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New prizes coming to the Indiana Library Passport in 2025 as the State Library celebrates 200 years



As the Indiana State Library prepares to celebrate its 200th anniversary this

Upcoming workshops and important dates

[Collaborative Summer Library Program 2025 Color Our World Webinar](#)

When: Jan. 7, 2025, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Where: Online

[What's Up Wednesday - Empowering Libraries to Support Caregivers: Essential Resources and Strategies](#)

When: Jan. 8, 2025, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Online

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

- [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana launches in Allen County](#)

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Wednesday Word
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Indiana library jobs



This week's new Indiana library jobs

[Digital Preservation and Digital Collections Archivist](#)

Indiana University Indianapolis

[Public Services Librarian - Adult Focus](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

year, the Indiana Library Passport is offering new prizes and activities. A brand new limited-edition bicentennial celebration mug and a special year-end prize drawing are included in the offerings.

The Indiana Library Passport, a creative digital experience that encourages everyone to visit libraries across the Hoosier state, is open to Indiana residents and outside visitors alike and showcases nearly 170 main libraries and branches.

After users provide their name, email address and mobile phone number, a link will be sent to their mobile phone, which will add a button icon to their home screen. From there, users are free to begin visiting Hoosier libraries. Users access the passport to check in to a participating library using their phone's location services. When a user checks in to a library, they earn points, which can be redeemed to claim prizes directly through the passport.

In addition to allowing users to earn redeemable points, the passport automatically enters each user into a quarterly prize drawing every time they check in to a library. Passport

When: Jan. 9, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Marion Public Library

[Professional Development Roundtable](#)

When: Jan. 9, 2025, 2-3 p.m.

Where: Online

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Jan. 17, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Jackson County Public Library

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Jan. 23, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Danville-Center Township Public Library

[What's Up Wednesday - Artificial Intelligence in Libraries](#)

When: Jan. 29, 2025, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Jan. 31, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Franklin County Public Library District - Brookville Branch

[Public Services Librarian - Juvenile](#)[Focus](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Public Services Librarian - Juvenile](#)[Focus](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Library Assistant \(part-time\)](#)

Ivy Tech - South Bend Campus

[Children's Programmer](#)Jasper-Dubois County Contractual
Public Library[Collection Services Manager](#)

Johnson County Public Library

[Head of Genealogy and Local History](#)Kokomo-Howard County Public
Library[Library Assistant \(part-time\)](#)

Middlebury Public Library

[Library Director](#)

Milford Public Library

[Marketing Coordinator \(part-time\)](#)

Putnam County Public Library

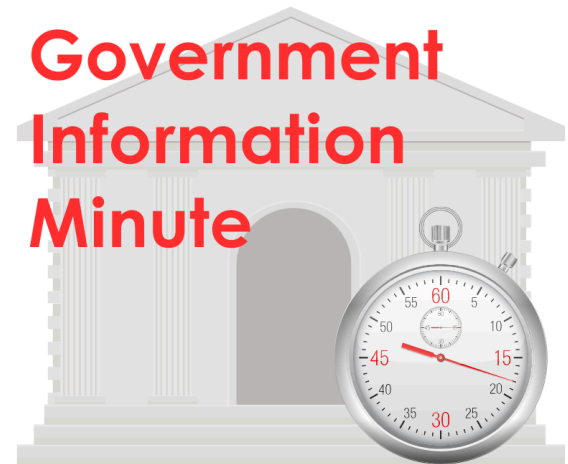
[Adult and YA Services Librarian](#)

Speedway Public Library

users are permitted to check in to each library or branch once per week.

In 2025, in addition to the regular quarterly prize drawings, a special year-end prize drawing will take place. Everyone who physically checks into the Indiana State Library - located at 315 W. Ohio St. in downtown Indianapolis - between Jan. 1, 2025 and Dec. 31, 2025, will be entered to win a copy of "Laying the Foundation," a brand new book featuring collection highlights from the Indiana State Library. The book features 100 items from the library's collection. Items in the book represent only a small fraction of the historic and culturally significant materials held by the Indiana State library. The book is also available for purchase for \$20 in the Nook Gift Shop on the first floor of the State Library.

Those who cannot check into the Indiana State Library can still participate. Beginning in January, a special limited-edition bicentennial celebration mug will be available to claim with points earned by checking into libraries all across the state. Each check-in earns a user 100 points. The special mug can be claimed for 1,000



Welcome to the Government Information Minute. Every other week, government information librarians at the Indiana State Library cover current resources on governmental data at the state, national and international levels, all to keep the public well-informed. Follow the Indiana State Data Center on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and feel free to leave comments and suggestions.

Smithsonian Open Access

Those who would like their Indiana library job posting to be listed in the Wednesday Word must submit the position and its description to the Indiana State Library. Click [here](#) for submission guidelines and to submit.

In the news



[Hoosier authors giving back to Indiana libraries](#)

Allen County Public Library

[Library hosting retro upcycled crafting](#)

points, but supplies are very limited. Users may also still claim the standard Indiana Library Passport mug, at a different point value.

In 2025, a new batch of prizes will be available for passport users to win via quarterly drawing in addition to favorites, like tickets to tour various historical locations across the state, courtesy of [Indiana Landmarks](#), and annual Indiana state park passes, courtesy of the [Indiana DNR](#); and admission passes to the [Indiana State Museum](#).

The Indiana Library Passport is also offering a new referral program. When a user refers a new user via the passport, they will earn 50 points which can be put toward earning one of the two mug prizes.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Indiana Library Passport. Click [here](#) to see a list of past and present prize donors.

Libraries interested in joining the Indiana Library Passport - free of cost - should contact [John Wekluk](#), communications director at the Indiana State Library.



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[workshop](#)

Eckhart Public Library

[Holiday highlights: Local libraries abuzz this month with festive activities](#)

Hancock County Public Library

[I Love to Read: Letters About Literature writing contest](#)

Indiana State Library

[Acts of Kindness: Nonprofit hosts Fort Ben library event for children to help make a difference](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Library board approves strategic plan through 2027](#)

Jackson County Public Library

[Arts Commission provides grants to each of Indiana's 92 counties](#)

Perry County Public Library

[Shoals Public Library seeks community support for accessibility enhancements with crowdfunding drive](#)

Shoals Public Library

[St. Joe County Public Library one of](#)

Peggy Barber Tribute Grant application deadline is Feb. 3



The Peggy Barber Tribute Grant is an annual grant of the American Library Association that recognizes, promotes and supports meaningful programs in libraries that have limited or no access to budgetary support for programming.

The grant, named after the late library leader Peggy Barber, aims to help ease library budget challenges by awarding three libraries \$2,500 to support a proposed program, program series or programming effort.

Each year, the grant will focus on supporting a specific type of library programming. For the 2024-2025 cycle, libraries are invited to submit applications to support programming related to combatting isolation for

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Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana launches in Allen County



The Allen County Public Library has officially launched Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program dedicated to fostering early

[11 libraries to receive \\$500 from Indiana Authors Award winners](#)

St. Joe County Public Library

[Washington Carnegie Public Library among more than 100 public libraries selected by PLA to boost digital literacy](#)

Washington Carnegie Public Library

Is your library making news?

[Email](#) news links for inclusion in the Wednesday Word's "In the news" section.

To be featured in the Wednesday Word, please [email](#) a press release and a photo.



State Library blog

older adults. Proposals should be focused on a program that combats isolation for older adult, such as a technology training club to teach seniors how to use technology so that they can stay connected online or a social club to bring adults together around an activity like crafting or gardening.

Applications for the award will be accepted until Feb. 3. [Read the grant guidelines and apply online.](#)

NICCL roundtable scheduled for Jan. 17



The Northern Indiana Computer Consortium for Libraries has scheduled its next roundtable meeting on Jan. 17. The roundtable will be hosted, in-person, at the Waterloo Grant-Township Public Library from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. There is also an option to attend virtually.

childhood literacy by providing free, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five. Following a successful fundraising campaign, the library began signing up children who had already expressed interest via the Imagination Library website. According to officials from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana, in its first month of operation, Allen County experienced the second-highest registration numbers in the country. To date, the Allen County Public Library has registered 2,349 children.

Parents, grandparents and caregivers are encouraged to sign up any child up to five years of age for the program [here](#). There is no cost to the families and the child will receive a personalized book each month until they turn five years old. It takes approximately 8-12 weeks from enrollment until the child receives their first book in the mail.

"Every day someone in the community mentions Imagination Library to me. It has been a thrill to watch the community rally around the program and give generously to make it a reality," said Allen County Public Library executive director



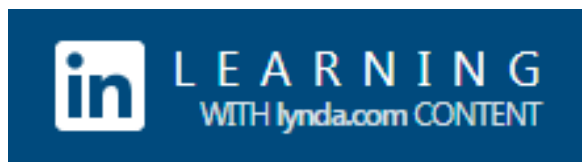
Follow the [Indiana State Library's blog](#) for weekly posts covering all aspects of the State Library.

Indiana library employees who would like to contribute a guest blog, please send an [email](#) with an idea.

Miss an issue of the Wednesday Word?

Back issues of the Wednesday Word are available [here](#).

Free training for librarians and library employees on LinkedIn Learning



NICCL is an organization composed of member libraries that meet quarterly for technology-based training and networking. Attendees are encouraged to share technology endeavors from their own libraries, as well as what they've seen in other libraries. The roundtable also offers an opportunity for attendees to ask technology-related questions to those in the group.

Attendees do not need to be members of NICCL, nor do they need to be on staff as a member of their library's IT department.

Please send an RSVP to [Rich Weiland](#) of the Adams Public Library System, as the group will go to a local restaurant after the roundtable discussion. Those who would like to attend virtually via Zoom should make note in their RSVP. A link to the online roundtable will be sent via email reply to those who send an RSVP.

The Waterloo Grant Township Public Library is located at 300 S. Wayne St. in Waterloo.

Susan P. Baier. "A strong early literacy foundation is absolutely critical to academic, social and economic success. When we couple a vibrant library system with high quality books in the home – we're building that strong foundation for the children of Allen County. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the ingenuity of Dolly Parton, that work is officially underway!"

The launch now makes Dolly Parton's Imagination Library available in one of Indiana's largest counties and marks the accomplishment of a key Allen County Public Library strategic goal from its 2024-28 strategic plan.

The project is funded by community donations led by the Allen County Public Library Foundation's fundraising efforts. In June of 2024, the Foundation launched a campaign with an initial goal of \$100,000 to fund the first two years of the program. The goal was met in October through donations from individuals, family foundations, social and civic organizations, businesses, library employees and members of the Friends of the Library. The State of Indiana's Next Level Agenda will match all funds raised, doubling the

impact of the program.

The fund has raised \$132,000, but requires continued support for the years to come. The Allen County community is invited to make donations [here](#) or by visiting any Allen County Public Library branch. Read more [here](#).

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