

**CLIFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING
PROPOSED AGENDA FOR 3/12/2025
7:00 PM**

- 1. WELCOME**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 4. TREASURER'S REPORT**
- 5. BILLS AND INVOICES**
- 6. COMMUNICATIONS – Illinois Heartland Library System**
- 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Village Board Meeting**
- 8. LITTLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. LIBRARY REPORT –**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**
 - A. Next Tentative Meeting Date April 9, 2025**



[View this email in your browser](#)



We Need Your Help!

We still need Public Library Trustee nominations to serve as representatives on the IHLS Board. Do you know someone who may be interested?

[Tell Us About a Great Candidate](#)

[Forward This Email to a Public Library Trustee](#)

Public Library Directors:

Please download and share these documents with your trustees.

[Trustee Recruitment Flyer](#)

[Board Member Info Packet](#)



Three members of the FY2025 and FY2024 boards, Loretta Broomfield, Rachel Fuller, and Sandy West, share highlights about what they go out of serving as an IHLS board member—and why you should, too.

Illinois Heartland Library System is looking for candidates for our FY2025 Board of Directors! We're looking for passionate individuals to guide our innovations and represent our members. Nominations are open now through until **Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025**.

*It's time to **take your turn** on the IHLS board and make a real difference for libraries like yours across central and southern Illinois.*

For the FY2026 Board, we need candidates for these positions:

- **4 Public Library Trustee Representatives**
(3-year term; must serve on a public library board of directors)
- **1 Public Library Staff Representative**
(3-year term; must be a staff member of a public library)

Why join the board? You can:

- Shape the future of your library system
- Contribute to the growth of the region's libraries
- Network with library leaders in the region and state
- Gain valuable leadership experience to grow your career
- Ensure equitable access to library resources across the region

Your system. Your voice. Your turn.

[Learn More About What It Takes](#)

or

[Tell Us About a Great Candidate](#)



Illinois Heartland Library System

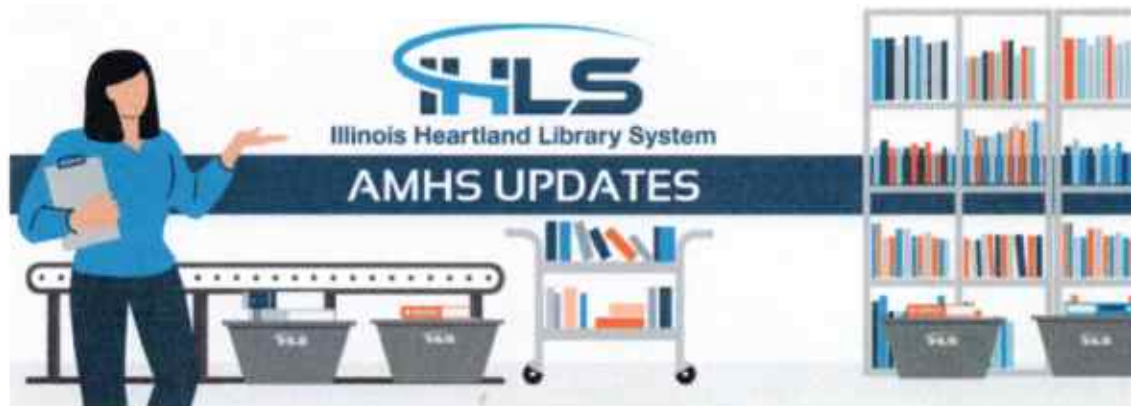
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Join the AMHS Machine Naming Contest!

The AMHS sorting machines are coming to our hubs this spring, and we need your help choosing their names!

We're inviting IHLS members and staff to participate in a contest to name the AMHS at each hub! This fun, collaborative contest will consist of **three rounds** running from February through April. **We'll reveal the winning names at a live online ribbon-cutting event at the Carbondale hub in July.**

Whether you're an IHLS member or an IHLS staff member, your input will help launch these new machines that will soon become integral parts of our operations!

[Our website provides more information](#) about the contest, timeline, and big reveal. Also, if you're IHLS staff or a member, **keep an eye on your inbox for updates in our newsletters and your invitation to the Round 1 survey!**

[Learn More About the Contest](#)



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Dear Vicky,

As a **dedicated public library trustee**, you already play a vital role in enriching your community through your library. Now, imagine expanding your influence and shaping the future of libraries across a vast region!

I'd like to encourage you to consider running for the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) Board of Directors.

IHLS is the essential support system for over 520 libraries throughout central and southern Illinois, including your own. We provide vital resources, expert guidance, and unwavering advocacy to ensure vibrant and accessible libraries for all.

Just as your local library is governed by a dedicated board, so too is IHLS. Our board members, **representing the diverse population of 2.16 million residents across 28,000 square miles**, play a crucial role in shaping the future of library services for **nearly half the state**.

By joining the IHLS Board, you will:

- **Elevate your public service career:** Gain valuable leadership experience and contribute to a statewide network of library professionals.
- **Network with esteemed library colleagues:** Connect with library leaders across the region, fostering collaboration and shared learning.
- **Influence critical decisions:** Shape policies and programs that directly influence the quality and accessibility of library services for millions of Illinoisans.

Ready to make a significant contribution to the library landscape?

Nominate yourself today! [Visit our website](#) to learn more about the nomination process and submit your application.

The nomination period closes on Saturday, February 15, 2025.

I sincerely hope you'll consider this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Karen Bounds
IHLS Board President
Trustee, Centralia Regional Library District



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IHLS Board Nominations Deadline Extended


Were you stuck in indecision over your opportunity to run for the IHLS Board of Directors? Or did you think of an ideal candidate just too late to encourage them to self-nominate? Did you realize you wanted to run after all, but the deadline had passed? **No matter how or why you ran out of time, you're in luck!**

The IHLS Board Nominations Committee has decided to extend the deadline for board nominations! **You now have over two weeks to spread the word or nominate yourself!**

New Deadline: March 12 at Noon

Still on the fence? Learn more about serving on the board on [our Board Nominations page](#). If you have questions, reach out to IHLS Executive Assistant Stacie Bushong at sbushong@illinoisheartland.org or [618.318.8172](tel:618.318.8172).

[Learn More & Nominate Yourself](#)

 **Know someone who'd make a great candidate? Share this email!**



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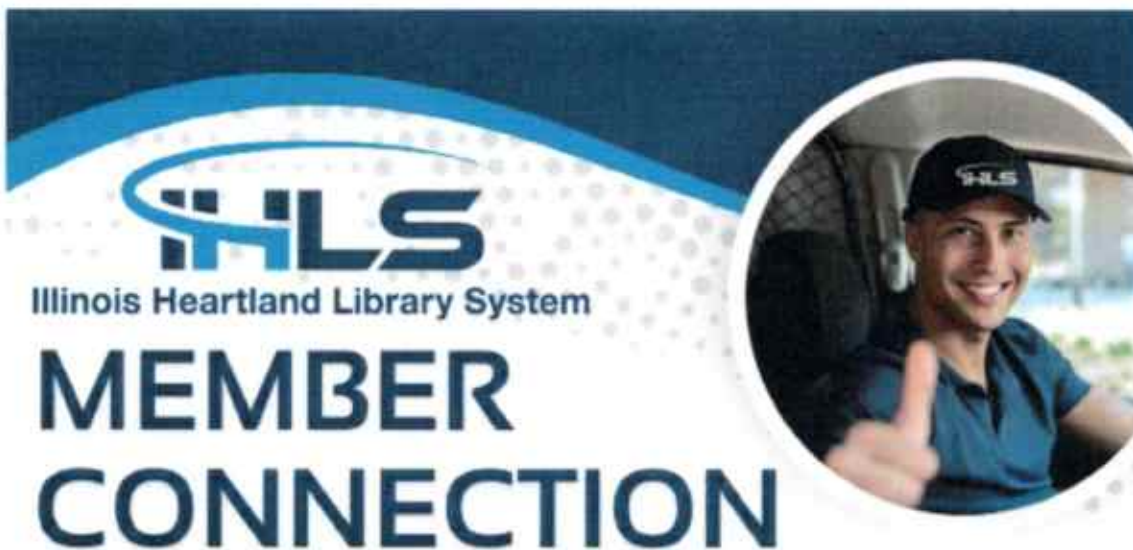
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IHLS e-newsletter

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Illinois Heartland Library System

MEMBER CONNECTION

Feb. 20, 2025



Help Us Name the AMHS Machines

[Join the Contest and Have Your Say!](#)

NEW

We're thrilled to announce a unique opportunity for IHLS members and staff to get involved in naming our new Automated Materials Handling System (AMHS) sorting machines! **This fun, collaborative contest will consist of three engaging surveys running from February through April.** Whether you're an IHLS member or an IHLS staff member, your input will help launch these new machines that will soon become integral parts of our operations.

[Learn More About the Contest](#)

Jump To:

- [IHLS Member News](#)
- [Immigration & Libraries](#)
- [Library Jobs](#)
- [Cataloging Maintenance Center](#)
- [Delivery & AMHS Updates](#)
- [Partner News](#)
- [More Continuing Education](#)
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- [Grants](#)
- [Discounts](#)
- [Have News to Share?](#)

IHLS Member News

Free for All: The Public Library Host a Screening of the New Documentary

NEW

Our friends at PBS WSIU have invited your library to host a free screening of their new documentary [Free for All: The Public Library](#). Produced by Independent Lens, this documentary is about how public libraries shaped the United States while serving as a sanctuary for Americans everywhere.

[Learn How to Host a Screening](#)



Connect with Illinois library colleagues and IHLS on LinkedIn!

WELCOME!

Welcome to the following new library directors:

Cathy Popovitch

Director, Illinois State Archives

Sharon Denton

Director, Zeigler Public Library



Digital Equity Resource Guide Updated

Information on New IDEC Grant

NEW

Following the Illinois Office of Broadband's announcement of their Illinois Digital Equity Capacity (IDEC) grant, we've updated our [Digital Equity Resource Guide](#) with [new information and materials](#) relevant to this grant opportunity!

Mental Health First Aid for Library Staff

Sponsored by IHLS

NEW

Join us for a mental health first aid training event. Start with our 30-minute overview webinar on March 27. Learn what it is, what to expect from training, and the outcomes and benefits of receiving training. Then register for one of two in-person training events in southern Illinois!

Upcoming Events:

- [Overview Webinar](#)
 - March 27, 10–10:30 a.m.
 - Online Only
- [Full-Day Training](#)
 - April 18, 9:30–4:30 p.m.
 - Centralia Regional Library District
- [Full-Day Training](#)
 - May 12, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Charity Daugherty
Director, Kitchell Memorial
Library

Devon Harris
Director, Cahokia Public
Library District

Did we miss you? [Let us know](#), and we'll put you in our next newsletter!

Recurring Events



Monthly Each First Thursday

**Online, 3:30–4:30
p.m.**

Join us at Extra Credit!, our **virtual networking session** for **school librarians**. Attendees earn **one hour of PDH!**

Extra Credit! sessions are not recorded.

Register for
Extra Credit!



◦ Marion Carnegie Library



Book Repair Workshop Series

Cost: \$15 Per Person

Open to All IHLS Members

Join SHARE Cataloger Linda Johnson for a two-hour in-person book repair workshop. This is a hands-on workshop where participants will be repairing books. **Seats are limited**, and only **one person per library** may sign up for each workshop.

Upcoming Workshops:

- [March 11 – Six Mile Regional Library District](#) (Niedringhaus Building)
- [March 18 – Effingham Public Library](#)
- [March 25 – Marion Carnegie Library](#)
- [April 7 – Forsyth Public Library](#)



Nominate Someone for an ILA Award

Deadline: May 15, 2025

Monthly Each Third Thursday

Online & In Person

10–11 a.m.

Join us in person at rolling locations or online for CE from a guest speaker discussing relevant topics in the library community.

No February Event

Next Month: March 20

Library Ethics

Hillsboro Area Public

Library District

Hillsboro, Ill.

And then stay for...



Online Only

11 a.m.–Noon

Come join our Members Matter meetings to stay updated on the latest news and connect with peers. Attend in person at rotating locations for optimal networking opportunities!

Register for
Both Events

We know that IHLS libraries have some of the best staff, trustees, and partners around. So, why not recognize them? Nominate a colleague for an ILA award or scholarship, and show the whole state how fabulous these folks really are!

[Learn More About ILA Awards](#)

New PDH Label for L2 Events

L2 now offers the option to designate events that offer ISBE professional development hours. This means that users can filter event searches to display only those marked with PDH. To filter, **click the “PDH Available” checkbox at the bottom of the event filter options.**



Annual Certification & ILLINET Traffic Survey

Due March 31!

As the **deadline for annual certification and the ILLINET traffic survey** rapidly approaches, we want to thank all of our members who have already completed this critical task! **Completion is necessary to retain system membership.** An updated guide is available on our website.

[View Our Certification Guide](#)

IHLS LIBRARY DIRECTORS' CHAT

Thursdays 1–2 p.m.*

**except each third Thursday*

Next Chats:

Feb. 27; March 6, 13, 27

Registration is required to receive event reminders and cancellation notices.

[View All Directors Chats](#)

Grants

NEW
GRANTS *In the*
DATABASE

LBSS Readers' Choice Award Grant

Deadline: April 30, 2025

This grant awards a full set of the 2026 Readers' Choice nominated books of the recipient's choice: Monarch, Bluestem, Caudill, or Abe Lincoln.



Directors and Trustees: Attend an iLEAD Online Workshop

Multiple Dates & Times

Online—New Dates Added!

Are you a library trustee or director interested in helping your board reach **new heights of excellence in public service**? The **iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal** is here to help Illinois public library trustees learn the ins and outs of serving in the important government position of public library trustee—**for free, at their own pace, and on their schedule.**

Attend an upcoming workshop to learn more and find out how to begin your iLEAD Trustee journey right away!

[Register for an iLEAD Workshop](#)

Immigration & Libraries

Immigration Enforcement in Libraries

A Blog Post from the ALA

If you're concerned about ICE raids in your library, check out the **ALA Office for Intellectual**

Illinois Digital Equity Capacity (IDEC) Grant

Deadline: May 8, 2025

This grant provides funding to support digital equity initiatives for vulnerable community members.

UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINES

April 30, 2025

**LBSS Readers' Choice
Award Grant**

May 8, 2025

**Illinois Digital Equity
Capacity (IDEC) Grant**

[See the Grants
Database](#)

Discounts

NEW & RENEWED VENDOR DISCOUNTS

**Kids Discover
Online**

NEW

With a specialty in science

Freedom's [recent blog post on immigration enforcement in libraries](#). The post explains the **types of warrants issued by ICE agents and when libraries must allow access to records.** It also shares guidance on preparing for and responding to **visits from law enforcement, including ICE.**

and social studies, Kids Discover Online crafts attractive and engaging nonfiction to get children excited about reading and learning.

[See the Discounts Database](#)

Library Jobs

Promote Your Job Openings with Us!

For Libraries in & Near Illinois

Our Job Board is the perfect place to post your library job openings. With over 500 IHLS libraries and affiliates of other library organizations statewide, you can attract top talent to your library team.

[Post to the IHLS Library Job Board](#)

Cataloging Maintenance Center



Ideal Ingredient or Recipe For Disaster?

NEW

Recently, CMC Cataloger Barb Scoby tried using an AI text generator to produce an article on some cookbooks she'd cataloged for an Illinois library. In this article, she describes her experience. Learn more in [the latest CMC news story!](#)

Averie Carlton, Spring 2025

CMC Intern

Please join us in welcoming the Cataloging Maintenance Center's newest intern, Averie Carlton. Learn more about them in [the latest CMC news story!](#)

Cataloging Maintenance Center Announces 2025 Webinars

Learn the nuances of cataloging and collection discoverability in 20 minutes when you attend the Cataloging Maintenance Center's *Online with the CMC*. These brief webinars cover a different cataloging special topic each month. A 40-minute Q&A session follows each presentation.

Cataloging Equipment: Gadgets, Gears, and Gallimaufry

March 13, 2025

Archiving Government Studies: Cataloging Government Documents

April 17, 2025

The Power of a Name: Examining the Importance of Authority Records

May 8, 2025

Explore Upcoming Webinars

Asynchronous Cataloging Courses

For seasoned librarians interested in exploring new avenues in metadata, and those looking to learn the fundamentals of cataloging, the Cataloging Maintenance Center provides more in-depth cataloging training for library workers across the state of Illinois. **Courses are asynchronous and free to all Illinois library workers!**

Focus on Deriving a Record

March 10–23, 2025

Focus on Cataloging CDs

April 7–20, 2025

Explore Cataloging Courses

Delivery & AMHS Updates

Delivery Service

[IHLS Delivery Home](#) | [IHLS Delivery Help Desk](#)

SHARE Member Closure Dates & Delivery Closure Dates on

One Form!

We're thrilled to announce a major improvement that will save you time and simplify reporting! Starting now, Delivery Closure Dates and SHARE Member Closure Dates can both be reported on a single form. Not a SHARE member? Please continue to report your closure dates on the [IHLS Delivery Helpdesk!](#) [Learn more about the form on our website.](#)

New Tubs Video & Instructions

We're excited to announce that we've created a helpful how-to video to demonstrate the proper use of our new delivery tubs! This video provides step-by-step guidance on how to efficiently load, secure, and handle the updated tubs for optimal use of IHLS delivery services. [Learn more on our website.](#)



Updates for SHARE Members Automated Material Handling System

[AMHS Project Info](#) | [Barcode Duplication](#)

SHARE members: IHLS Delivery is getting sorting machines! SHARE members should [read up on the AMHS project](#) and what steps you may need to take to ensure your materials are scannable.

AMHS Barcode Duplication Page

The installation of an AMHS at IHLS hubs will require [some SHARE members](#) to add duplicate barcodes [to the outside](#) of each item in portions of their collections **by April 2025**. Will you need to duplicate your library's barcodes? Learn more about the specifications and exceptions on the new [AMHS Barcode Duplication page](#).

Additional Updates

More news about the sorting machine project can be found in the *SHARE Member Notes* newsletter and on the *AMHS Project* webpage.

- [Timeline Update & Correction on Transit Labels](#) **NEW**
- [Update on Revised Timeline for AMHS Installation](#)
- [Label Protectors for Faded Barcodes](#)
- [Alternative to Rubber Bands for the AMHS](#)
- [Possible Scanner Issue with Duplicate Barcodes](#)

Partner News



***Can't Shelve This* Podcast**

A podcast that aims to create a space for **school library workers** to feel seen, entertained, and informed. The series is co-hosted by RAILS Data Analyst Janette Derucki and IHLS School Library Membership Coordinator Leah Gregory.

Latest episodes:

- [Ep. 5: A Love Letter to Libraries](#) **NEW**
- [Ep. 4: A Good Librarian's Guide to Getting Along \(with Administration\)](#)
- [Ep. 3: The Library's Got Rizz](#)
- [Ep. 2: Advocacy 101: Help Me Help You](#)

[Can't Shelve This](#) is a production of the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) in collaboration with Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS).

Learn More & Listen to the Podcast



Telling Libraries' Stories of Impact on Communities

Latest additions to the *My Library Is...* blog:

- [My Library Is... Free to Read](#) **NEW**
- [My Library Is... Bilingual to Meet Student Needs](#) **NEW**
- [My Library Is... Visible, Accessible, and Vital](#)
- [AISLE Response to Recent Chicago Tribune Article](#)

Think you have an idea for a topic or know a writer for the [My Library Is... blog](#)? [Contact Us](#).

Supported by IHLS through staff participation and promotion

More Continuing Education

Free Webinars

Selected & Upcoming

NEW

Feb. 24, 3 p.m.

Active Listening: What It Is & How to Do It

Feb. 26, 2 p.m.

Boost your Nonprofit's Cybersecurity: 10 Expert Tips for Safeguarding Your Organization

Feb 26, 2 p.m.

Turn Strategy into Action with Theory of Change

Feb. 28, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Library Makerspaces Research Showcase

Find these & more on our website with our monthly Library Learning Roundup!

Go to the February Roundup

Have suggestions, ideas, or questions about Continuing Education? Contact [Kate Kite, Continuing Education Coordinator Liaison](#), 618.474.9948.

Conferences

[North American Virtual Reference Online Conference](#)

Feb. 25-27, 2025

[Illinois Youth Services Institute: Find a New Narrative](#)

Feb. 27-28, 2025, in Bloomington-Normal, Ill.

[Reaching Forward South Conference](#)

April 4, 2025, in Effingham, Ill.

Members in the News

Carlinville Public Library Wins DECK Grant

NEW

Carlinville Public Library has been named a recipient of a Digital Equity Capacity Kickstarter (DECK) grant through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Illinois Office of Broadband. Apart from the Chicago Public Library, Carlinville was the only library to receive this honor. Congratulations, Carlinville! [Read the full story from RiverBender.](#)

Partner News

Illinois Youth Services Institute Bloomington-Normal

Feb. 27–28, 2025

IYSI is booked at the Marriott Bloomington-Normal Hotel & Conference Center. ILA is aware of the [labor situation](#) and has decided to remain at the Marriott Bloomington-Normal Hotel & Conference Center for IYSI 2025. They will pursue alternative venues for future events.

Apply now to Girls Who Code's Summer Programs!

Priority Deadline: Feb. 26, 2025

Final Deadline: April 11, 2025

Girls Who Code's Summer Programs are back! 9th-12th grade girls and non-binary students are [invited to apply](#). Students in clubs affiliated with IHLS as a community partner **get priority for Summer Programs!** For info, [join a webinar](#) or [email Girls Who Code](#).

Be sure to list Illinois Heartland Library System as your Girls Who Code Community Partner on your Club's Application for extra benefits and swag!

Illinois Open Education Summit

Normal, Ill.

April 7, 2025

Building an Open Future: Supporting and Expanding Open Education Across Illinois

The Illinois Open Education Summit, held at Illinois State University Alumni Center, seeks to bring together librarians, faculty, academic leadership, instructional designers, and distance education staff to create a shared vision for Open Education in Illinois and expand their Open Education initiatives.

[Learn more and register](#) your institution's team of three to attend this all-day event.

Have News to Share?

Share your organization's news with IHLS and you may see it in a future newsletter!

[Submit a Story](#)

Quick Links

[Illinois Heartland Library System](#) | [Cataloging Maintenance Center](#) | [SHARE Consortium](#) | [SHARE Help Desk](#) | [Library Directory & Learning Calendar \(L2\)](#) | [Illinois State Library](#) | [Illinois Library Association](#)



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IMAGINING TOMORROW - DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY

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Spring into Continuing Education with IHLS

Spring is coming, and so are many useful and engaging continuing education events! Whether you're a library director, specialist, or trustee, we have your CE needs covered. Check out what we have in store below!

Jump to:

- [March Events](#)
- [April Events](#)
- [May Events](#)
- [Regular Online CE & Networking](#)

March Events

March 11, 10 a.m.
Online Only

[Toxic Takedowns: Mastering the Art of Handling Difficult Employees](#)

Presented by HR Source

March 11, 10 a.m.
In-Person Only

[Book Repair Workshop at Six Mile Regional Library District](#)

This workshop is full. [Join the Waitlist](#)

March 15, 9 a.m.
Online Only

[iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal Statewide Workshop](#)

March 18, 10 a.m.
In-Person Only

[Book Repair Workshop at Effingham Public Library](#)

March 20, 10 a.m.
Online & in-Person
Hillsboro Area PLD

Third Thursday CE & Members Matter
[Library Ethics with Gail Santy & Patty Collins of the Central Kansas Library System](#)

March 25, 10 a.m.
In-Person Only

[Book Repair Workshop at Marion Carnegie Library](#)

March 27, 10 a.m.
Online Only

[Mental Health First Aid Overview](#)

Learn about Mental Health First Aid before the two longer trainings in April & May!

April Events

April 5, 9 a.m.
Online Only

[iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal Statewide Workshop](#)

April 7, 1 p.m.
In-Person Only

[Book Repair Workshop at Forsyth Public Library](#)

April 14, 10 a.m.
Online Only

[Employment Law Update 2025](#)

Presented by HR Source

April 17, 10 a.m.
Online & in-Person
Metropolis PL

Third Thursday CE & Members Matter

[Doing Less with Less with Mandy Walters, Director of Pend Oreille County Library District](#)

April 18, 9:30 a.m.
In-Person Only

[Mental Health First Aid Training at Centralia Regional Library District](#)

May Events

May 3, 9 a.m.
Online Only

[iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal Statewide Workshop](#)

May 12, 9 a.m.
In-Person Only

[Mental Health First Aid Training at Marion Carnegie Library](#)

May 12, 10 a.m.
Online Only

[Performance Management: Ongoing Communication & Documentation](#)

Presented by HR Source

May 15, 10 a.m.
Online & in-Person
Sallie Logan PL

Third Thursday CE & Members Matter

[Library Signage: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly with Library and Education Consultant Dr. Curtis Rogers](#)

Regular Online CE & Networking

Check out our regularly scheduled [Directors Chats](#) on **Thursdays (except Third Thursday)** and [Extra Credit! School Networking](#) on the **first Thursday**.

And don't forget about the events from our colleagues at [SHARE](#) and the [CMC](#)!



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 A black silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, looking through a large telescope. The background is a light, hazy landscape.

 **This month's Third Thursday CE and Members Matter meetings**

[View Full Schedule](#)

Thursday • March 20

Don't wait! Register today. [See Full Schedule](#)



10–11 a.m.

Directly Before Members Matter
Online through Zoom
OR

In Person at Hillsboro Area Public
Library District

Join us online or (usually) in person each third Thursday, directly before IHLS Members Matter, to hear from a guest speaker about an important or arising continuing education topic facing the library community. This month:

Library Ethics

with Patty Collins & Gail Santy
Central Kansas Library System

Public libraries face ethical issues all the time. This month, we'll explore real library ethical scenarios, followed by a discussion of core values and ethics of librarianship, with a pair of experienced trainers from Central Kansas Library System: Gail Santy and Patty Collins. We will discuss sticky situations when personal ethics and professional ethics differ. This is a highly interactive session where audience participation is encouraged. We will provide ample time for audience Q&A, and you'll leave with a set of helpful resources.

REGISTER NOW

*In-person space is limited; registration with an L2 account is required.
Registering for Third Thursdays CE automatically registers you for IHLS Members Matter.
Attend one or both, in person or online!*



11 a.m.–noon

Directly after Third Thursday CE

Online through Zoom

OR

In Person at Hillsboro Area Public
Library District

IHLS Members Matter is your monthly opportunity to:

- **Get the latest scoop:** Hear news important to IHLS members with updates from IHLS, SHARE, and other library-related organizations.
- **Talk with IHLS staff:** IHLS staff will be on hand to answer your questions and offer support.
- **Build connections:** Network with colleagues when you attend in person.
- **Attend where you can:** Log in online.

REGISTER NOW

*In-person space is limited; registration with an L2 account is required.
Registering for IHLS Members Matter automatically registers you for Third Thursdays CE.
Attend one or both, in person or online!*

3/8/25, 1:38 PM

This Third Thursday...

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Members: Join the Contest

It's official: The AMHS Machine Naming Contest has started!

This fun, collaborative contest will consist of **three rounds** running from February through April. We'll reveal the winning names at a **live online ribbon-cutting event at the Carbondale hub** in July. Whether you're an IHLS member or an IHLS staff member, your input will help launch these new machines that will soon become integral parts of our operations. **Learn more about the contest and machine unveiling process [on our website!](#)**

Now, it's time for members to join the contest!

If you're a **trustee or employee at an IHLS member library**, we invite you to join the contest by submitting a potential machine name now! **Just submit your suggestion for a name for one of our AMHS machines in the survey linked below.**

[Navigate to the Round 1 Survey](#) →



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Make Sure Your Library Gets a Vote!

Update your library contact in L2 before Board elections.

We're sending IHLS Board election ballots to the member library contacts listed in the [Library Directory and Learning Calendar \(L2\)](#). Please make sure your **library contact email address is up to date in L2** to ensure your library has a voice in its system's leadership.

[Go to L2 Now](#)

We need accurate contacts by March 13, 2025!

We anticipate a contest for all available seats this year. Don't miss your library's chance to take part in this exciting election!



Illinois Heartland Library System

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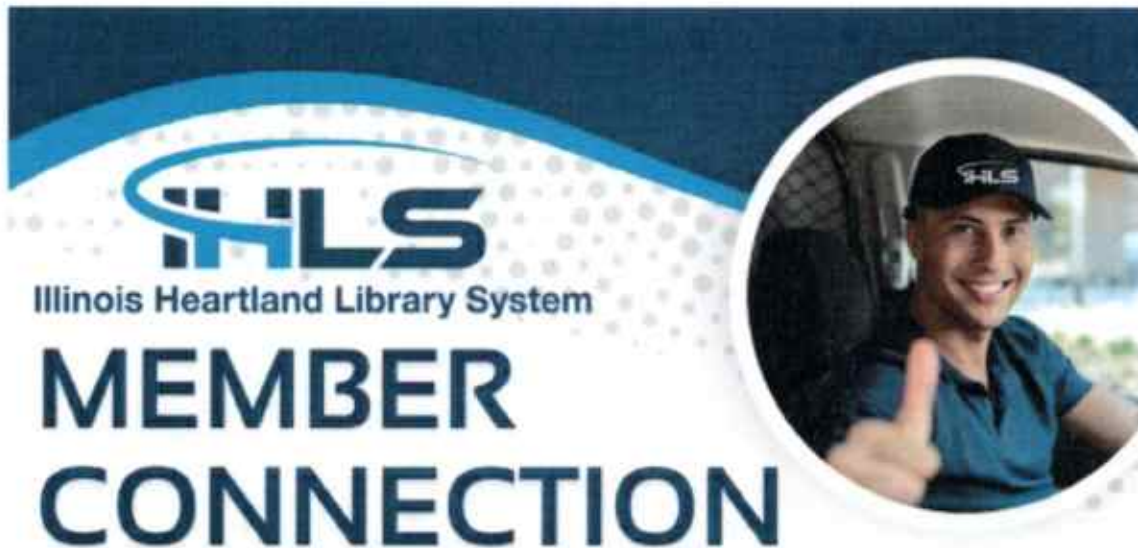
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IHLS e-newsletter

[View in your browser](#)

March 5, 2025



Our Marketing Microgrant Winners!

Two Winners Chosen for the FY2025 Cycle

NEW

Thank you to all our applicants for the inaugural IHLS Marketing Microgrant! We officially announced the winners at the end of IHLS Member Day 2025: Oh, the Places You'll Grow! But we'd also like to congratulate them here! This year, we were able to provide funding for two different projects. Winning projects were submitted by:

- Fairview Heights Public Library (Full Funding)
- Mississippi Valley Library District–Fairmont City Library Center (Partial Funding)

Learn About the Winning Projects

Jump To:

- [IHLS Member News](#)
 - [Library Jobs](#)
 - [Cataloging Maintenance Center](#)
 - [Delivery & AMHS Updates](#)
 - [Partner News](#)
 - [More Continuing Education](#)
 - [Members in the News](#)
 - [Partner News](#)
 - [Recurring Events](#)
 - [Grants](#)
 - [Discounts](#)
 - [Have News to Share?](#)
-

IHLS Member News

It's Time to Apply: Perfecting Your Readers' Choice Grant Application

March 6, 2025, 9–10 a.m. & 7– 8 p.m.

Via Zoom; 1 PDH

NEW

The grant window opens on March 16. Are you ready? Join the LBSS Endowment Fund team to learn how to write a successful Readers' Choice grant application! Whether you're experienced or new to grants, either of these workshops will provide tips to help your application stand out.



Connect with Illinois library colleagues and IHLS on LinkedIn!

WELCOME!

Welcome to the following new library directors:

Leslie Wood

Director, St. Elmo Public Library

Cathy Popovitch

Member Fee: \$10.00

Non-Member Fee: \$15.00

Register for an LBSS Workshop



Help Us Name the AMHS Machines

Round 1: Members Suggest Names

NEW

The Round 1 survey for the [AMHS Naming Contest](#) went out via email on Friday, Feb. 28.

The survey will be **open from Feb. 28 – Mar. 14, 2025**. The first round will allow members to submit their ideas for potential machine names. It's your chance to be creative and **maybe win a special prize!**

If you did not receive the email, [let us know!](#)

Free for All: The Public Library Host a Screening of the New Documentary

Our friends at PBS WSIU have invited your library to host a free screening of their new documentary [Free for All: The Public Library](#). Produced by Independent Lens, this documentary is about how public libraries shaped the United

Director, Illinois State Archives

Sharon Denton
Director, Zeigler Public Library

Charity Daugherty
Director, Kitchell Memorial Library

Did we miss you? [Let us know](#), and we'll put you in our next newsletter!

Recurring Events



**Monthly Each
First Thursday
Online, 3:30–4:30
p.m.**

Join us at Extra Credit!, our **virtual networking session** for **school librarians**. Attendees earn **one hour of PDH!**

Extra Credit! sessions are not recorded.

Register for
Extra Credit!

States while serving as a sanctuary for Americans everywhere.

Learn How to Host a Screening



Digital Equity Resource Guide Updated

Information on New IDEC Grant

Following the Illinois Office of Broadband's announcement of their Illinois Digital Equity Capacity (IDEC) grant, we've updated our [Digital Equity Resource Guide](#) with [new information and materials](#) relevant to this grant opportunity!



Annual Certification & ILLINET Traffic Survey

Due March 31!

As the **deadline for annual certification and the ILLINET traffic survey** rapidly approaches, we want to thank all of our members who have already completed this critical task! **Completion is necessary to retain system membership.** An updated guide is available on our website.



Monthly Each Third Thursday

Online & in Person

10–11 a.m.

Join us in person at rolling locations or online for CE from a guest speaker discussing relevant topics in the library community.

This Month: March 20

Library Ethics

Hillsboro Area Public

Library District

Hillsboro, Ill.

And then stay for...



Online Only

11 a.m.–Noon

Come join our Members Matter meetings to stay updated on the latest news and connect with peers. Attend in person at rotating locations for optimal networking opportunities!

Register for Both Events

[View Our Certification Guide](#)



**Directors and Trustees:
Attend an iLEAD Online
Workshop**

Multiple Dates & Times

Online—New Dates Added!

Are you a library trustee or director interested in helping your board reach **new heights of excellence in public service**? The **iLEAD Trustee Learning Portal** is here to help Illinois public library trustees learn the ins and outs of serving in the important government position of public library trustee—**for free, at their own pace, and on their schedule.**

Attend an upcoming workshop to learn more and find out how to begin your iLEAD Trustee journey right away!

[Register for an iLEAD Workshop](#)

[Library Jobs](#)

IHLS LIBRARY DIRECTORS' CHAT

Thursdays 1–2 p.m.*

**except each third Thursday*

Next Chats:

March 6, 13, 27; April 3

Registration is required to receive event reminders and cancellation notices.

[View All Directors Chats](#)

Grants

NEW
GRANTS *in the*
DATABASE

Voya Unsung Heroes Grants

Deadline: April 18, 2025

These grants fund innovative class projects that have a positive impact on students.

Promote Your Job Openings with Us!

For Libraries in & Near Illinois

Our Job Board is the perfect place to post your library job openings. With over 500 IHLS libraries and affiliates of other library organizations statewide, you can attract top talent to your library team.

[Post to the IHLS Library Job Board](#)

Cataloging Maintenance Center



Ideal Ingredient or Recipe For Disaster?

Recently, CMC Cataloger Barb Scoby tried using an AI text generator to produce an article on some cookbooks she'd cataloged for an Illinois library. In this article, she describes her experience. Learn more in [the latest CMC news story!](#)

Cataloging Maintenance Center Announces 2025 Webinars

UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINES

April 18, 2025

[Voya Unsung Heroes Grants](#)

April 30, 2025

[LBSS Readers' Choice Award Grant](#)

May 8, 2025

[Illinois Digital Equity Capacity \(IDEC\) Grant](#)

[See the Grants Database](#)

Discounts

NEW & RENEWED VENDOR DISCOUNTS

Kids Discover Online

With a specialty in science and social studies, Kids Discover Online crafts attractive and engaging nonfiction to get children excited about reading and learning.

[See the Discounts Database](#)

Learn the nuances of cataloging and collection discoverability in 20 minutes when you attend the Cataloging Maintenance Center's *Online with the CMC*. These brief webinars cover a different cataloging special topic each month. A 40-minute Q&A session follows each presentation.

Cataloging Equipment: Gadgets, Gears, and Gallimaufry
March 13, 2025

Archiving Government Studies: Cataloging Government Documents
April 17, 2025

The Power of a Name: Examining the Importance of Authority Records
May 8, 2025

Explore Upcoming Webinars

Asynchronous Cataloging Courses

For seasoned librarians interested in exploring new avenues in metadata, and those looking to learn the fundamentals of cataloging, the Cataloging Maintenance Center provides more in-depth cataloging training for library workers across the state of Illinois. **Courses are asynchronous and free to all Illinois library workers!**

Focus on Deriving a Record
March 10–23, 2025

Focus on Cataloging CDs
April 7–20, 2025

Explore Cataloging Courses

Delivery & AMHS Updates

Delivery Service

[IHLS Delivery Home](#) | [IHLS Delivery Help Desk](#)

Updated Transit Labels Now Available on IHLS and SHARE Websites

NEW

Good news! The transit labels on both the IHLS and SHARE websites have been updated with a fillable form for transit to another IHLS member library. Please ensure you use these updated labels when sending items for inter-library loan or SHARE cataloging. Learn more on [our website](#).

Reminder for School Libraries to Submit Spring Break Closure Dates

NEW

As spring break approaches, we kindly remind all school libraries to submit their planned closure dates to the delivery team. This will help ensure our delivery schedules are adjusted appropriately and that we do not attempt delivery when your building is closed.

- SHARE Members: Please use [the SHARE Closing Dates Form](#).
- Standalone Members: Please use [the IHLS Delivery Help Desk](#).

Happy Spring Break from the IHLS Delivery team!



Updates for SHARE Members

Automated Material Handling System

[AMHS Project Info](#) | [Barcode Duplication](#)

SHARE members: IHLS Delivery is getting sorting machines! SHARE members should [read up on the AMHS project](#) and what steps you may need to take to ensure your materials are scannable.

AMHS Barcode Duplication Page

The installation of an AMHS at IHLS hubs will require [some SHARE members](#) to add duplicate barcodes [to the outside](#) of each item in portions of their collections **by April 2025**. Will you need to duplicate your library's barcodes? Learn more about the specifications and exceptions on the new [AMHS Barcode Duplication page](#).

Additional Updates

More news about the sorting machine project can be found in the *SHARE Member Notes* newsletter and on the *AMHS Project* webpage.

- [Timeline Update & Correction on Transit Labels](#)
- [Update on Revised Timeline for AMHS Installation](#)
- [Label Protectors for Faded Barcodes](#)
- [Alternative to Rubber Bands for the AMHS](#)
- [Possible Scanner Issue with Duplicate Barcodes](#)

Partner News



Can't Shelve This Podcast

A podcast that aims to create a space for **school library workers** to feel seen, entertained, and informed. The series is co-hosted by RAILS Data Analyst Janette Derucki and IHLS School Library Membership Coordinator Leah Gregory.

Latest episodes:

- [Ep. 5: A Love Letter to Libraries](#)
- [Ep. 4: A Good Librarian's Guide to Getting Along \(with Administration\)](#)
- [Ep. 3: The Library's Got Rizz](#)
- [Ep. 2: Advocacy 101: Help Me Help You](#)

[Can't Shelve This](#) is a production of the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) in collaboration with Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS).

[Learn More & Listen to the Podcast](#)

My Library Is...

Telling Libraries' Stories of Impact on Communities

Latest additions to the *My Library Is...* blog:

- [My Library Is... Free to Read](#)
- [My Library Is... Bilingual to Meet Student Needs](#)

- [My Library Is... Visible, Accessible, and Vital](#)
- [AISLE Response to Recent Chicago Tribune Article](#)

Think you have an idea for a topic or know a writer for the [My Library Is... blog](#)? [Contact Us](#).

Supported by IHLS through staff participation and promotion

More Continuing Education

Mental Health First Aid for Library Staff

Sponsored by IHLS

Join us for a mental health first aid training event. Start with our 30-minute overview webinar on March 27. Learn what it is, what to expect from training, and the outcomes and benefits of receiving training. Then register for one of two in-person training events in southern Illinois!

Upcoming Events:

- [Overview Webinar](#)
 - March 27, 10–10:30 a.m.
 - Online Only
 - [Full-Day Training](#)
 - April 18, 9:30–4:30 p.m.
 - Centralia Regional Library District
 - [Full-Day Training](#)
 - May 12, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
 - Marion Carnegie Library
-



Book Repair Workshop Series

Cost: \$15 Per Person

Open to All IHLS Members

Join SHARE Cataloger Linda Johnson for a two-hour in-person book repair workshop. This is a hands-on workshop where participants will be repairing books. **Seats are limited**, and only **one person per library** may sign up for each workshop.

Upcoming Workshops:

- [March 11 – Six Mile Regional Library District](#) (Niedringhaus Building)
- [March 18 – Effingham Public Library](#)
- [March 25 – Marion Carnegie Library](#)
- [April 7 – Forsyth Public Library](#)

Free Webinars

Selected & Upcoming

NEW

March 6, 1 p.m.

Transforming Email Fundraising with AI: Best Practices for 2025

March 6, 2 p.m.

Lessons From the Science of Reading

March 10, 10 a.m.

Capacity Building for Small Communications Teams

March 13, 2 p.m.

Supporting Communities Impacted by
Incarceration Through Library Services

Find these & more on our website with our monthly
Library Learning Roundup!

Go to the March Roundup

*Have suggestions, ideas, or questions about Continuing
Education? Contact [Kate Kite, Continuing
Education Coordinator Liaison, 618.474.9948.](#)*

Conferences

[Reaching Forward South Conference](#)

April 4, 2025, in Effingham, Ill.

Members in the News

Carlinville Public Library Wins DECK Grant

Carlinville Public Library has been named a recipient of a Digital Equity Capacity Kickstarter (DECK) grant through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and the Illinois Office of Broadband. Apart from the Chicago Public Library, Carlinville was the only library to receive this honor. Congratulations, Carlinville! [Read the full story from RiverBender.](#)

Partner News

Dine to Donate at Chili's

Effingham, IL

April 3, 5-9 p.m.

NEW

Join Illinois Library Association the **evening before Reaching Forward South** for a dine-to-donate event! Come connect with friends and colleagues over dinner, with 15% of proceeds **benefiting ILA**.

[Learn More About the Chili's Event](#)

Apply now to Girls Who Code's Summer Programs!

Priority Deadline: Feb. 26, 2025

Final Deadline: April 11, 2025

Girls Who Code's Summer Programs are back! 9th-12th grade girls and non-binary students are [invited to apply](#). Students in clubs affiliated with IHLS as a community partner **get priority for Summer Programs!** For info, [join a webinar](#) or [email Girls Who Code](#).

Be sure to list Illinois Heartland Library System as your Girls Who Code Community Partner on your Club's Application for extra benefits and swag!

Have News to Share?

Share your organization's news with IHLS and you may see it in a future newsletter!

[Submit a Story](#)

Quick Links

[Illinois Heartland Library System](#) | [Cataloging Maintenance Center](#) | [SHARE Consortium](#) | [SHARE Help Desk](#) | [Library Directory & Learning Calendar \(L2\)](#) | [Illinois State Library](#) | [Illinois Library Association](#)



Illinois Heartland Library System

IMAGINING TOMORROW - DELIVERING POSSIBILITIES TODAY

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