

# Services to Libraries Report

October 2017 to March 2018



Two new STEAM Kits are in the works.

- **NASA @ Your Library**

The Washington State Library has entered into a grant agreement with the Space Science Institute (SSI) to offer NASA @ Your Library statewide.

The focus of the project is to provide leadership to public and tribal libraries in order to build relationships between the library community and those organizations participating in space science activities.

Five main activities comprise the grant award:

- Build relations with NASA and other space science organizations in order to benefit the public libraries within Washington;
- Promote and circulate science kits to public libraries, distribute evaluation forms, compile responses and share this information with NASA @ My Library;
- Support State Library professional development in order to support the work by public library staff to engage their patrons in space science learning;
- Serve as earth and space science advisors to the SSI in order to share insights, best practices and lessons learned from participating in this grant;
- Manage the project by coordinating NASA@ My Library activities, interact with public and tribal libraries in the state and work with the SSI evaluation team.

- **Leap Into Science**

The Washington State library is partnering with the National Girls Collaborative, Spokane County Library District, School's Out Washington and the Imagine Children's Museum in Everett to expand this program in Washington.

Leap into Science is a nationwide program that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families.

Developed by The Franklin Institute Science Museum and supported by National Girls Collaborative Project, Leap into Science is a series of workshops that pair hands-on science activities with thematically-linked children's books for children ages 3-10 and families. The program is designed to take place in community settings like libraries, museums, community centers, afterschool programs, and science festivals, to engage underserved audiences in accessible and comfortable settings.

Leap into Science is scaling nationally through a train-the-trainer model.

# Summary of Activities

October 2017 to March 2018

## 2017 Grant Cycles: Washington Rural Heritage Grant Cycle Activity

Maura Walsh  
Evan Robb  
Jeff Martin

### 2017 Grant Cycles

WSL supported 2017 Washington Rural Heritage sub-grantees by providing face-to-face and online training to 8 institutions. Several new digital collections will go live online in late spring/early summer.

WRH project manager has also been overseeing the progress of two Metadata Cleanup grants, and coordinating their projects and related training to coincide with trainings offered by the Orbis Cascade Alliance. Libraries such as the Seattle Public Library (a current sub-grantee), Spokane Public Library, Richland Public Library, and Whatcom County Library System have participated in specialized metadata trainings related to standardized copyright statements and forming names according to RDA.

Robb is also piloting a project with the State Library of Oregon and Baker County Library District (Oregon) to migrate the latter's digital special collections from PastPerfect to CONTENTdm.

## LSTA State Programs Report

Cindy Aden

### [LSTA State Programs Report](#) (a.k.a., the LSTA Annual Report)

Worked with staff to craft report consisting of 53 projects, including statewide projects, grants, and trainings. Submitted the report to IMLS on December 22, 2017, a week before the deadline. Followed-up on the State Programs Report (SPR) with our IMLS senior program officer to discuss her perceptions of the report and needed revisions to certain projects.

Contributing to the LSTA Annual Report were: Jeff Martin; Leanna Hammond; Maura Walsh; Staci Phillips; Danielle Miller; Laura Sherbo and all LSTA funded project managers.

## Ask WA

Nono Burling

Burling continued to work with member libraries on service improvements and trouble shooting.

Additionally, she: worked with other North American coordinators to keep abreast of changes in QuestionPoint; worked with member libraries and QP on Winter quarter scheduling; Documented QP service issues; and worked with QP to resolve issues already reported.

## Digitization, collection, management & administration, website design

Evan Robb  
Nikki Chiampa

### Washington Rural Heritage

Conducted digitization workshops at Little Boston, Poulsbo, and Manchester branches of Kitsap Regional Library. Approximately 30 people in attendance.

Provided initial digitization training and support for 2017 Washington Rural Heritage sub-grantees at the following locations: Kalama Public Library (3 trainees); Richland Public Library (3 trainees); Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (Woodland, Ridgefield, La Center); Spokane County Library District (Moran Prairie branch); Whatcom County Library System (Lummi Island Library branch); and Orcas Island Public Library/Orcas Island Historical Museum.

	<p>Developed new competitive grant cycle expanding the Washington Rural Heritage grant opportunity to include digitization projects and digital initiatives from all public, tribal, and academic libraries in Washington.</p>
<p><b>Group Services</b> Will Stuiivenga</p>	<p>Completed the final two OCLC cost reimbursements to participating small libraries. Current discussions over whether WA Group Services should be continued or not.</p>
<p><b>Metadata Enhancement and Remediation (MER) Project</b>  Evan Robb</p>	<p><u>Metadata Enhancement Grants</u></p> <p>Held meetings with Whitman County Library and Seattle Public Library to kick off their metadata enhancement grant projects. These projects follow on 2016 data analyses conducted for both institutions, including recommendations for data cleanup.</p> <p>Collaborated with Orbis Cascade Alliance to convene a “Group 1” set of institutions prioritized for special training related to metadata best practices. This includes institutions such as Seattle Public Library, Spokane Public, Richland Public, and others, that are participating in training related to copyright determination and standardized rights statements for digital collections, forming names according to RDA, and related topics.</p> <p><u>Baker County Library Digital Collections Pilot Project</u></p> <p>Migrated a portion (1,000 records) of the Baker County (Oregon) Library District’s digital special collections from PastPerfect database to CONTENTdm, under contract with the Oregon State Library. This pilot project will serve as the basis for potential future collaboration on regional digitization with the Oregon State Library.</p>
<p><b>Microsoft Imagine Academy &amp; Microsoft Certification</b>  Elizabeth Iaukea</p>	<p>As of the end of December, we have just over 30,000 users of Microsoft’s online learning. As of March 1, we have 42 active Microsoft testing sites! Timberland Regional Library joined our partnership with 4 exam locations, and we added North Seattle College and Tacoma Community College. Instructors at several community colleges are starting to utilize the eTextbooks that come with their Imagine Academy site license, providing these to their students – no textbooks to buy!</p> <p>As certification picks up, more and more libraries are starting to direct their patrons toward additional resources to self-study and prepare for exams. Use of the WSL-funded GMetrix practice exams has increased, and libraries are making use of Lynda.com courses (locally purchased subscriptions).</p>
<p><b>NASA @ Your Library</b>  Joe Olayvar Jeff Martin</p>	<p>Worked alongside Joe Olayvar to support the development of this project. Attended three webinar/phone calls with representatives of the Space Science Institute.</p> <p>Joe has assumed the role of project manager for this project and attended the NASA@ My Library conference in Denver, Colorado during late February. The Washington State Library is one of four state libraries piloting this project.</p>

**Off the Page:  
Downloadable  
Audiobooks and  
eBooks for  
Washington  
Libraries**

Carolyn Petersen  
Will Stuivenga

**Washington Anytime library**

As an outgrowth of the first meeting of the Washington Anytime library consortium in October several committees were organized to write governing/guidance documents.

Completed and submitted to the Executive committee of the Washington Anytime Library the following drafts:

- Collecting Development document
- Weeding guidelines document
- Request for Consideration guidelines.

With Jeremy's assistance, compiled and distributed the almost unanimously positive evaluation feedback from the September Washington Digital Library Consortium (WDLC) User Group Meeting. Activities coming out of that meeting include:

With assistance from Carolyn (Task Force group online meeting facilitation, drafting policy), a Collection Development and Weeding Policy for the WDLC/Washington Anytime Library was formally adopted by vote of the WDLC membership libraries. The WDLC Weeding Task Force successfully completed an initial trial run at weeding the Washington Anytime Library collection.

The WDLC Curating Lists Task Force met online, and began routinely creating new display lists on the Anytime Library, with the goals of keeping the face of the collection fresh and attractive, and of encouraging use and increasing circulation.

Completed the 2018 budget process for the WDLC, including developing budget proposals, putting them to a vote of the membership; requesting invoicing from staff in fiscal.

Harrington Public library joined as the 45th and smallest member of the WDLC (415 population served)

In November 2017, lowered the Anytime Library holds ratio from 7:1 to 6:1 in an effort to reduce patron wait times. Also gradually raised copy cap from 14 to 20. Cost proved to be unsustainable—so raised ratio to 6.5:1 at the beginning of February 2018. Weekly expenditures went down significantly so will probably continue at this rate for another month, then reassess.

**Professional  
development  
and outreach**

Cindy Aden  
Nono Burling  
Elizabeth laukea  
Evelyn Lindberg  
Jeff Martin  
Joe Olayvar  
Carolyn Petersen  
Evan Robb  
Will Stuivenga  
WTBBL staff

Meetings and Site Visits (This is a partial list)

Participated in the Toward Gigabit Libraries toolkit presentations at: Cle Elum, Roslyn and Pomeroy. The Cle Elum session was attended by the librarian, Jane Kammerer Agar, library assistant, Amy Pridemore, and an IT manager from the City. The Roslyn session allowed me to meet the new librarian, Brenda Sargent. The Pomeroy session was attended by the librarian, Lillian Heytvelt, and a board member (and local business leader). All three sessions featured James Werle of Internet2.

In Cle Elum, remained after the presentation was over to do some additional training for the library assistant on the use of Drupal to manage their website. In Roslyn, introduced the new librarian to our Drupal website services.

Visited Sprague Library and met face to face for first time with the still fairly new Librarian, Lexi Behrens. Gave her a very brief introduction to their Drupal website, including the login credentials which were never passed on to her from previous interim librarian.

## Professional development and outreach

Cindy Aden  
Nono Burling  
Mary Campbell  
Diane Hutchins  
Elizabeth Iaukea  
Evelyn Lindberg  
Joe Olayvar  
Carolyn Petersen  
Evan Robb  
Will Stuvenga  
WTBBL staff

Stopped by Columbia County Library in Dayton. Stopped by Waitsburg Library and met the Librarian, Rosie Warehime, for the first time face to face.

Met with Gale Cengage reps and Troy Goracke (SBCTC) in meeting arranged by Elizabeth, to discuss Gale's Career Online High School product. Concluded (again) that SBCTC's High School 21+ program, plus other high school completion options provided through CTCs are adequate to meet the need, and a much more economical option for Washington.

Attended Puget Sound Collection Development meeting held at Pierce County Administrative Center

Met with LYNDIA.com representatives who are interested in putting forward a group purchase offer for public libraries in WA

Phone conference with ProQuest representative to discuss a range of issues

Attended Washington Public Libraries Cooperate! (WPLC) meeting held at Sno-Isle Service Center

Follow-up phone meeting with LYNDIA.com representative

Met with ProQuest representative to discuss ways to improve the renewal, invoicing, and sign-up processes, as well as other issues.

Attended WLA Annual Conference; acted as volunteer room monitor for multiple sessions; helped staff WSL booth; attended numerous CE sessions; networked with library staff from around the state.

Represented the Washington State Library at the Library Leadership Council meeting in Spokane in October 2017.

Met with Friends of the Cle Elum Library to discuss re-arrangement of their library space to make better use of their library's space. Visited the library a second time to help with weeding the collection.

Met with the Kitsap Regional Library Community Engagement Manager who supervises the youth services librarians.

Stopped by the Suquamish Tribal Library and met with Serene George, the library manager among her other responsibilities.

### Publications

Burling contributed an entry to an article about books by WA authors for an upcoming edition of Alki.

### Services

Burling collected data and stories to be used in the Legislative and Congressional Fact Sheets.

Built a site for the Community Books sharing program which greatly reduces the work load on our support staff.

Stuvenga continued to act as editor for *WSL Updates*, our weekly e-mail newsletter. Migrated the list, with assistance from Gary Bortel, Kiran Boyal, and Erich Ebel (the last two are from the OSOS Communications team, downtown), over to the MailChimp software, which OSOS now uses for "broadcast" lists.

<p><b>Professional Development Grants</b></p> <p>Maura Walsh</p>	<p>We have awarded 7 Professional Development (PD) grants since October 2017 for staff to attend training events outside their libraries.</p> <p>These sub-recipients submit evaluations and visual reports. We use some of their visual reports available online so other libraries can learn from the sub-recipient’s experiences and also help them determine if a similar experience would be beneficial to their library. We continue to publicize these grants and work on ways to streamline the process while making the awards more cost effective.</p>
<p><b>2017 Refreshing School Libraries</b></p> <p>Maura Walsh</p>	<p>Our fiscal office has finished executing contract amendments to extend the period of performance for those schools needing the extra time. Backorders delayed shipping and grant completion for numerous schools. Of the \$205,000 in awards over \$195,000 has now been claimed.</p> <p>110 schools statewide received \$2,000 each in reimbursable funding to buy print nonfiction books. WSL selected the awardees based on the library’s copyright dates, socioeconomic factors, and library budgets. Librarians will be reporting on selection methods and impact on student and teacher patrons.</p>
<p><b>Social Media</b></p> <p>Nono Burling Will Stuivenga et al.</p>	<p><b>Facebook:</b> 152 posts with a reach of 76,612 people (not all unique users)</p> <p><b>Twitter:</b> 245 tweets with 40,462 impressions.</p> <p><b>Blog:</b> Hosted a stakeholder’s meeting about the fate of the blog. Working with the OSOS communications team to transfer the blog to the Sec. of State site. 15 blog posts published during this period. <i>(These statistics do not include WTBBL social media.)</i></p> <p>WSL Updates: published weekly</p>
<p><b>Statewide Database Licensing (SDL)</b></p> <p>Will Stuivenga</p>	<p>Working with SDL Advisory Committee to reconsider ProQuest cost allocations in light of decreasing K-12 subscriptions through the Educational Service Districts (ESDs). While K-12 subscriptions have been dropping off for a number of years, public library “Ecard” programs that provide library cards to enrolled public school students have exacerbated the situation recently. Am compiling actual K-12 subscription rate data from the ESDs and hopefully ProQuest as well.</p> <p>Promoted an updated AWE Digital Learning Solutions multi-state special purchase offer to WA libraries (October – December 15).</p> <p>Promulgated Gale Cengage public library group purchase annual renewal.</p> <p>Ongoing work with NewsBank to arrange for a substantial newspaper database offer to libraries statewide. Considerable work with the OSOS Contracts Officer on developing appropriate contract language, and suggested revisions to the NewsBank electronic products license. Currently waiting on additional information (pricing) and contract response from vendor.</p> <p>Checking with libraries as to the level of interest in an offer from Mergent for their Intellect business information product. Also talking with LYNDA.com representative re: possible statewide or group purchase option. Have included Elizabeth in both Mergent and LYNDA.com discussions because of WorkSource implications.</p>

11/21/17 PILOTS (Published International Literature on Traumatic Stress) database sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (not limited to literature on PTSD among Veterans) was added to the SDL ProQuest database package at no additional charge.

Evergreen State College joined the SDL ProQuest package on a trial basis through June, the first of the 6 state-funded higher education institutions ever to do so.

**STEM programming / Circulation Kits**

Joe Olayvar

The Washington State Library recognizes that youth need hands-on experiences to understand that careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are within their capabilities and can be fun and rewarding. Currently 7 STEM kits are in circulation in public and tribal libraries. An eighth kit, Makey Makey, has recently started circulating to small rural schools after having decreased in popularity with public and tribal libraries.

Most kits are designed for 15 kids, a few kits will work with more than that. With the exception of consumable materials which the library itself must provide, everything that is necessary to put on a STEM program is contained within the kits.

Kits circulate for 3 to 4 weeks at each location depending on their complexity. Lego Mindstorms EV3 kits circulate for 6 weeks at each location being the most complex kit for staff to learn. Most kits have been in constant circulation for 3 years having started circulation in early 2015. Lego Mindstorms began circulation in May 2016.

Cublets are the newest addition to our circulating STEM kits.

Kit Name	Scheduled Through	Kit Name	Scheduled Through
Makey Makey (3 weeks at each schools)	April 2018	Cool Creations Lego building (3 weeks at each library outlet)	April 2018
Cublets (4 weeks at each library outlet)	September 2019	Roominate Village (4 weeks at each library outlet)	December 2018
Snap Circuits (4 weeks at each library outlet)	October 2018	LegoMindstorms (2 circulating kits with each kit spending 6 weeks at different library outlets)	August 2018
Eggbots (4 weeks at each library outlet)	December 2018	Ozobots (2 circulating kits with each kit spending 3 weeks at different library outlets)	July 2018

Kits are shipped from location to location via FedEx. The Washington State Library pays the shipping cost as the kit moves from library to library. Kits are packaged in Pelican type locking cases with components insulated from shock protected by custom foam inserts. This allows even the smallest least well-funded libraries to provide programming to their communities as they avoid the cost of buying kit components and the need to pay for shipping.



<p><b>Stimulating Summers</b></p> <p>Carolyn Petersen</p>	<p>The Stimulating Summers, Enriching Young Minds project is organizing for a second year. A successful grant application resulted in the Inland Northwest Foundation adding its funding to LSTA funds for a second year.</p> <p>Carolyn has transitioned from a lead role into a mentoring role. Suzanne Schulz, Reardan Library Director, has assumed the program lead. Carolyn has submitted two more grant requests: one to the Monsanto organization for \$10,000 and a repeat request to Feed Your Brain for \$5,000. Suzanne is exploring camp expansion in two additional locations: Sprague and Odessa. Creston is also interested and plans to observe the camp this summer to see if they would like to join next year.</p>
<p><b>Training</b></p> <p>Carolyn Petersen        Nono Burling        Evan Robb</p>	<p>Karin Peabody of Dynamic Teaming proposal will has presented 10 half-day workshops on the topic of Self-Talk and Emotional Intelligence: Improving Your Work Narrative. 35-40 participants per workshop. two additional workshops are scheduled for May 2, 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FVRL, 1/30/2018: 9am and 1pm</li> <li>• Sno-Isle Libraries, Marysville, 2/22/2018: 9am and 1pm</li> <li>• Seattle Public Library, 2/27/2018: 1pm</li> <li>• Seattle Public Library, 2/28/2018: 9:30 am</li> <li>• Spokane Public Library, 3/13/2018: 9am and 1pm</li> <li>• Richland Public Library, 3/15/2018: 9am and 1pm</li> <li>• North Central Regional Library, Wenatchess, 05/02/2018: 9am and 1 pm</li> </ul> <p>The Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries: Re-Envisioning Your Library through Community Engagement will be presented on April 12, 2018 from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. This is the Washington State Library’s first time using a distributed training model. Susan Hildreth, iSchool Professor of Practice, and Aspen Institute certified trainer, will facilitate this training from her office in Seattle. Thirteen sites around Washington will participate in this training. Local facilitators will lead in-person discussions and exercises. The local sites are located at: 1) Liberty Lake Municipal Library, Liberty Lake; 2) Burlington Public Library, Burlington; 3) Fort Vancouver Regional Library Headquarters, Vancouver; 4) Seattle Public Library -- Central Branch, Seattle; 5) King County Library System Service Center, Issaquah; 6) Yakima Valley Libraries - West Valley Branch, Yakima; 7) Lopez Island Public Library , Lopez Island; 8) Port Townsend Library, Port Townsend; 9) Pierce County Library System Administrative Center and Library, Tacoma; 10) Whatcom County Library System - Ferndale Library , Ferndale; 11) Sno-Isle Libraries Service Center, Marysville; 12) Walla Walla County Rural Library District Service Center, Walla Walla; and 13) North Central Regional Library @ Port of Chelan.</p> <p>Erica Freudenberger and Amber Williams will co-teach three (3) workshops “Community Engagement Training: Turning Outward to Lead Change.” These workshops will be held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierce County Library System Headquarters, Tacoma, April 16, 2018, 9AM - 4PM</li> <li>• Wenatchee Public Library, April 18, 2018, 9AM – 4PM</li> <li>• Ritzville Public Library, April 19, 2018, 9AM – 4PM</li> </ul> <p>These workshops are designed for library staff from rural or small to medium sized libraries in conjunction with trustees and community leaders interested in community engagement, turning outward and re-envisioning libraries and communities. Ideally, library staff and community leaders and staff will attend together.</p>



<p><b>Training</b></p> <p>Carolyn Petersen        Nono Burling        Evan Robb</p>	<p>Communication and Marketing for Libraries will be presented by John Chrastka and Patrick Sweeney of EveryLibrary. This half-day session is designed for staff at all levels to provide insights for how to convene and empower stakeholders around the library’s message and goals. These sessions will be held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burlington Public Library, Burlington, May 07, 2018, 9AM – 1PM</li> <li>• Fort Vancouver Regional Library Headquarters, Vancouver, May 08, 2018, 1PM – 5PM</li> <li>• Spokane County -- Moran Prairie Branch, Spokane, May 10, 2018, 1PM – 5PM</li> <li>• Whitman County Library-Colfax Library, Colfax, May 11, 2018, 9AM – 1PM</li> </ul> <p>Burling launched and promoted the Continuing Education Needs Assessment. More than 1,070 responses were gathered. The results remain to be analyzed.</p> <p>The Washington State Library conducted six <b>First Tuesday</b> webinars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory Story Time: Programming for Children with Autism, Sensory Processing Disorder and Other Special Needs</li> <li>• Legal Reference</li> <li>• Keeping It Private: Navigating the Balance of Public Data and Privacy Protections</li> <li>• Let’s Talk About Race in Storytimes</li> <li>• Advocacy, Ethics, and the Law for Librarians</li> <li>• Making Sense of the Numbers—Health Numeracy and You (and Me).</li> </ul> <p>Over 475 people registered for these webinars with 230 attending live.</p> <p>Robb received reports from the 2017 Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) scholarship awardees regarding their projects (i.e., locally conducted projects inspired by attendance at the ARSL conference).</p>
<p><b>Virtual Reality Research Program</b></p> <p>Cindy Aden        Joe Olayvar        Nono Burling</p>	<p>Launching in January 2018, the “VR in Libraries” is a two-year project focused on defining the educational value and implementation of Virtual Reality in the library setting. Researchers from the University of Washington’s Information School (iSchool) will collect data relating to this goal until September 2018, with the remaining fifteen months assessing and implementing what is learned.</p> <p>Currently seven (7) VR stations have been distributed to the following libraries: King County Library System (3 branches); Mount Vernon City Library; Puyallup Public Library; Timberland Regional Library (2 branches). Initial training has been provided to each of the libraries participating in the first phase of this project. For one perspective, read the <a href="#">Skagit Valley Herald Press release</a>.</p>
<p><b>Washington Center for the Book (WCFB)</b></p> <p>Nono Burling</p>	<p>Washington Center for the Book 2017 end of year report was produced.</p> <p>Webpage for Washington Center for the Book was launched.</p> <p>Applied for an Amazon Literary Partnership grant.</p> <p>Worked with Library of Congress and other States to develop a nationwide literary map.</p> <p>Composed blog posts about books published by WA authors in February.</p> <p>Worked on author database – building a list of authors.</p> <p>Developing a “passport” program for Libraries to bring people into their public libraries over the summer.</p>

**Washington Center for the Book (WCFB)**  
Nono Burling

Letters About Literature

- Working to develop a Self-managing program for 2019
- Working to develop an email list for the schools in order to save thousands of dollars in shipping

Washington State Book Awards

- Recruited four new adult judges for the WSBA.
- Shepherded the 2017 books, solicited some specifically. Books shipped to the judges
- Hosted a workshop for judges on judging poetry.
- Working to re-write some of the guidelines for authors to enter.

**Washington Digital Newspapers (WDN)**  
Shawn Schollmeyer

Currently working on:

- 4,300 pages of Anacortes American
- 4,200 pages of Catholic Northwest Progress issues
- New contract slated in 2018 to begin Cashmere Valley Record digitization, 1907-2000

Submitted a new National Digital Newspaper Program application to National Endowment for the Humanities – we will be notified in August 2018. This will allow us to focus on foreign language and minority newspapers published before 1964 in Washington state.

Moving ahead on quest for a new newspaper web platform that will support our growing collection, currently holding over 400,000 pages! The new platform will allow us to manage growth of an additional 50,000-100,000 pages per year with more efficient management and hosting than our current system can provide. Priority features will continue to be full-text optical character recognition (OCR), advanced, keyword and calendar search and contextual histories.

**Washington Talking Book & Braille Library**  
Danielle Miller

WTBBL provides comprehensive library service to Washington residents who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, physically disabled (can't hold a book or turn a page), or reading disabled. Schools, hospitals, care facilities, and libraries may have organizational accounts to directly serve their students or residents. Materials available include audio books on digital cartridge and all the playback equipment and accessories for reading, braille books, large print, print-braille, and audio and web-braille books available for download, and for app on iOS, Android, and Kindle platforms. WTBBL also has an extensive youth services program including summer reading, pen pals, early literacy, multisensory storytimes, and more. WTBBL services are free, including books by mail, utilizing the USPS postal designation of Free Matter for the Blind.

Recent highlights: October 1, 2017 – March 14, 2018:

New borrowers: 751	Books circulated: 125,550
Books downloaded: 46,091	New local audio books produced: 38
Outreach events/information tables: 26	Volunteer hours: 5,485

Hosted Northwest Regional Braille Challenge, held Welcome Winter youth event, held weekly multisensory storytimes.

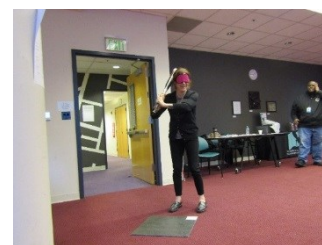
**Washington Talking Book & Braille Library**

**Danielle Miller**

Our Washington Talking Book & Braille Library team deserve major kudos for their work hosting the annual Regional Braille Challenge for students from grades 1-12 Saturday, March 3.

Students from all over Western Washington met at the library in Seattle to compete in braille events including spelling, reading comprehension, and speed and accuracy.

The day also featured a chance for fun with a presentation and demonstration by the Seattle South King Sluggers Beep Baseball team. WTBBL Director and Regional Librarian Danielle Miller even took a turn trying her skills swinging the Beep Baseball bat!



**Workforce Development**

**Elizabeth laukea**

WSL's support of libraries in workforce development increases with activities at the national, state, and local level. In November, laukea co-presented 2 sessions at the Washington Workforce Conference – one with Cheryl Heywood (Timberland Regional Library Director and Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council Board member) and a PacMtn WDC staff person, and the other with Mindy Coslor (Director of Library Services, Skagit Valley College), Troy Goracke and Jon Kerr (both from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges) on libraries support of adult basic education and literacy. This second program was also presented at the Washington Library Association conference the week previously. Elizabeth also presented on libraries and workforce development at ALA Mid-Winter, Libraries Transform, along with fellow LibsWork member Tammy Westergard (Nevada State Library).

The LibsWork State Library group continues to meet (online) monthly; with a focus right now on starting a PLA Community of Practice.

laukea attends monthly meetings of two committees for implementation of Washington's workforce development plan, Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP). TAP's Professional Development committee is developing an online training course for front-line workforce development staff to help them better understand Washington's workforce development system, and see their place in it. laukea has been actively involved with two other committee members in this work. The Barriers and Access Solutions (TAP) committee has lately been concerned with a shift in how the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation prioritizes service. With the drop in the state unemployment rate, more people are returning to the workforce, including those with disabilities, and the agency is struggling with how to continue to provide high-quality service with the large increase in demand.

WSL's own libraries are actively engaging in workforce development supporting their special populations and corresponding partner agencies. laukea helped facilitate connections between WTTBL and Seattle-King County WDC, with the result that WTTBL has been certified as a WorkSource Connection site, and continues to work with WSL ILS staff on their prison laptop project, supporting digital literacy and Microsoft Office learning for inmates.

At the local level, Elizabeth has facilitated meetings with Olympic Region, Eastern Partnership, and South Central WDCs and library staff in each of these regions to share information, explore partnership opportunities, and specifically to discuss certification of library locations as WorkSource Connection sites.

**Workforce Development**

**Elizabeth Iaukea**

Digital Literacy

Although the need for digital literacy continues, it seems to have lost some of the significance it once held for our libraries. Instead, it seems to fall naturally under the bigger umbrella of ways libraries support jobseekers to gain the skills needed in the 21st century workforce. As the State Library's focus, and that of several of our very progressive public library systems have become increasingly well-positioned with local workforce partners, an opportunity to really move the bar on workforce development presented itself. Overseen by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and administered through local community colleges, the [High School 21+ program](#) targets adults 21 years and older (although it will soon expand to serve those 18 and older) who don't yet have a high school credential.

Some background: 64 percent of jobs today require at least a high school credential. Recent research predicts there will be 740K job openings in WA in the next 5 yrs., the majority of which will require some postsecondary education, and an estimated 571,000 of Washingtonians 18 yrs+ lack a HS Credential. Although a high school credential is rarely sufficient as a terminal degree, it is a necessary step on the path toward a postsecondary credential, which are seen by experts as the gateway to family-supporting wages and critical to breaking the intergenerational transmission of poverty in America.

Although we've been aware of the SBCTC program for several years, it's only recently become available statewide, and is now available fully online. It seems a perfect time to support an existing publicly funded program, administered by another state agency with whom we have other partnerships, by expanding their reach beyond college campuses and into local communities. Each of our two pilot areas—Timberland Regional Library/PacMtn WDC and Spokane area libraries—are doing things a little differently, and we're still in the planning stage of developing a program and partnerships at a level never before attempted. Public libraries will promote the program, host informational sessions in local libraries, facilitate secure application intake, checkout laptops to program participants who need them, support the technology with maintenance and training, provide space in the library for students and instructors to meet when needed, and introduce instructors and students to high quality and library-funded career exploration and development resources. The SBCTC will fund the purchase of laptops that will be checked out to program participants, continue to administer the HS 21+ program, and along with State Library staff, help break down administrative and funding barriers for libraries and colleges. We anticipate WSL funding promotional activities, and possibly staffing for short term IT personnel needed to prepare and maintain the laptops for checkout. PacMtn and Spokane WDC will assist eligible students with funding for wrap-around services like transportation and childcare as needed, and provide job finding help and additional career development support.

It's an ambitious project with lots of partners and moving parts but by letting each partner work within their own realm and do what they're good at, we know we can help many Washingtonians get their diploma and take a critical step toward a rewarding career and living wage job.

**Youth Services/Teacher Librarians/Tribal Libraries**

**Carolyn Petersen**

Youth Services/Tribal Libraries

Five Screen Scene trainings are scheduled and will share research-based understandings of the impact of digital engagement on early learning. Library staff will be better equipped to help parents guide their children in the use of media. These will happen in February at the following locations: Fort Vancouver Regional Library, Service Center; Spokane County Library District, North Spokane

branch; Burlington Public Library; Yakima Valley Libraries, Sunnyside Community Library; Kitsap Regional Library, Bainbridge branch.

Finished recruiting 8 public library youth service staff to write short articles for the quarterly Child Care Aware e-newsletter (DEL) which goes to every licensed day care provider in Washington State. These articles will appear in the 2018 and 2019. Outcome: Public libraries will be the authorities writing the articles on early literacy. Libraries currently involved: Everett Public Library; Fort Vancouver Regional Library; Libraries of Stevens County; Mid-Columbia Libraries; North Central Regional Library; Timberland Regional Library; Whatcom County Library System; Yakima Valley Libraries.

Collaborated with DEL and Arcora Foundation (formerly Washington Dental Service Foundation) to distribute materials to libraries which benefit youth and their families. Mailed materials for DEL to every public and tribal library. 5,425 Bookmarks were distributed together with 345 magnets and 500 posters. Provided names and email contact information for the Arcora Foundation to distribute dental health for youth materials.

Successful application to the Franklin Institute for a Leap into Science grant. Leap into Science is a nationwide program that integrates open ended science activities with children's books. The program is designed for children ages 3 to 10. This grant is a train the trainer model and will involve collaboration with School's Out Washington, the Imagine Children's Museum in Everett, and the Spokane County Library. It will last for three years.

#### Rural/Tribal libraries

Spent three days at the Hoh Tribal Library assisting them to organize and weed their donated collection.

Site Visit to Carpenter/Cle Elum library to coach the Friends of the Library in the ways they might redesign the library to better serve their community.

Returned to the Carpenter/Cle Elum library to assist them in weeding the collection.

Wheatfield libraries: Execution of contracts with Sprague, Hesseltine (Wilbur), Odessa, Ritzville, and Reardan to enter into a union catalog. Completed drafts of governing documents for Wheatfield library consortium.

Conducted a four hour trustee training for Skagit Valley public libraries and Lopez island library.

### Institutional Library Services (ILS)

Laura Sherbo

ILS staff began issuing Spokane Public Library and Seattle Public Library cards to inmates prior to release. An agreement has been signed to do the same for Timberland Regional Library, and discussions have begun with Pierce County Library System.

ILS staff created Amazon wishlists of items needed in the branch libraries. This project was advertised by OSOS and many donations have been already been received.

Washington Corrections Center for Women library was pleased to welcome University of Washington Tacoma Professor Natalie Jolly. Dr. Jolly teaches courses in sociology and gender studies and conducts research on cross-cultural childbirth practices and perspectives. She lived in an Amish community in Pennsylvania for two years studying the home birth practices of these women and has also studied childbirth among military women at Fort Lewis.

