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2025 Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award ballot announcement



Upcoming workshops and important dates

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

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

Where: Danville-Center Township Public Library

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

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

Where: Online

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

When: Jan. 29, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Kanopy service with Plus Packs

- Upcoming Leadership Johnson County workshops
- Snow shoveling to support the troops

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Indiana library jobs



This week's new Indiana library jobs

Associate Director of Public Services

East Chicago Public Library

Youth Services Librarian

East Chicago Public Library

Children's Librarian

The Indiana State Library and the Indiana Center for the Book are celebrating the 11th year of the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award in 2025. The Firefly Award, an initiative of the Indiana Center for the Book, is administered by the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Committee. The purpose of the award is to encourage parents, caregivers and very young children to interact together with exceptional picture books, as picture books serve an important role in the first years of the life of a child.

The 2025 Nominees are "Are You a Monster?," by Guilherme Karsten; "Bing! Bang! Chugga! Beep!," by Bill Martin Jr.; "Ploof" by Ben Clanton; "Quiet Time With My Seeya," by Dinalie Dabarera; and "Turtle-Turtle and the Wide, Wide River," by Jane and Will Hillenbrand.

This year, every public library system in Indiana will receive 10 print copies of the ballot and six sheets of Firefly stickers for marking nominees and winning titles. The packet of printed materials should arrive by late February or early March.

All locations that wish to collect votes are welcome to print out as many

Where: Pike County Public Library - Petersburg Branch

Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop

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

Where: Franklin County Public Library District - Brookville Branch

What's Up Wednesday - "Sorry, I Don't Speak Librarian: Finding Your Voice and Writing for Your Audience"

When: Feb. 12, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Online

Virtual Webmaster Roundtable

When: Feb. 18, 2-3 p.m.

Where: Online

Using TeachingBooks at the Public Library

When: Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Online

Benjamin Harrison Escape Room

When: Feb. 20, 12-1 p.m.

Where: Indiana State Library

Indiana Disability Resource FINDER Webinar

When: Feb. 25, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

Indiana State Library Bicentennial

Fayette County Public Library

[Community Branch Manager](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Public Services Associate II Floater](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Systems Network Infrastructure Administrator](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Adult Services Librarian](#)

Sullivan County Public Library

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



[Allen County Public Library can help you start the New Year on a reading note](#)

ballots as they wish from the [Firefly website](#). Voting is limited to children who live in Indiana and who are under the age of 6 as of July 31, 2025. It is expected that most Indiana children will require help from a parent, caregiver or librarian. Children should circle their favorite Firefly nominee on their ballot and turn it in to their local voting location. Voting locations should tally the votes and send them in an email to the [Indiana Center for the Book](#).

Tallies will be accepted through July 31. Late tallies cannot be accepted. The winner of the award will be announced on Aug. 4.

In order to support libraries in their Firefly endeavors, the Indiana Center for the Book will be releasing a program guide by March 15. Please watch the Firefly website or the Listservs for this announcement. Libraries are encouraged to provide access to the books, have special Firefly storytimes, have voting programs and promote the awards as they see fit. Libraries are free to share their celebrations with the Indiana Center for the Book.

For more information - and for future

[Architectural Tour](#)

When: Feb. 25, 12-1:30 p.m.

Where: Indiana State Library

[What's Up Wednesday - Bookmarking Success: Partnering with the School Care Team to Enhance Library Impact](#)

When: Feb. 26, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

[What's Up Wednesday - ILF and Advocacy](#)

When: March 12, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

[Youth Services Leaders Virtual Roundtable](#)

When: March 18, 2-3 p.m.

Where: Online

[What's Up Wednesday - 2025 State of the Child with Indiana Youth Institute](#)

When: March 26, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

[Thematic Programming for Multicultural Celebrations](#)

When: April 8, 2-3 p.m.

Where: Online

[What's Up Wednesday - The Indiana Collection at the Indiana State Library](#)

When: April 9, 10-11 a.m.

Where: Online

Allen County Public Library

[Allen County Public Library encourages Imagination Library donations on founder's upcoming birthday](#)

Allen County Public Library and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana

[Allen County Public Library hosts traveling exhibit focused on housing discrimination, racism](#)

Allen County Public Library

[Eckhart Library invites community to engage in conversations about big ideas](#)

Eckhart Public Library

[Eckhart Public Library to team up with Auburn Brewing Company for '80s Night](#)

Eckhart Public Library

[Brenda Ramseier artwork now on display at Fulton County Public Library](#)

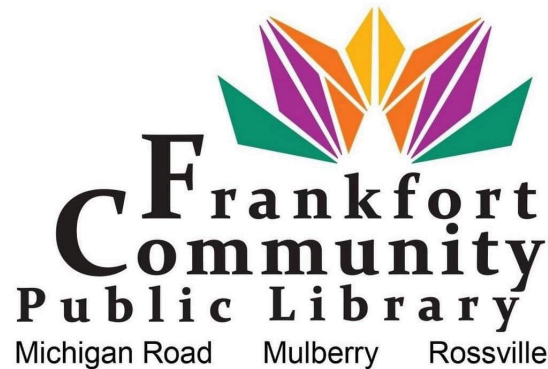
Fulton County Public Library

[FCPL hosts Eikenberry for free drawing class](#)

Fulton County Public Library

updates on the program guide and social media materials - please visit the [Firefly website](#).

Frankfort Community Public Library awarded NCHS grant to improve Library Art Studio



The Friends of the Frankfort Library has announced that it has been awarded a North Central Health Services grant, which is administered by The Arts Federation. This grant will supplement cabinets and seating in the Frankfort Community Public Library's Art Studio, as well as furnish a demonstration table. Additionally, the grant will fund slat walls, which will enhance the circulating art collection.

These additions will enable the library to meet community needs



Welcome to Digital Collection Highlights. Every other week, librarians at the Indiana State Library share images from the library's ever-growing digital collections. Visit the [Digital Collections](#) page to view the latest additions.

Snow shoveling to support the troops

[Come meet Friends of Hamilton
North Public Library](#)

Hamilton North Public Library

[Marking his page in history:
Prominent businessman Knox to be
honored with historical marker](#)

Indiana Historical Bureau at the
Indiana State Library

[2 Chinese American painters are
showing work at the Central Library](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Indianapolis Public Library rewards
underrepresented employees with
scholarship](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Library to host February book
discussions](#)

Jackson County Public Library

[Johnson County Public
Library: Explore Summer endowment
to keep beloved program funded
forever](#)

Johnson County Public Library

[County histories at the Knox County
Public Library](#)

Knox County Public Library

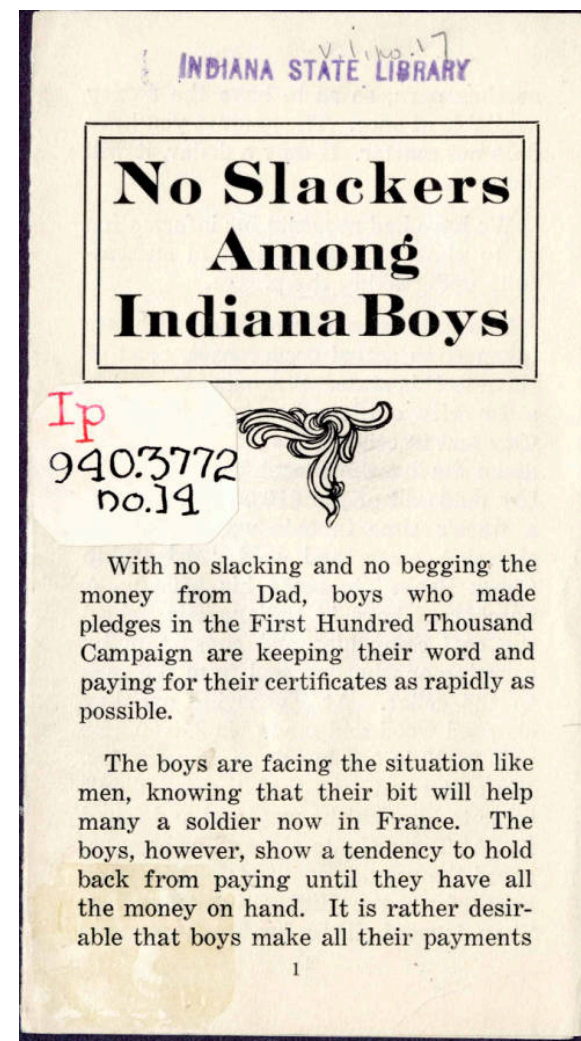
better. The expanded storage will increase the efficiency of arts programming by situating all supplies in a single location for easier access during classes. The refined art display will allow the entire circulating collection to be presented all at once, providing patrons with greater accessibility.

Cabinetry is to be installed during the month of February, followed by work on the circulating collection area. Please excuse any disruption to library spaces or availability of the circulating collection once work commences.

The Frankfort Community Public Library and Friends of the Frankfort Library would like to express our gratitude to North Central Health Services and The Arts Federation for their investment in the arts and culture of Clinton County.

For more information, contact Lori Brubaker [via email](#) or at 765-654-8746, ext. 1141.

Allen County Public Library expands access to popular



During World War I, the Young Men's Christian Association, most commonly known as the YMCA, created a program called the Million Dollar Fund of American Boys. Boys and young men were encouraged to go into their communities and perform work or chores to raise money to support the troops as part of a national campaign. Each

[STEAM activities with stars](#)

Knox County Public Library

[Shoals Carnegie Library to begin expansion with groundbreaking ceremony](#)

Shoals Public Library

[Sullivan County Library has new leadership](#)

Sullivan County Public Library

[Family fun reading time for babies at local library](#)

Vigo County Public Library

[Vigo County Library holds MLK Day event](#)

Vigo County 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.

Kanopy service with Plus Packs



The Allen County Public Library has announced a major enhancement to its Kanopy streaming service. The new Kanopy Plus Packs, which offer unlimited access to select content, launched Jan. 1. Plus Packs make it easier for library cardholders to enjoy movies, TV shows and educational programs without the need to use limited monthly tickets.

Kanopy Plus Packs are pre-paid packages of curated content that are available to all adult Allen County Public Library patrons. By funding these packages up front, the library will eliminate the need for patrons to use their limited monthly tickets to

participant was given a goal of raising \$10, equivalent to a little over \$200 today.

Fortunately, for young Indiana participants, the winter of 1917-18 was a particularly bad one for the Midwest. Temperatures reached record lows and snow fell frequently. According to this [booklet put out by the Indiana YMCA War Work Council](#), one boy was able to raise his \$10 in just a week by shoveling snow. Others helped wheel coal, the primary source of fuel for most buildings, to those in need.

Another particularly enterprising young man turned his father's car into an impromptu taxi service and charged people fares to transport them around snow-bound communities. Details are murky on how much money was actually raised in Indiana, but the war would be over by the end of the year. The winter of 1917-18 remains one of the worst in recorded history for the Midwest.

Upcoming Leadership Johnson County workshops



access these specific titles, providing unlimited viewing at no additional cost.



State Library blog



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

One of the most anticipated additions is the Kanopy Kids Plus Pack. Previously, cards issued to minors are unable to access the Kanopy platform, so parents who wished to access the Kanopy Kids section had to use five tickets per visit for their children. Now, this section will be available for unlimited use, with no ticket cost required. This will significantly ease the burden on parents and provide access to a wide range of high-quality children's programming, including movies, educational videos and more.

Additionally, the Episodic Titles Plus Pack provides unlimited access to a variety of TV series. Previously, patrons had to use tickets for each individual episode, however with the new Plus Pack, users can watch entire seasons of their favorite shows without worrying about running out of tickets.

"We're always looking for ways to improve access to valuable resources for our community, and these new Plus Packs will make Kanopy even

Leadership Johnson County is hosting two workshops in the upcoming weeks.

"You Know Your Why. Now What?" will be held Thursday, Jan. 30, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the Johnson County Armory. In this session, attendees will learn how to use their "why" to lead themselves and their team with confidence, clarity and purpose. Participants will build the confidence needed to make a real impact in their life and career.

Registration is required. The cost for "Know Your Why" is \$59 per person for Leadership Johnson County Signature Program graduates, Franklin College alumni, Franklin and Indy Chamber of Commerce members and Aspire members. General public pricing is \$69 per person. Register [here](#).

On Friday, Feb. 7, from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Compass Park in Franklin, Leadership Johnson County will host



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more accessible and convenient for all of our patrons,” said Matt Etzel, Allen County Public Library collection services manager. “Our patrons continue to ask for the convenience of digital and streaming services as part of their library experience and these enhancements to the Kanopy service reflect the library's ongoing commitment to providing free, accessible and enriching content to all Allen County residents.”

To take advantage of the new Kanopy Plus Packs, cardholders can visit the Allen County Public Library [website](#).

"Women in Leadership - Dare to Dream." This is a call to action for women ready to unlock their full potential. Whether they want to level up their career, start a new venture or simply create a life they love, this immersive experience will help tap into their imagination, harness their values and build a blueprint for their biggest dreams.

The cost for "Women In Leadership" is \$135, with a discounted rate of \$115. Register [here](#).

"Know Your Why" is approved for three LEUs by the Indiana State Library, and "Women In Leadership" is approved for five LEUs. See the library's LEU policies [here](#).

Those with any questions prior to registering - or those who have a group of five or more that they would like to register - should contact Bea Northcott [via email](#) or call 317-441-5295.

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