:30 – 8:30 PM
.....

Evening Sponsor Reception

Enjoy light refreshments while visiting with our sponsors. A cash bar will be available.

Room: Redbird CD

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7:00 – 8:00 PM
.....

After-Hours Storytime

An open mic for library workers to share their funniest and weirdest library anecdotes. Attendees can choose to participate or just laugh and enjoy the snacks. Cash bar available.

Room: Redbird CD

Friday, February 28

8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Help Desk Open

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Sponsor Exhibits

Coffee will be available from 8:00 to 9:00 AM. Join our sponsors during this dedicated no-conflict hour and throughout the morning to learn, to network, and to discover products and services for both current and future library needs.

Room: Redbird CD

9:00 – 10:00 AM



Keynote Workshop with Kate Reynolds

Kate Reynolds (she/they) is a dorky children’s librarian who somehow became a little bit internet famous. She’s best known to her over 45k followers as The Lavender Librarian and is the founder and director of Storytime Solidarity. Kate was diagnosed with autism in 2020 after years of struggle. Diagnosis was rebirth. In the years since, Kate – like many who share her neurotype – has moved from surviving to thriving. She is now a sought-after speaker, singer, and patient advocate.

In 2021, Kate founded Storytime Solidarity as a Facebook group working in solidarity to make storytime more inclusive. This quickly grew into an international organization run by a Global team of volunteers. Today, the group has over 6,000 members on Facebook, an active presence on all social media platforms, and a website welcoming 1,000 unique users each week. The Solidarity team also had the honor of presenting the 2023 AB Kids series through the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, as part of their children, libraries, and literacy initiative. The chair and series honors the legacy of Augusta Braxton Baker, the first African American coordinator of the children’s services with New York Public Library (NYPL), and a role model for librarians.

Kate’s first book, *Storytime Deconstructed*, co-authored with Illinois resident – and storytime Solidarity Deputy Director – Rosie Camargo (she/her/ella) will be released in 2025 with ALA Editions. You can also find Storytime Solidarity courses in Niche Academy in late 2024 or early 2025.

In addition to her work in libraries, Kate is also a professional singer and a patient advocate. She travels internationally to share her story of living with multiple rare illnesses. In 2024 she began training as an IFPA Ambassador in Stockholm, Sweden. Kate is a Public Service Librarian at the Windsor Public Library in Ontario, Canada. She has been working in public libraries since 2010.

Room: Redbird CD

Friday, February 28

10:15 – 11:15 AM

Building Leadership Skills for Youth Services Staff: A How-To Guide for Future Managers and Library Leaders

Do you work in youth services and want to build your leadership skills? This is the session for you! We'll discuss various ways to gain the skills necessary to advance your career. Topics discussed include getting involved in professional organizations and/or professional development groups, large-scale program planning, and presenting at conferences or through webinars. We'll share our tips for getting the most out of these experiences. This session is great for librarians in smaller organizations who hope to someday be managers and for people who find themselves in management positions and feel like they've been thrown into the deep end. We hope you walk away with a list of actionable steps you can take as soon as you return to your library.

Speakers: Aimee Villet, Glen Carbon Centennial Library District; Brandi Smits, Orland Park Public Library

Room: Redbird A

IN-clued: Inclusive Health Education with Lurie Children's Hospital and the Chicago Public Library's Rainbow Committee

Are you an ally of LGBTQ+ identified 14 to 19-year-old teens? Join staff from the Chicago Public Library and Lurie Children's Hospital as we discuss IN-clued, a program designed specifically for LGBTQ young people with the goals of increasing their sexual health and confidence in accessing sexual healthcare, and how the Chicago Public Library worked with Lurie Children's Hospital to implement this workshop into library programming. This presentation will discuss how the collaboration began, how the three-hour IN-clued program is presented, the response to the program and what we plan on doing together in the future. This program series was co-sponsored by Lurie Children's Hospital and the Chicago Public Library's Rainbow Committee.

Speakers: Stuart Griner, Chicago Public Library; Layne Arens, Chicago Public Library; Deandre Turton, Lurie Children's Hospital; Booker Marshall, Lurie Children's Hospital

Room: Redbird F

Live Action Mystery Program for Kids: Sneaking Library Veggies in One Mystery at a Time

Live action mystery programs aren't just for teens and adults! Kids as young as seven can partake in them, too! Learn how to create an elaborate mystery program on a budget at your library that helps children learn the ins and outs of library services without even realizing it!

Speaker: Terri Purcell, Joliet Public Library

Room: Redbird G

Presenting the Puzzle Gauntlet OR How to Troll Your Library Kids with Puzzles & Candy

Welcome to the world of DIY locked-box-of-candy programming. With surprisingly little effort, you can become the Puzzle Master and devise devious challenges to test your library kids' STEAM skills, cunning, and tolerance for terrible dad jokes. Combination locks are irresistible, candy is a worthy treasure, and trolling schoolchildren is its own reward. Participants will leave with a packet of puzzles to get their own programs underway.

Speaker: Jess Alexander, Morton Grove Public Library

Room: Redbird B

Friday, February 28

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Buffet Luncheon

Room: Redbird CD

12:30 – 1:30 PM

All In This Together: Designing a Community-Oriented Summer Reading Program

Do you feel like your summer reading program has lost its spark? Are your young patrons losing interest in raffle prizes and trinkets? Are you looking for a way to motivate your entire community to read? Using community prizes in place of toys and trinkets and implementing a goal-focused tracking structure can have a transformative effect on your summer reading program. In this session, participants will learn how to reinvigorate their summer reading programs to promote community engagement, personal goal-setting, and reading motivation.

Speaker: Rebecca Strom, Mahomet Public Library

Room: Redbird A

Breaking Boundaries: The Library as a Resource for Non-Users

Create your next power user by engaging with community members who have yet to discover the wonders of their local library. Either connecting with local organizations and schools or reaching out directly to a targeted population, three public libraries provide concrete examples of connecting with immigrants & refugees, families of infants and toddlers, school-age children, and multilingual families.

Speakers: Amanda Gregory, Joliet Public Library; Kelsey Cole-Burns, Vernon Area Public Library District; Trish Andrew, Glenview Public Library

Room: Redbird F

Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes, Yoga Pose! Using Yoga and Mindfulness to Create Engaging and Playful Storytimes

Join us as we practice fun, hands-on techniques to integrate the benefits of yoga and mindfulness into storytime. Learn how to transform almost any picture book into a yoga story! We will share resources to help you build a yoga and mindfulness music library that will transition your storytime yogis from active to calm. Simple songs and breathing exercises in this workshop will give you the skills to teach children how to regulate their emotions naturally. Discover how yoga supports early literacy by regulating emotions and increasing vocabulary, word comprehension, and spatial awareness. Use these tools to bring engaging movement and mindfulness to your existing storytimes or develop a full yoga program for your library.

Speakers: Heather Schommer, Naperville Public Library; Lisa Kessler, Naperville Public Library

Room: Redbird B

What is a Period Party? Bringing Menstruation Education (and Fun!) to Families in Your Community

Helping elementary-aged children learn about periods with their caregivers helps them feel comfortable talking about the changes happening in their body as they grow up. Learn about the benefits of period parties, self-directed activity ideas, and crafts that can make this topic more engaging for families.

Speaker: Caitlin Backus, Aurora Public Library District

Room: Redbird G

1:45 – 2:45 PM

Homeschool Happenings: Working with Your Homeschooling Population

Have you noticed an increase in homeschooling families using your library? Are you looking for ways to make your collection more relevant to their needs? Do you want to create programs that are both fun and educational? As the homeschooling population everywhere grows, libraries play a vital role in helping families find materials and programs that are enriching and engaging to enhance their homeschooling experience. Find out how to work with your families to offer relevant services in this session.

Speaker: Amanda Meyers, Freeport Public Library

Room: Redbird F

How to Run a Literary Festival

Should your library host a literary festival to grow and nurture a teen reading culture in your community? Five librarians who have hosted literary festivals will share their experiences in planning a literary festival including: mission/vision, budget/funding, authors, marketing/promotion, operations, and outcomes. They will explain the reasons why the value of a literary festival can't be translated into numbers. How do you convince busy teens that attending a literary festival will be as fun as senior prom? Building teen engagement is a daunting challenge. Studies confirm what most of us behind the reference desk suspect: teens are not reading books. So, is a year of planning a literary festival worth the time and money? This panel thinks so! We'll tell you how to build excitement around reading, connect students to authors and books, assemble an author panel, and hold writing workshops.

Speakers: Mary Black, Evergreen Park Public Library; Penny Blubaugh, Eisenhower Public Library District; Tina Ward, Evergreen Park Community High School; Ann Baillie, Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library

Room: Redbird A

Look What You Made Me Do: Tweens, Teens, and Trends in Makerspaces

Makerspaces, a dream or torture? You have a room full of expensive equipment to create cool stuff. Great! Now you just need to learn how to use everything, determine appropriate projects for teens and tweens, and keep up with the trends. Join a panel of experienced youth and teen librarians as they tackle the do's and don'ts of maker programming for tweens and teens. Utilize your space to keep up with current trends – even when your newsletter is out and everyone's favorite pop artist has announced a new album. Learn how to upcycle unpopular materials and empower users to take on new challenges with maker equipment. Participants will listen to a panel presentation and then engage in maker activities themselves. Gain a year's worth of maker programming for tweens and teens. Program examples will be geared toward teens and tweens but can be modified for all ages. Participants leaving this session will no longer be a part of the Tortured Librarians Department.

Speakers: Jack Schultz, Indian Prairie Public Library; Mary Kate Klasen, Palos Heights Public Library; Nicole Brennan, Arlington Heights Memorial Library; Selicia Applegate, Palatine Public Library; Tina Ruzsala, Palos Heights Public Library

Room: Redbird B

Sing a Song of Storytime

Hit all the right notes in your storytime and early childhood programming! Explore diverse children's recording artists while learning different ways to incorporate music and songs into programs. Diversify your storytime music, and leave with tried-and-true recommendations on songs, books, instruments, and more. No singing talent required!

Speaker: Katie Salo, Glenview Public Library

Room: Redbird G

Notes



BUTLER CHILDREN'S LITERATURE CENTER

Explore special collections and activities that support the study and celebration of youth literature.

Discover all the center offers:
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Butler Children's Literature Center



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Exhibitors

Butler Children’s Literature Center, Dominican University

www.dom.edu/butler-center

butler@dom.edu

The Butler Children’s Literature Center (BCLC) is an examination center for children’s and young adult books published annually. Area teachers, librarians, and other members of the general public are invited to view and interact with newly published books. In addition, the Butler Children’s Literature Center includes several special collections that include rarely-held and historical materials – The Effie Lee Morris Collection of African American Children’s Books, and the Ellin Greene Folk and Fairytale Collection.

The Center offers professional development in the form of lectures and book discussions. Events are open to working professionals as well as students of children’s and youth literature. BCLC spaces are designated for housing the special collections and activities that support the study and celebration of youth literature. Library and Information Science courses in Children’s and Young Adult Literature, Master of Arts in Youth Literature courses, and School of Education courses meet in the BCLC main reading room.

ILA Youth Services Forum

www.ila.org/forum/11/youth-services-forum-ysf

ila@ila.org

The ILA Youth Services Forum is a forum of the Illinois Library Association that seeks to offer programming, information, and networking opportunities for library staff who work with youth.

Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS)

www.illinoisheartland.org

membership@illinoisheartland.org

Illinois Heartland Library System is a state agency that helps 520+ member libraries deliver exceptional service to their communities. As one of two multi-type systems in Illinois, we are a support partner for public, school, academic, and special libraries and the library staff and trustees that work for them. IHLS services over 28,000 square miles and the libraries of 2.16 million Illinois residents!

iREAD

www.iREADprogram.org

iREAD@ila.org

Level Up at Your Library with iREAD Summer Reading 2025. Play is one of the ways we learn to relate to others, to think in new ways, and to foster friendships, new and old. *Level Up at Your Library* is an all ages summer reading program based around puzzles and games.

Whether you’re playing with STEM concepts or gamifying your reading logs, learning to play chess or how to code video games, iREAD 2025: *Level Up at Your Library* reminds us that libraries are not just a space for knowledge, they are a space for fun!

LACONI - Youth Services Section

www.laconi.net/youth-services

laconiyss@gmail.com

Since 1954, LACONI (Library Administrators Conference of Northern Illinois) has been introducing library staff to new technologies and ideas, best practices, and popular programs for children and adults. LACONI is comprised of seven different sections which offer programs designed to enhance skills and knowledge of library staff in their area of expertise.

Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

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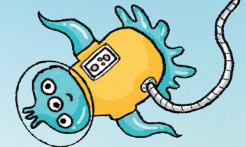
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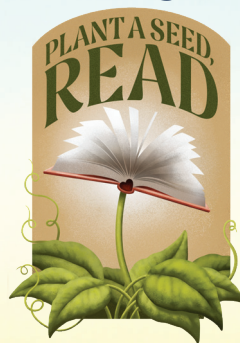


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