Belleville Area District Library Board
Regular Meeting Agenda
December 9, 2025 at 7:30 PM

The Belleville Area District Library Board will meet in person in the library's 2nd floor Conference Room.

Agenda:

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Cichewicz, Fleming, Hughes-Grubbs, Jackson-Smith, Peters, Priest, Stoudemire
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve November 18, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comments
6. Approve 2026 Regular Board Meeting Dates
7. Approve 2026 Library Closure Dates
8. Health Insurance
9. Committee Reports
    A. Building-Cichewicz
    B. Bylaws-Priest
    C. Finance-Stoudemire
    D. Outreach-Jackson-Smith
    E. Personnel-Priest
    F. Policy-Fleming
    G. Art
10. Approve Accounts Payable
11. Director's Report/Comments/Communications
12. Trustee Comments
13. Chair Comments
14. Adjournment

Any citizen wishing to provide input or ask questions about any agenda item may speak during the meeting's Public Comments section or forward comments to the Library Director in advance by leaving a message at 734-699-3291 or via the Contact Information found at www.belleville.lib.mi.us. Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting may contact the library at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, using the above contact information.

Next Regular BADL Board Meeting: January 13, 2026, at 7:30 PM

Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
Date: November 18, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:51 pm.

2. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest
   Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Library Assistant Nikki Pickeral
   Excused: Alma Hughes-Grubbs, Maria Jackson-Smith, Tanya Stoudemire

3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming to approve the November 18, 2025, Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Approve October 14, 2025, Minutes:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the October 14, 2025, Minutes as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

5. **Public Comments:** An inquiry was made into the status of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. (The status is pending a court ruling).

6. **Committee Reports:**
   A. **Building:** No Report.
   B. **Bylaws:** No Report.
   C. **Finance:** Suchy reminded the board that the annual audit is coming and the board will receive emails about it.
   D. **Outreach:** No Report.
   E. **Personnel:** No Report. Suchy reported that the director evaluation is coming in January. She also reported an issue between United HealthCare and Corewell Health. If this issue isn't resolved, Corewell's doctors and hospitals will no longer be covered by UHC. This will affect half of the library's staff.
   F. **Policy:** No Report.
   G. **Art:** No Report.

7. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Fleming, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **Director's Report:** See attached. The library is a site for donations of food for the Methodist Church's Food Closet as well as for donations to Toys for Tots. The library's 2025 honey is for sale. Proceeds go to the Friends of the Library.

9. **Trustee Comments:**
   Fleming: Raved about the library's programs. He came to 3 programs and was impressed with the quality of the presenters and information. Had a wonderful time at Classic Movie Night, Jazz Night, and the program about Native American influence on Michigan architecture.

Priest: Agreed with Fleming's comment and added that the board members should bring a person with them when they attend a program or just to visit the library. Especially if that person has never been to our library.
Cichewicz: Really enjoyed the article Suchy included in the board packs this month, "Reading While Neurodivergent: A Librarian's Guide to Loving Books on your Own Terms." Her grandson is neurodivergent and 17 years old, and he still loves picture books and audio books.

10. **Chair Comments:** Peters also enjoyed the article and how it highlights all the reading diversity there is as well as the importance of giving more people the opportunity to enjoy books no matter their age or reading level. She added that it is wonderful the library is a big part of that.

11. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Fleming, seconded by Priest. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Proposed

Belleville Area District Library Board
2026 Meeting Dates

The Belleville Area District Library Board meets in the library's 2nd floor conference room on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

The 2026 meeting dates are as follows:

January 13, 2026

February 10, 2026

March 10, 2026

April 14, 2026

May 12, 2026

June 9, 2026

July 14, 2026

August 11, 2026

September 8, 2026

October 13, 2026

November 10, 2026

December 8, 2026

(Notices of special meetings will be posted at least 18 hours prior to any special meetings).

Belleville Area District Library
167 Fourth Street
Belleville MI 48111
(734-699-3291)

Proposed

Belleville Area District Library
2026 Closed Dates

Thursday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Monday, January 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sunday, April 5: Easter

Friday, April 24: (Staff Training Day)

Monday, May 25: Memorial Day

Friday, July 3 - Sunday July 5: 4th of July Holiday

Monday, Sept. 7: Labor Day

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Veteran's Day

Thursday, Nov. 26 - Friday Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, Dec. 24 - Saturday, Dec. 26: Christmas Holiday

Thursday, Dec 31: New Year's Eve

Belleville Area District Library

a healthcare & benefits proposal

Proposal Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Presenter

Michael Arsenault

Cardamone Insurance Agency
(586) 254-5050
mike@cardamoneinsurance.com

Prepared For

Belleville Area District Library

MI. 48111
County: Wayne
SIC Code: 8231

Employees Information

12 Total number of employees

12 Full time employees

12 Eligible employees

12 Enrolling employees

Medical Coverage

2 Recommended Plans

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Employer Profile

Employer Information

State
MI

Zip Code
48111

County
Wayne

ATNE
12

Total Number of Eligible Employees
12

Primary Contact

Quote ID
NM2WWHA

SIC Code
8231

Producer Information

Writing Producer
Michael Arsenault

Agency
Cardamone Insurance Agency

General Agent

Employee Information

Number of Waiving Employees
0

Number of Enrolling Employees
12

Total Dependents
8

Total Enrolling Members
20

Number at Each Coverage Tier
EE 7
ES 3
EC 1
EF 1

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Medical Employer Contribution
Employees 100% / Dependents 100%

Medical Coverage

1

BlueCross BlueShield of Michigan 2026 Community Blue PPO Platinum Option 3 W/Elective Abortion

$18,554.73
Total Monthly Cost

	Platinum
Deductible	
(In) Ind / Fam	**$500 / $1,000**
(Out) Ind / Fam	**1000.0 / 2000.0**
Out-of-Pocket Max	
(In) Ind / Fam	**$8,700 / $17,400**
(Out) Ind / Fam	**17400.0 / 34800.0**
Coinsurance	
In-Network	**20%**
Out-of-Network	**40%**
Doctor Visit	**$20**
Virtual Visit	**Yes**
Specialist Visit	**$30**
X-ray/Lab	**20% after ded**
Imaging	**20% after ded**
Urgent Care	**$60**
Emergency Room	**$150**
Hospital Stay	**20% after ded**
Prescription Drugs	**$10 / N/A / $40 / $100 / ...**
RX deductible	**See SBC**
Monthly Age Banded Rates	
28 (youngest employee)	**$616.81**
48 (median age employee)	**$927.76**
60 (oldest employee)	**$1,540.03**
Employer Cost	**$18,554.73**
Employee Cost	**$0.00**
Monthly Premium	**$18,554.73**

SBC

2

HAP PPO Platinum A050

$18,740.28
Total Monthly Cost

	Platinum
Deductible	
(In) Ind / Fam	**$500 / $1,000**
(Out) Ind / Fam	**3000.0 / 6000.0**
Out-of-Pocket Max	
(In) Ind / Fam	**$2,500 / $5,000**
(Out) Ind / Fam	**20000.0 / 40000.0**
Coinsurance	
In-Network	**0%**
Out-of-Network	**50%**
Doctor Visit	**$20**
Virtual Visit	**Yes**
Specialist Visit	**$40**
X-ray/Lab	**$30**
Imaging	**$150 after ded**
Urgent Care	**$65**
Emergency Room	**$200**
Hospital Stay	**$0 after ded**
Prescription Drugs	**$5 / $15 / $30 / $60 / 20...**
RX deductible	**See SBC**
Monthly Age Banded Rates	
28 (youngest employee)	**$622.98**
48 (median age employee)	**$937.04**
60 (oldest employee)	**$1,555.43**
Employer Cost	**$18,740.28**
Employee Cost	**$0.00**
Monthly Premium	**$18,740.28**

SBC

← Back

Downloaded at: December 09, 2025

Belleville Area District Library
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2025

Account	Revenues	2025-2026 Budget	3 Months 2025-2026 Budget	3 Months Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
403.000	Current Taxes less chg backs	$ 2,800,000	$ 700,000	$ 700,000 *	$ -
	Total Current Taxes	2,800,000	700,000	700,000	-
502.000	Grant Revenue	7,000	1,750	-	(1,750)
665.000	Interest Income	25,000	6,250	84	(6,166)
575.000	State Aid	47,000	11,750	24,230	12,480
	Library Fines and Fees				
659.000	Late Fees	1,000	250	785	535
658.000	Penal Fines	40,000	10,000	-	(10,000)
677.000	Lost Book Fees	1,300	325	3	(322)
	Total Fines and Fees	42,300	10,575	788	(9,787)
674.000	Contributions and Donations	1,000	250	3,046	2,796
674.002	Contributions New Library	-	-	-	-
	Miscellaneous Income				
680.000	Miscellaneous				
630.000	Copies				
631.000	Fax Fees				
647.000	Newspaper Sales				
	Total Miscellaneous	24,000	6,000	8,188	2,188
	Grand Total Revenues	$ 2,946,300	$ 736,575	$ 736,336	$ (239)
	Expenditures				
	Salaries				
702.000	Salary- Librarians				
705.000	Salary- Library Aides				
	Total Salaries	$ 1,292,000	$ 323,000	$ 281,654	$ 41,346
	Benefits and FICA				
715.000	FICA/ Medicare	98,838	24,710	21,547	3,163
716.000	Employee Health Insurance	268,000	67,000	79,995	(12,995)
718.000	Retirement (MERS)	85,000	21,250	21,574	(324)
	Total Benefits and FICA	451,838	112,960	123,116	(10,157)
981.000	Books and Acquisitions	285,000	71,250	68,400	2,850
809.002	Contracted Services-Acq.	24,000	6,000	1,548	4,452
	Supplies				
730.000	Office Supplies				
775.000	Supplies- Maintenance				
950.002	Library Programs Supplies				
	Total Supplies	55,000	13,750	9,276	4,474

* Actual taxes collected to date $14,089.79

Belleville Area District Library
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2025

Account		2025-2026 Budget	3 Months 2025-2026 Budget	3 Months Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Professional Fees				
804.000	Audit	$ 10,000	$ 2,500	$ -	$ 2,500
805.000	Finance	15,000	3,750	3,525	225
801.001	Legal	7,000	1,750	2,423	(673)
801.002	Legal-Building Program	-	-	-	-
807.000	Architect	10,000	2,500	-	2,500
806.000	Other	10,000	2,500	550	1,950
	Total Professional Fees	52,000	13,000	6,498	6,502
815.000	Bank Fees	2,000	500	289	211
808.000	Dues	5,000	1,250	941	309
	Contracted Services				
809.001	Contracted Services	28,000	7,000	5,981	1,019
809.005	Delivery	6,000	1,500	-	1,500
720.000	Payroll	15,000	3,750	3,107	643
809.003&4	Automation System & Cataloging	45,000	11,250	9,895	1,355
809.007	Outside Maintenance	20,000	5,000	1,314	3,686
	Total Contracted Services	114,000	28,500	20,297	8,203
	Telephones & Telecommunications				
851.000	Telephone	15,000	3,750	2,512	1,238
851.002	Telecommunications	16,000	4,000	-	4,000
	Total Telephone and Telecommunications	31,000	7,750	2,512	5,238
	Insurance				
	Building Insurance				
810.000	Liability Insurance				
811.000	Worker's Comp. Insurance				
	Total Insurance	38,000	9,500	17,863	(8,363)
	Utilities				
921.000	Heat				
922.000	Electrical				
923.000	Water and Sewer				
	Total Utilities	70,000	17,500	22,077	(4,577)
931.000	Repairs and Maintenance	150,000	37,500	28,139	9,361
	Printing and Publications				
901.002&5	Printing				
901.004	Publications- Newspapers				
	Total Printing & Publications	20,000	5,000	4,523	477
727.002&3	Postage	10,000	2,500	2,110	390
820.000	Computer Hardware/ Software				
982.000	Computer Repair & Maintenance				
982.000	Hardware and Software				
		120,000	30,000	2,462	27,538

Belleville Area District Library
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2025

Account		2025-2026 Budget	3 Months 2025-2026 Budget	3 Months Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Miscellaneous				
863.000	Travel and Meetings	$ 8,000	$ 2,000	$ 3,301	$ (1,301)
950.001	Miscellaneous (Programming)	18,000	4,500	6,285	(1,785)
983.001	New Equip/ Office Furniture	25,000	6,250	-	6,250
	Wayne County Penal Fines	40,000	10,000	-	
	Other	4,000	1,000	372	628
	Total Miscellaneous	95,000	23,750	9,958	13,792
	Total Expenditures	$ 2,814,838	$ 703,710	$ 601,663	$ 102,047
	Current Year	$ 131,462	$ 32,866	$ 134,673	$ 101,808

CHECK DISBURSEMENT REPORT FOR BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY
CHECK DATE 11/13/2025 - 12/01/2025

Check Date	Payee	Description	Account	Amount
Fund: 101 Gene				
11/18/2025	**A PRODUCTION BUILDING SOLUTION**	NOV CLEANING/MAINT 4TH STREET	931.000	**3,565.00**
11/18/2025	**ADKISON, NEED, ALLEN & RENTROP**	LEGAL/PENAL SETTLMNT	801.001	**206.50**
11/18/2025	**AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES**	BOOKS AND MATLS	981.000	39.99
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	65.66
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	49.99
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	51.63
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	41.47
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	10.39
		OFFICE/PROG SUPPLIES	950.002	116.44
		OFFICE/PROG SUPPLIES	730.000	42.27
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	104.69
		COMP HARDWARE	820.000	119.99
		OFFICE SUPPLIES	730.000	5.21
		COMP HARDWARE	820.000	119.99
		PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	202.44
				970.16
11/18/2025	**AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES**	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	950.002	53.89
		FRIENDS MERCH	252.002	348.61
		FRIENDS MERCH	252.002	76.33
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	199.90
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	28.85
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	412.78
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	65.79
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	20.67
		BOOKS & MATLS, LOT	981.000	127.67
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	102.25
		COMP HARD/SOFT MAINT	820.000	79.99
		OFFICE SUPPLIES	730.000	83.65
				1,600.38
11/18/2025	**AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES**	BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	79.95
		BOOKS & MATLS KIDSKITS	981.000	19.13
		PROG SUPPLIES	950.002	38.76
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	22.36
		BLDG SUPP, BOOKS/MATLS	981.000	27.60
		BLDG SUPP, BOOKS/MATLS	775.000	8.90
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	16.98
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	79.32
		BOOKS/MATLS KIDSKITS	981.000	139.98
		CREDIT VS 16FP-T3GK-GDP9	981.000	(139.98)
				293.00
11/18/2025	**APPLIED INNOVATION**	PRINTER SERV	809.001	**1,179.52**
11/18/2025	**BECKETT & RAEDER**	BLDG MAINT/REP - ANAYLSIS 2025052	931.000	**170.00**
11/18/2025	**BELLEVILLE AREA INDEPENDENT**	PRINTED ADVERTISING	901.004	**648.00**
11/18/2025	**BENJAMIN KOLK**	SEA SHANTY SING A LONG PROGRAM	950.001	**350.00**
11/18/2025	**BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICH**	DENTAL	716.000	**724.48**
11/18/2025	**DC LAWN & SNOW**	OCT LAWN SERVICE	809.007	**290.00**
11/18/2025	**DTE ENERGY**	SUMPTER HEAT/ELECT	921.000	69.31

		SUMPTER HEAT/ELECT	922.000	106.01
				175.32
11/18/2025	**FISH WINDOW CLEANING**	FALL WINDOW CLEANING 2025	931.000	2,283.00
		FALL WINDOW CLEANING 2025	931.000	831.00
				3,114.00
11/18/2025	**FRIENDS OF THE BELLEVILLE AREA**	OCT 2025 FRIENDS PAYOUT	252.001	775.85
		OCT 2025 FRIENDS PAYOUT	252.002	17.00
		OCT 2025 FRIENDS PAYOUT	252.004	9.40
				802.25
11/18/2025	**GASSER BUSH ASSOCIATES**	BLDG REPAIRS, CUST: 994479	931.000	1,000.00
11/18/2025	**JENNIFER RICHARDSON**	MLA TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	863.000	35.77
		MLA HOTEL REIMBURSEMENT	863.000	389.34
				425.11
11/18/2025	**LINDSAY LORE**	MLA TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT	863.000	**106.70**
11/18/2025	**ODP BUSINESS SOLULTIONS LLC**	OFFICE SUPPL, ACCT	730.000	29.99
		BLDG SUPPLIES, ACCT	775.000	78.78
		OFFICE SUPPLIES, ACCT	730.000	209.58
		OFFICE/BLDG SUPPLIES, ACCT	730.000	235.49
		OFFICE/BLDG SUPPLIES, ACCT	775.000	360.54
		BLDG SUPPLIES, ACCT	775.000	56.07
				970.45
11/18/2025	**PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPA**	SHORT/LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE	716.000	**601.56**
11/18/2025	**SHARON DUCKWORTH, CPA**	NOV ACCOUNTING/ONSITE TRAINING	805.000	**1,537.50**
11/18/2025	**UNIFIRST CORP**	FLOOR MATS-OCT	931.000	**15.64**
11/18/2025	**UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC**	OCT 2025 PLACEMENTS	809.001	**109.35**
11/18/2025	**WASTE MANAGEMENT OF MI, INC**	NOV DUMPSTER	809.001	**483.19**
11/24/2025	**AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES**	BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	536.54
		BOOKS & MATLS	981.000	12.00
				548.54
11/24/2025	**CHOICE CATERING**	PROGRAMMING SUPPLIES	950.002	**445.20**
11/24/2025	**CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS**	TELEPHONES	851.000	**478.95**
11/24/2025	**DEMCO**	OFFICE SUPPLIES	730.000	**145.90**
11/24/2025	**DTE ENERGY**	4TH STREET GAS	921.000	**731.20**
11/24/2025	**KONE ELEVATORS & ESCALATORS**	CAT 5 ELEVATOR TEST, BLDG REP/MAINT	931.000	**2,200.00**
11/24/2025	**LONG PLUMBING CO.**	PLUMBING/RESTROOM MAINT	931.000	**565.00**
11/24/2025	**ODP BUSINESS SOLULTIONS LLC**	BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	209.97
		BLDG SUPPLIES	775.000	27.47
				237.44
11/24/2025	**UNITED HEALTHCARE**	EMPLOYEE HEALTH INS	716.000	**15,228.07**
Total For Fund:				**39,918.41**
Report Total:				**39,918.41**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT-

December 2025

LIBRARY PROGRAMS **November: Adults: 22 Youth: 17**

LIBRARY VISITS	**2025/26**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	9,596	15,054	-36.26%
Fiscal Year	60,090	65,440	-8.18%

TOTAL CIRC	**2025/26**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	18,482	19,754	-6.40%
Fiscal Year	101,872	106,560	-4.40%

ADULT PROGRAMMING	**2025/26**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	238	212	12.26%
Fiscal Year	1,284	893	43.78%

YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMMING	**2025/2026**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	367	406	-9.61%
Fiscal Year	2,550	1,971	29.38%

REF. QUESTIONS	**2025/2026**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	924	1,396	-33.81%
Fiscal Year	7,763	8,273	-6.16%

INTERNET USE	**2025/2026**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	893	828	7.85%
Fiscal Year	5,169	5,014	3.09%

YOUTH/TEEN INTERNET	**2025/26**	**2024/25**	**% change**
November	279	228	22.37%
Fiscal Year	1,206	1,363	-11.52%

BUILDING: Kone Elevator was out as scheduled to perform the CAT5 elevator test. Unfortunately, they did not have the proper tool. The correct tool is on order, and they have rescheduled their service. They have been very communicative with us about the whole process. O'Neal Construction is working on a proposal to update the flagpole lights with lights that will be located on the side of the building. The sidewalk up-lights have proven to be unworkable.

FINANCE: The library's annual audit is underway.

STAFF: Our health insurance agent is providing us with quotes from Health Alliance Plan and Blue Cross should negotiations fail between United HealthCare and Corewell Health (Beaumont). As I reported at the last board meeting, half of the staff members on our UHC plan use Corewell Health. We would need to have a new plan in place by December 15 for service beginning January 1, but we would have the option of backing out of a new plan should UHC reach a settlement.

Outgoing staff: Shelver Carolyn Losey. Circulation Clerk Harper Klotz.

PROGRAMMING: As the year winds down, librarians are planning their programs for Winter 2026 and are putting the finishing touches on the library's newsletter. Storytimes are winding up this week, but our book groups are meeting and the Memory Café and Mahjong are still in full swing. A special family movie event is scheduled for Saturday, December 27 at 2 pm. Participants can watch *A Minecraft Movie* (Rated PG), enjoy some popcorn, and work on a craft.

Statement of Agency's Reinstatement of Terminated IMLS Grants

News Releases | December 3, 2025

December 3, 2025

Statement of Agency's Reinstatement of Terminated IMLS Grants

Washington, DC– Upon further review, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has reinstated all federal grants. This action supersedes any prior notices which may have been received related to grant termination.

Grantees should access the agency's electronic grants management system for further information.

Court permanently blocks Trump's executive order to dismantle federal agency for America's libraries

Washington – Today, the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island struck down the Trump Administration's attempts to dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The decision was issued in response to a lawsuit filed by the Attorneys General of 21 states.

ALA President Sam Helmick said, "Today's court decision is a powerful affirmation of what libraries mean to America. It restores everything that the executive order tried to take away: shared access to books in rural and remote areas, essential virtual learning tools, children's reading programs and the countless library services available to anyone who walks into a public, school or academic library. This isn't just a win for the 21 states who filed the case--it's a win for every library user and every American in every state and territory.

"Convincing a federal judge that shuttering a supposedly obscure agency would have an immediate and devastating impact on millions of Americans is no small feat. Libraries also strengthen local economies by supporting jobseekers, small businesses and community learning. Protecting these resources matters. ALA is proud to be in the company of dozens of library workers, associations, Friends of libraries, parents, educators, leaders at every level of government and every American who showed up for our libraries.

"This victory belongs to all of us, and we build the future of our libraries together. As we celebrate this decision, ALA invites everyone to keep using and speaking up for libraries. Your voice makes a difference, and your community leaders need to hear it."

IMLS is the only federal agency dedicated to the nation's libraries and museums. On March 14, President Trump issued Executive Order 14238, which directed the elimination of the agency. Subsequently, the Trump administration began mass termination of the agency's grants, dismissed all members of the IMLS board, halted crucial data collection and research, and intended to lay off nearly all of the agency's staff. These actions left IMLS unable to fulfill its duties required by federal law and interrupted library services across the country.

Today's court ruling found that those actions were arbitrary and capricious and contrary to federal law that established IMLS and directed it to carry out programs, including funding for libraries and museums across the nation. The ruling nullifies the Administration's actions to dismantle IMLS and permanently prohibits the Administration from taking such actions in the future. The ruling has immediate nationwide effect.

ALA also has led efforts in Congress and the courts to preserve IMLS, in parallel to the states' litigation. ALA filed its own lawsuit challenging the Administration's actions in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, which remains ongoing. In May, ALA's lawsuit won a temporary restraining order, which prevented the mass layoff of nearly all IMLS employees, days before it was scheduled to take effect.

ALA also mobilized thousands of contacts from library supporters nationwide urging Congress to protect IMLS. As Congress continues work to finalize appropriations bills for fiscal year 2026, ALA urges advocates to contact their Representatives and Senators in support of continued funding for the agency's vital work.

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About the American Library Association

The American Library Association is the largest non-partisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to America's libraries. The ALA mission is to empower and advocate for all libraries and library workers to ensure equitable access to information for all. For nearly 150 years, ALA has provided resources for information professionals to transform their communities through essential programs and services. For more information, visit www.ala.org.

Libraries and museums get federal funding back after Trump cuts

DECEMBER 4, 2025 · 4:13 PM ET

Andrew Limbong

The building that houses the IMLS. Earlier this year, President Trump issued an executive order dismantling the agency.

Jacquelyn Martin/AP

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is reinstating all grants that were previously terminated by the Trump administration. A short statement posted on the agency's website Wednesday reads, "this action supersedes any prior notices which may have been received related to grant termination."

The IMLS is the independent agency in charge of awarding federal grant funding to libraries and museums across the country. Earlier this year, it was the target of one of President Trump's executive orders, which led to the termination of grants that had been previously awarded.

Library insiders said the move particularly hurt small and rural libraries, with limited access to other sources of funding.

Sponsor Message

BOOKS

States win a legal injunction against President Trump, pausing library funding cuts

In response to the EO, attorneys general in 21 states filed a lawsuit against the administration, and in November a Rhode Island District Court judge ruled that the Trump administration's actions were unlawful. Now, libraries and museums across the country will have access to money that had been stuck in a months-long limbo.

American Library Association President Sam Helmick said in a statement that the reinstatement was a "massive win" for libraries in all states.

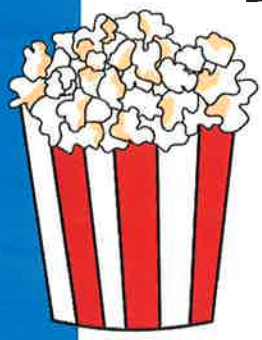
"We are breathing a sigh of relief, but the fight is not finished," the statement reads. "The administration can appeal court decisions. Congress can choose to not fund IMLS in future years. ALA calls on everyone who values libraries to remind their Congressmembers and elected officials at every level why America's libraries deserve more, not fewer resources."

NPR has reached out to IMLS representatives for comment.

Generally speaking, federal funding only makes up a small portion of the budget for public libraries. But it does help pay for workforce training and pilot programs, and it supports basic library services such as internet access in rural libraries. The IMLS awarded $266 million in grants to museums and libraries in 2024.

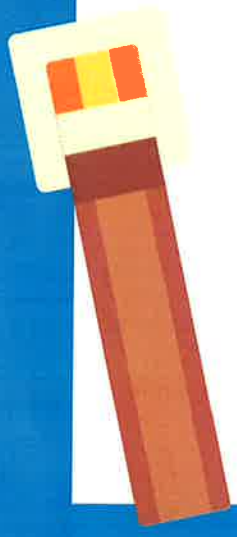
libraries trump executive order

Family Movie Fun



Saturday, December 27
@ 2 pm

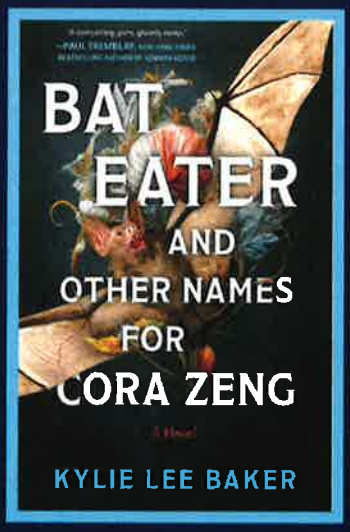
Enjoy some popcorn with us, and do some crafting while watching A Minecraft Movie (PG)!



BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

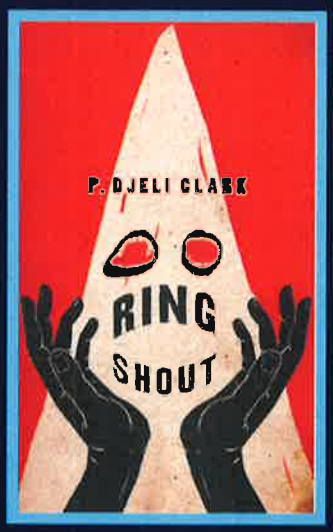
THE WITCHING HOUR BOOK GROUP

DECEMBER



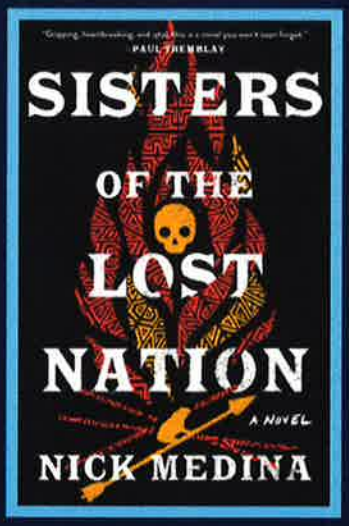
12/11/2025

JANUARY



1/8/2026

FEBRUARY



2/12/2026

WHAT TO KNOW

Meeting on the second Thursday of December, January, and February in the BADL Conference Room from 6:30-8PM, this book group focuses on contemporary horror. We will dive into worlds unnerving, surreal, and downright creepy. From the spook-curious to the hardcore horror lovers, anyone interested in the things that go bump in the night is welcome!

Register Here!

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