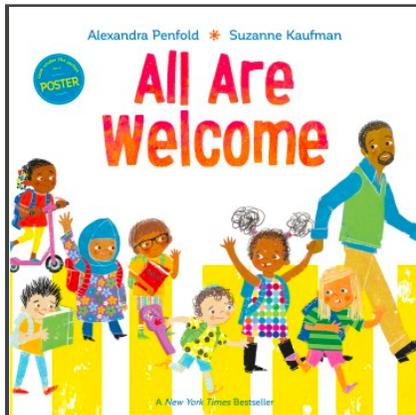


# All Are Welcome...in the Library



Take 12 minutes to watch this TedxExeter talk by Ciara Eastell: [How Libraries Change Lives.](#)

Now, reflect! Did the message strike any chords with you? Like the libraries she describes, our doors are always open, and some of our resources are available 24/7!

A few of the moments that resonate most with me are thinking of a library as a place where people are “free to be” who they are, and to pursue their personal interests. Do we foster a love of reading and books? Absolutely. Can we also teach students to navigate resources and ask critical questions? Yes. Do we connect kids with authors and experts by forging partnerships and community connections? Yep!

We are Superconnectors (her word) who see the whole student or staff member standing before us. This week, I have taught students who are grieving the recent loss of a family member. I have taught students who are brand new to our country and our community, and do not speak a bit of English. I have taught students who have never used a library before...and it is my absolute honor to be the first to welcome them to this place of possibilities. As you dig into the challenges and opportunities of this school year, do so with the knowledge your work is **essential** and **valued**. Thank you for doing what you do!

P.S. [All Are Welcome](#) by Alexandra Penfold is a great K-5 read aloud to start your year.

## News & Resources

- **ARPA & Wyoming School Libraries: Applications due OCTOBER 1!**

The Wyoming State Library, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the American Rescue Plan Act, will spend \$310,000 to help school libraries develop their collections. The project is anticipated to launch in the next few months and a contract with the vendor is in process. These funds will be used to purchase print books, ebooks, and/or audiobooks to be selected by the school library staff in each building. Each school library will receive a credit based on the Average Daily Membership (ADM) of their

---

school. Materials selection will take place this winter. An application process is being set up for those school library staff interested in participating. Here is a list of [libraries that qualify](#) for the funds. Contacts for these schools will receive an e-mail from this e-mail address: [ai-schoollibraryconsultant@wyo.gov](mailto:ai-schoollibraryconsultant@wyo.gov).

Please make sure that the **main contact for each library is updated**. If someone new is at the helm this year, send the contact information to [susan.mark@wyo.gov](mailto:susan.mark@wyo.gov) so that it can be updated in the directory. Check the current contact information by visiting the [Wyoming Libraries Directory](#).

- **Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries  
Apply by September 16th!**

The American Library Association (ALA) invites libraries in small and rural communities to apply for grant funding to help them address issues of concern in their communities. Up to 650 U.S. libraries in small and rural communities will receive \$3,000 each to tackle issues ranging from media literacy to COVID-19 safety to unemployment through three rounds of grants in 2020 and 2021.

This opportunity is open to libraries serving small and/or rural communities in the U.S. and U.S. territories that have a legal service area population of 25,000 or less and rural communities as those more than, or equal to, five miles from an urbanized area. If your library ( \*public, academic, school, or tribal \*) fits the bill as a library serving a small or rural community then you are eligible. Click for [Project Guidelines](#) and more information!

- **Wyoming Book Awards: 2021-2022**

It's time to promote our state book awards to students and staff! Visit <https://wyla.org/Wyoming-Book-Awards> to find bookmarks, reading checklists, and other resources to help you promote the titles for the Buckaroo, Indian Paintbrush and Soaring Eagle awards. The awards are co-sponsored by the Wyoming Library Association & [Wyoming State Literacy Association](#).

- **Materials Challenge Policies**

If a parent or member of the community objected to a title in your library's collection, would you know what to do? All school librarians should be familiar with their district's material challenge/reconsideration policies and procedures, and can work with their administrators to be prepared in the event of a challenge. If your district doesn't have a policy or procedure in place, visit this [shared folder](#) to view a few from school districts around the state. If you would like to share your district's policies, please add them to the folder.

---

Additionally, [report the challenge](#) to the ALA, and [access more support resources](#) on their website.

- **Overdrive/Libby/Sora**



As a district your school district can sign up for access to Sora for **free** as long as your entire school district is on board. This is the school counterpart for Overdrive and Libby. The students will login with whatever universal login your district decides (ie: Google accounts) and they can add various libraries such as the Virtual Library of Wyoming, your district library, or county library. If your district is interested in setting up an account contact Suzy Nash [snash@overdrive.com](mailto:snash@overdrive.com).

Overdrive Virtual Library is a free service offered by your local library that lets you borrow digital content (like ebooks and audiobooks) anytime, anywhere. There are also magazines and a collection of videos. This collection includes books for kids (includes Buckaroo category) and teens (includes Soaring Eagle category). Libby is the app and is available for Android, iOS, and in your browser. Find it in Apple App Store, Google Play or at [libbyapp.com](http://libbyapp.com) in your browser. In Libby, follow the prompts to find your local public library and sign in with a valid public library card. For help and more information, contact your local public library.

- **What's New in WYLD?**

***Updates from WSL Database Instruction Librarian, Chris Van Burgh***

**New this year:**

[TeachingBooks](#): Engaging video, audio, and print resources about books and authors. Tumblebooks Library and Tumblebooks Cloud (*coming soon...* available September 2021-September 2022)

**For Older Students:**

History Study Center and ProQuest Learning-Literature have changed platforms, and may no longer be a useful resource for schools.

**To Revisit:**

> [ProQuest Research Companion](#)- short informational videos to guide students through research.

> [Resources to support the study of Black History](#)

> [Britannica School](#): the images and video resources are amazing! Don't forget about Animal Kingdom in the Elementary level.

---

> Vendors are creating lots of added content along with the databases, ie: [Gale Resources Tip Sheet](#).

> Find [promotional posters & bookmarks](#) on the marketing page.

> Additional material in the GoWYLD libguides: [Additional Materials, Kids K-8](#) and [Additional Material for Student Research](#)

## Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities & Support

- **[AASL National Conference: October 23-25, 2021](#)**

If you're able to attend, stay tuned for ways for WY School Librarians to connect in SLC!

- **WLA Conference: October 7-8, 2021**

This year's conference will be held virtually, and sessions will be recorded for viewing if you're unable to attend in "real time."

## Get Involved!

- Visit [wyla.org/join-us](http://wyla.org/join-us) to **become a member** of the Wyoming Library Association, and add **SLIG** as your interest group.
- Join our **Facebook** group: Wyoming School Libraries Group (SLIG) and Info. Power
- Join our e-mail **listservs**: [Wyoming Library Association](#) (All Libraries) and [SLIG](#)

## Professional Learning

Checkout some of these books to do your own professional learning!

[5 Kinds of Nonfiction by Melissa Stewar and Marlene Correia](#)

[Leading From the Library](#)

[Hacking School Libraries](#)

\*\*\*

**Thanks for all that you do for Wyoming students & educators!**

*If there is anything you need from us, please don't hesitate to reach out to your SLIG Co-Chairs*

Melissa Snider: [msnider@tcsd.org](mailto:msnider@tcsd.org) & Megan Bietz: [Megan.bietz@gmail.com](mailto:Megan.bietz@gmail.com)