1 Million Checkouts of eBooks and Digital Audiobooks

New Hampshire Downloadable Books is a service of the NH State Library and 205 NH public libraries. The consortium began in 2006 and has grown to include a robust collection of more than 13,000 eBook titles, 10,000 audiobook titles, and a collection of 25 always available magazines. Over the past 12 months, people have checked out 1,129,061 digital audiobooks and eBooks. Readers (and listeners!) have been checking out 3,500 titles from the service daily this summer!

While 47% and 55% of eBook and audiobook copies, respectively, are checked out at any time, people are enjoying the entire collection, including older content. In the past two months, 84% of the eBook titles and 93% of the audiobook titles have been checked out. The average cost-per-checkout is an outstanding $0.28. —Bobbi Lee Slossar, Technology Resources Librarian, NHSL
Jodi Picoult to Accept the 2019 Sarah Hale Award

Richards Free Library and the Judges of the Sarah Josepha Hale Award are pleased to announce that Jodi Picoult is the 2019 Sarah Josepha Hale Award Medalist. The award presentation will be held on September 28, 2019.

Jodie Picoult is the author of twenty-five novels. Her most recent novel, *A Spark of Light*, was her tenth consecutive instant #1 New York Times bestseller. Her novels have been made into television movies and feature films. Her two young adult novels co-written with her daughter Samantha Van Leer have been adapted into a musical that is expected to appear Off-Broadway this summer.

Picoult is the recipient of the New England Bookseller Award for Fiction, the Alex Award from YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association), a lifetime achievement award from the Romance Writers of America and the New Hampshire Literary Award for Outstanding Literary Merit.

She is renowned for tackling controversial issues, for her research, and for her ability to explain different points of view. One of the Hale judges said “…she has a gift for enabling readers to get inside the heads of characters who are on different sides of an issue and who might at first seem repellant … Her ability to get readers to understand and respect different points of view is exactly what the country so desperately needs now.” Another judge for the Hale Award called her the “Wonder Woman of American letters”.

A graduate of Princeton, Ms. Picoult earned a master’s degree in education from Harvard University. She holds honorary degrees from Dartmouth College and the University of New Haven.

She lives in New Hampshire with her husband.

*For more information about the Hale award, please contact Andrea Thorpe, Director of the Richards Free Library, Newport, New Hampshire at 603-863-3430 or rfl@newport.lib.nh.us.*
Fifteen libraries and a bookstore get together for One Book One Valley

The fourteenth annual One Book One Valley, a community read program for the Mount Washington Valley and surrounding towns, will be held in 2019. This year’s book is *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* by Amy Ellis Nutt. Nutt is the Health, Science & Environment reporter for The Washington Post. She wrote this book to expand and follow up on an article about the Maines family’s story of raising and advocating for their transgender child.

During September and October, each library will host a book discussion and some will also hold programs related to the themes in the book. The culminating event will be an evening with the author on Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. at Kennett High School in North Conway. Other programs will include “Gender 101,” a film showing of “Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton’s Cafeteria” followed by a facilitated discussion, a panel discussion with mental health and medical providers in partnership with Kennett High School’s GSTA (Gay/Straight/Transgender Alliance), “Ask a Transgender Person Anything,” and “No Cinderella Story,” historian Laura Hodgman’s account of an oral history project she conducted in the transgender community of Tacoma, Washington.

Staff members from fifteen public libraries and bookstore White Birch Books work together to plan this annual series of events. One Book One Valley’s mission is to strengthen community ties, promote literacy through reading, and encourage discussion of a common book with themes that resonate locally. Readers span an almost 1,000 square mile area, from Moultonborough to Effingham to Bartlett in New Hampshire, and four towns in western Maine including Fryeburg.

Program organizers chose *Becoming Nicole* for 2019 because it is a good read, and to foster community conversations about gender identity, raising children in the 21st century, discrimination of marginalized populations, and the social, ethical, and philosophical considerations of these issues (many of which are reflected in the Library Bill of Rights). Recent state legislation regarding transgender rights makes this a timely topic for learning more about through community discussions and programs.

Funding for One Book One Valley comes from a nominal fee paid by each library, plus fundraising (dine-to-donate, Go Fund Me), and grants. Funds pay for 10 copies of the book for each library, the author’s visit, website and publicity materials, and some of the programs. One Book One Valley organizers are honored to announce that New Hampshire Humanities will provide a grant to support this year’s series of programs.

To learn more about One Book One Valley, visit [https://onebookonevalley.org](https://onebookonevalley.org), or contact any of the participating libraries. -Mary Cronin, Director, Cook Memorial Library
Library News, continued

Summer Reading Programs

Almost 100,000 people attended programs throughout NH in 2018 as part of the Summer Reading Program: Libraries Rock! At 99,476 participants, attendance increased 18% from 2017 due to the hard work and effort all of you put into providing fun and exciting programming for your patrons. Children’s programming accounted for the vast majority of attendees at 79,965, or 80% of the total. I believe that this summer, if we all shoot for the stars in that vast universe of stories, we can cross the 100,000 mark and increase attendance by a full quarter over last year! - Tim Rohe, Reference Librarian/SDC, NHSL

New Interlibrary Loan Catalog

There’s a new NHAIS Interlibrary Loan System in your future--if your library chooses to participate, of course. An exact date for the launch of the new system has not been determined yet but those wishing to join up should visit <https://www.nh.gov/nhsl/nhais/nhaisillsystem.html> and fill out the appropriate forms and surveys by September 3. That’s the deadline for libraries wishing to be able to use the new system on Day One. If you miss the deadline, your library can always be added in later. Similarly, if you change your mind about options chosen in the surveys, we can reconfigure your library in the system after the launch. Only one set of surveys should be submitted for each participating library. - David Harris, NHAIS & Technical Services, NHSL

Space Trivia Night

As part of our Adult Summer Reading Program, Laconia Public Library collaborated with a local eatery, Cactus Jack’s Grill and Watering Hole, to host a Space Trivia Night on Tuesday, July 23. This was the second of three events planned for adults as part of the library’s first-ever Adult Summer Reading Program! All of the trivia questions were space themed, and included a music round and a television/movie round. One of the library’s Adult Programming Coordinators helped write the questions and MC the event, along with staff at Cactus Jack’s. Fifteen teams signed up, and over 60 individuals participated. Staff was onsite to check people’s library accounts, sign folks up for cards, and promote upcoming library events. The event was so successful that a Literary Trivia Night is in the works for October. - Photo & article submitted by Natalie Moser, Adult Programming Coordinator, Laconia PL

Moultonborough Library Book Sale

The 33rd annual Moultonborough Library book sale took place on July 6 and 7. We began the day with a total of 908 boxes (beer carton size) of books, plus DVDs and jigsaw puzzles, all donated since last year’s sale, and at the end of the day on Sunday, 315 remained, so 593 boxes were sold. Proceeds were just over $7,000 on Saturday, when hardcovers were priced at $1.00 and
paperbacks 50 cents, and $1,000 on Sunday, when everything was 25 cents, and an estimated 14,000 books were sold. Tent rental was $1500, and the rest was profit. It was a great weekend for the library, and we are especially happy to have so many books back in circulation to be read and enjoyed. Leftover books have been donated to two other libraries for their book sales, to the local bookstore which does a book sale to benefit Altrusa, some will be used for the two “Little Free Libraries” at the playground and town beach, and the remaining 200 boxes went to Discover Books, who sent a truck and driver to pick them up.

We are especially lucky to have a cargo-type stair lift and a conveyor belt to handle the hundreds of boxes in and out of the basement. We already had a highly successful book sale that had been running for about 20 years when we moved into our 2006 addition. The architect was dead-set against having a bulkhead on our new wing, so the first year in the new building, we passed all the boxes from hand to hand up the stairs and out to tents in the parking lot. A more feasible solution was an after-market bulkhead, combined with a conveyor belt to bring the 900 boxes and 60 6-foot tables up through the bulkhead, where they are loaded into pickup trucks and moved to the tents, and the same process in reverse at the end of the sale. For bringing the books downstairs as they are received, and also for many other uses, we installed a stair lift on the basement staircase, but with a cargo platform instead of a passenger seat.

I’m 63 years old and have done 33 book sales, so that’s more than half the July 4 weekends of my life! The sale has grown over the years but even so that has to be at least a couple hundred thousand books sold and recirculated. We also sell books in the library during the year, so the book sale has been quite profitable for the library. -Photo & article submitted by Jane Rice, Library Assistant Director, Moultonborough Public Library

Painting the Garden

Laconia Public Library held an Impressionist-style oil painting class on Saturday, July 27th. Led by local artist, Hannah Twombly, this two-hour program was free to attend and allowed participants to create their own interpretation of the library’s colorful summer garden. Seven people attended this event and left their masterpieces at the library overnight to set. The weather was perfect and everyone walking through the park stopped to spend some time watching our artists’ at work. -Photo & article submitted by Natalie Moser, Adult Programming Coordinator, Laconia PL

Share your library news by submitting articles to Deborah Dutcher, NHSL.
Teen Title Talk Podcast: The podcast where two librarians discuss two YA books every two weeks

When Derry Public Library’s Teen Title Talk podcast started, both Erin Robinson and Courtney Wason were part-time librarians in DPL’s Adult Services Dept. Erin and Courtney were given support for this project and ran with it, creating a delightful podcast series. Erin is still the Teen Librarian at DPL, and Courtney is now a full-time Children’s Librarian at the Wiggins Memorial Library in Stratham NH. They continue to work on this podcast together, which has been wonderful for DPL and their listeners. - Cara Potter, Director, Derry Public Library

Who came up with the idea of a podcast?

Courtney: I don’t remember! I do think I found the podcasting equipment we first used.

Erin: You did get the tech for it. I remember you researching the set up. You know, Teen Title Talk reviews were originally Alyssa Lapierre’s idea - she’s now the Teen Librarian at the Thomas Memorial Library in Cape Elizabeth ME. She used to work here in Circ and Reference. She loves booktubers with a passion and thought we should do something like a vlog. We did a few of those and they were fine, but then Susan gave us an article about podcasts and when we were ready to re-launch Teen Title Talk, we thought podcast would be a great medium for us. I HATE cameras!

How long have you been doing Teen Title Talk?

Courtney: Since September 2018. I think the idea was percolating for a few months, then we dove into it in late summer, and we finally rolled out the first episode in September. We’re almost a year into it!

Erin: And it took us a while to get that first episode off the ground as we tried to navigate the systems. We are coming up on a year and we’ve launched 21 episodes and had 600+ downloads. People are starting to listen more and engage. It’s exciting to be at this stage and see the numbers rising.

What’s your favorite part of creating the podcast?

Courtney: My favorite part is its communal nature: we’re trying to create a community by sharing our own stories and also the stories of lots of different authors. Storytelling is a very social affair, it’s such a human thing to do. I think my favorite thing about it is that we’re making connections through stories, and doing it as a podcast is kind of a modern spin on oral storytelling. Maybe that’s being extra generous to podcasters, but I think it has some merit.
Erin: I love chatting with Courtney about our teen lives and books. We have a “Jar of Teen Angst” we dig into for each episode and we each talk about what life was like as a teen. We have shared some really fun, weird, cringey stories. I always love that part. I also like book talking. It’s kind of like just sitting around the dining room table chatting about books with a friend. And I think we carry that casual feel with us into the podcast. If something ever happens with our podcast, I imagine Courtney and I just getting together on our own doing the same thing (with more cheese plates and snack boards, of course. They frown upon that kind of thing in the studio)

Courtney: Yes to more cheese!

Who is your audience?

Courtney: We really...don’t know. Our target audience was originally local teens, but I think as we’ve gone on the idea of who is listening has changed. Is it fellow librarians? Book lovers? There’s not a lot we know because we get lots of listens and downloads but not a lot of engagement. That’s something we’re working on.

Erin: I would love it to be for teens, but honestly there are amazing teen bloggers and podcasters out there who are reviewing books and teens gravitate to them. I know we have a few teen subscribers, but they are in the minimum. We are probably more targeting librarians, book lovers, gate keepers. Anyone who wants to know some more about what is coming out in teen without reading ALL of the books. I know as a teen librarian, I cannot keep up, so hearing a podcast where there’s a deep dive into a couple of new books every few weeks would really help! My hope is that since we are having such a nice time talking books and reminiscing, anyone who loves books and stories would really enjoy it. Regardless of age, I hope they pull up a chair, so to speak, and spend some time with us.

Do you have any words of advice for aspiring podcaster?

Courtney: It’s so important to be prepared for your episode, whatever your podcast is about. You have to make sure you can stick to your time limit and not go off the rails about what you were trying to say. It’s so easy to go off on a tangent! I think it’s also a great idea to see if there are any local connections you can make to a cable station (as we have) or maybe a local recording studio or school that might have some good equipment you can use in return for mentioning them on the air. Having someone in charge of our sound who knows what they are doing has really made a difference in the quality of the show.

Erin: I totally agree: structuring the show, being yourself and getting help would be my top three recommendations. All three factors make it sustainable and enjoyable. It takes some trial and error, but podcasting has so many styles and genres, now, and I think it’s time more librarians jump into the fray.

Erin Moulton is the Teen Librarian at Derry Public Library and Courtney Wason is the Children’s Preschool Specialist Librarian at the Stratham Public Library. They co-host Teen Title Talk: The podcast where two librarians discuss two YA books every two weeks. You can find the podcast at teentitletalk.podbean.com.
Professional Development

Monthly question highlight: Who is in charge of creating library policies? The Library Trustees or the Library Director?

Both Library Directors and Library Trustees should be familiar with a couple of resources that are key to defining their roles. The most important are the NH library laws (RSA 202-A). The NHLTA Library Trustee Manual provides an interpretation of those laws and possible context for implementation.

NH Library Laws (NH RSA 202-A)

2016 NHLTA Trustee Manual (New Hampshire Library Trustees Association)

According to NH RSA 202-A:11, the Library Trustees shall “…adopt bylaws, rules and regulations for its own transaction of business and for the government of the library.” NH RSA 202-A:16 states that the Librarian shall “…serve as the administrative officer of the public library.”

On page 36 of Trustee Manual, a chart suggests that the Trustees and Director should work as a team. How this actually looks will vary depending on personalities, group dynamics, individual skills and knowledge, and mutual agreement. In general, at minimum, the Director recommends and implements policies, while the Library Trustees develop, approve, and periodically review policies. In my past experience as a Library Director, I often would draft a particular policy if my staff and I felt it was needed – meaning that I did the background research by consulting other librarians (trying to not reinvent the wheel) and created a draft document based on my library’s needs. I would then run it by my Board chair prior to getting it on the next Board meeting agenda. However, this is just one example of how to deal with policy creation….some Boards have separate policy committees who take a more active role in creating/developing policy, and they often do the research and develop the draft, with input from the Library Director. The key is having a discussion with your Library Trustees at a Board meeting to decide how they would like to see policy development occur. This is especially important for a new Library Director, who probably does not know the past history surrounding policy development at that particular library.

Regarding policies, it can be useful for a Library Director to keep track of them (policy name, date of last revision, date of upcoming review, etc.) using a Policy Matrix in an Excel sheet. If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy of the one I have used, please send me an email request: lori.fisher@dnrc.nh.gov.

Special thanks to Dianne Hathaway, Director at the Goffstown Public Library, for introducing me to the policy matrix idea! -Lori Fisher, Assistant State Librarian, NHSL

Barcode Authentication into EBSCO Databases

Our periodical database vendor, EBSCO, is now requiring annual changes to the user login as a security precaution. As this can be confusing for our users, consider setting up barcode authentication. When barcode authentication is set up through the EBSCOAdmin panel (I can help!), patrons receive a prompt to enter their library card number.

Note that your card numbers must be at least five digits in length and you will be required to edit the existing link or links on your website used to promote the databases. For more information or for help getting set up, please contact Bobbi Lee Slossar.
Staff Changes

Barrington Public Library has welcomed a new Technology and Circulation Library Assistant, Adam Shlager, started on July 22nd! Adam comes to us from an eclectic background, including 12 years as a chef and 20 years working in consulting and health care. He is a big fan of all dogs, science fiction, fantasy, and young adult books. He most recently finished *The Poppy War* by R.F. Kuang and is starting *Ball Lightning* by Cixin Liu.

Educational Opportunities

**Local History for Paralibrarians**

Monday, October 28, 2019
1:30 PM - 5:00 PM Portsmouth Public Library
175 Parrott Ave, Portsmouth, NH

Nicole Luongo Cloutier, Reference and Special Collections Supervisor, will give a brief overview about the ins and outs of creating and/or maintaining a local history collection for your community. She will discuss Portsmouth’s creation of well attended local history and genealogy workshops, the importance of developing community collaboration where possible, as well as the importance of primary materials to make real connections to the past. Nicole has been at the Portsmouth Public library for 19 years. Prior to her current supervisory position, she was the Special Collections Librarian. Previously, she was the Visual Archives Manager at the Museum of Fine Arts. MLIS from Simmons College.

**Library Management: the nuts and bolts**

Thursday, October 10, 2019 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Lane Memorial Library Hampton NH

Taught by Amanda Reynolds Cooper. Covering areas such as reporting to the board of trustees, budgeting, staff evaluations, and more.

**Cataloging & Classification I, Short Course**

Monday, September 23, 2019, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Peterborough Town Library 2 Concord Street Peterborough

Description: Cataloging and classification can be daunting to those unfamiliar with its conventions and terminology. The purpose of this course is to make the user more comfortable with both. The student will learn the concepts behind cataloging, so day-to-day operations make sense. Common cataloging vocabulary will be explained. Basic history, concepts, and rules of thumb will be described and illustrated. Students will gain familiarity with tools and authorities necessary for cataloging, particularly the Sears List of Subject Headings and the Dewey Decimal Classification schedule. (This will include State Library recommendations and guidelines.) Classes are in a part lecture, part workshop format. Students should bring any subject heading and Dewey classification tools they use in daily work, or that they can borrow. One hour break at noon. Pack your lunch or visit downtown Peterborough.

**Canva for Paralibrarians**

Friday, September 20, 2019 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Hall Memorial Library, 18 Park St, Northfield, NH 03276

Canva is a graphic-design tool website, founded in 2012. It uses a drag-and-drop format and provides access to over a million
photographs, graphics, and fonts. It is used by non-designers as well as professionals. The tools can be used for both web and print media design and graphics. Teacher: Brittany Shanahan

REGISTER

Preparing Your Paralibrarian Certification Application Information Session

Tuesday, August 27, 2019 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Hooksett Public Library 31 Mount St Mary’s Way Hooksett NH

Please join Lee Ann Chase, Amanda Alwyn and Julie Spokane to gain confidence in applying for your Certification under the new guidelines. Lee Ann Chase is a Level IV Certificate holder and has been serving on the Application Review Board since its inception. Amanda Alwyn is a Level III Certificate holder and is currently serving on the Paralibrarian Section Board as it’s Secretary. Julie Spokane is a Level IV Certificate Holder and is the Section Treasurer. Lee Ann and Julie have conducted information sessions in the past. The Guidelines have been updated and the changes will be reviewed. Attendees will also be provided with a sample application to take with them as a guide with real examples of write-ups. This session is not eligible for Paralibrarian Certification credit and is free.

REGISTER

Social Media Refresh

Friday, August 16, 2019 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Portsmouth Public Library 175 Parrott Ave, Portsmouth, NH

Laura Horwood-Benton, Public Programming and Community Relations Librarian at Portsmouth Public Library, will lead an interactive, discussion-based session to help you refresh your library’s social media presence. Learn tips, strategies, and some rules of thumb, and share your success stories and struggles with other paralibrarians.

REGISTER

Registration ends two weeks before the event date. Registration can be paid online. Checks should be made out to NHLA-Paralibrarian Section, sent to Julie Spokane (via van-Brookline Public Library) or US Mail to 12 Mosher Drive, Brookline, NH 03033. All payments need to be RECEIVED prior to the start of the class. Registration questions should be addressed to Eileen Gilbert, Belmont Public Library. Please refer to the NHLA Cancellation Policy.

Save the Date!

The First Ever Paralibrarian Section Mini-Conference will be held on Friday, October 4, 2019 from 6:00-9:00 at the Audubon Center in Concord, NH

Reminder: KPB Reports & Evaluations!

Don’t forget to submit your Kids, Books and the Arts report & Evaluation by September 6. Forms can be found here: http://nhlibraries.org/youthservices/forms-resources/kba-kids-books-and-the-arts/

Meeting Room Policies

Event Timing: August 19 from 9:30 - noon
Event Address: Lincoln Public Library

Can we prohibit political groups from using library spaces? What liability issues do we have to think about regarding library meeting room use by outside groups? These and other questions will be addressed in a free workshop dedicated to looking at best practices related to public library meeting room use. Handouts
will be available. If you would like to have this workshop presented at your co-op, please contact Lori Fisher.

Registration

Everyone’s an Asset-Builder

Event Timing: Wednesday, August 21st from 9-1

Event Address: NH Municipal Association Building, 25 Triangle Park, Concord

Search Institute has identified 40 positive supports and strengths that young people need to succeed. The framework identifies a set of skills, experiences, relationships, and behaviors that enable young people to develop into successful and contributing adults. This 4-hour training identifies the steps that everyone who interacts with children and youth can take to become effective asset-builders.

The training is paid for through federal grant funding and is free for participants. Presented by the Bureau of Student Wellness-NH Department of Education.

Note: Bring your own water and snacks

Registration

READS FALL CONFERENCE: LITERACY IN THE LIBRARY, OCTOBER 18, 2019, Common Man Inn and Spa, Plymouth

9:30am Breakfast/registration

10am Digital Literacy Training Fundamentals for Library Staff: A Recipe for Success

Digital literacy is not just for our library visitors and community. It’s also for library staff. Having the ability to access and effectively use technology in its many forms and on its many platforms in order to find, evaluate, interpret, curate and share information is what we do in the library world and it’s what makes us better than Google’s search engine. Come to this workshop to learn the fundamentals of effective digital literacy training.

Mark Glisson is the Technology Librarian at the Hooksett Library where he offers weekly classes and workshops on the latest tech trends, and also provides one-on-one tech support to library patrons, often averaging between 40-50 monthly sessions. His passion is to help others connect to the world of information, making it accessible, private, and safe with the tools of both existing and emerging technologies.

11:15am Project LIFT Hillsboro Adult Learner Services

Project Lift offers free, confidential, one-to-one and small group instruction to adults in Hillsborough and surrounding towns who wish to improve their basic skills, learn English as a second language (ESL), or prepare for the high school equivalency exam (now called HiSET). Volunteers from the community are recruited, trained and matched with each student. The tutor and student work together to identify individual educational goals and to plan learning activities. Instruction occurs at the libraries in Antrim, Bennington, Peterborough, Hillsborough and the LIFT classroom.

Trish Bush, Project LIFT director

1:30pm READS member meeting/Award of Excellence

2 pm Fake News: Its Challenges, Consequences, and Rise.
This brief session will provide library professionals with tips to teach library users how to critically look at and analyze digital, television, and print media resources. Through videos and slides, the session will examine the history of misinformation, the psychology of irrationality brought about by biases, the role of technology in fake news, and highlight resources to help verify images and stories.

Martin Gagnon, (La Salle University, 1997) was a journalist for newspapers in Maine and a full-time reporter in New Hampshire. After reporting for many years, he entered the library information field and was the Director of the Rangeley Public Library. In 2013, he became Head of Adult Services at the Auburn Public Library. When the library was awarded a national grant in 2017, Gagnon and a small team from the Auburn Public Library and Sun Journal Editor Judith Myers traveled to Chicago to participate in Media Literacy at Your Library, a project of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with many other partners. The training and interactive workshop featured the curriculum of the Stony Brook University Center for News. In 2018, Gagnon used the training and his past experiences to create a media literacy and “fake news” class at the Lewiston-Auburn Senior College along with a series of events at the library. Seeing the amount of interest and general concern for the implications of misinformation, Gagnon created a companion website, www.themediasavvycitizen.org. He has recently become a Certified Health Information Specialist by the Medical Library Association and is developing workshops on evaluating health claims and reports.