

[View this email in your browser](#)

CONNECTIONS: YOUR LINK TO THE
State Library of Oregon

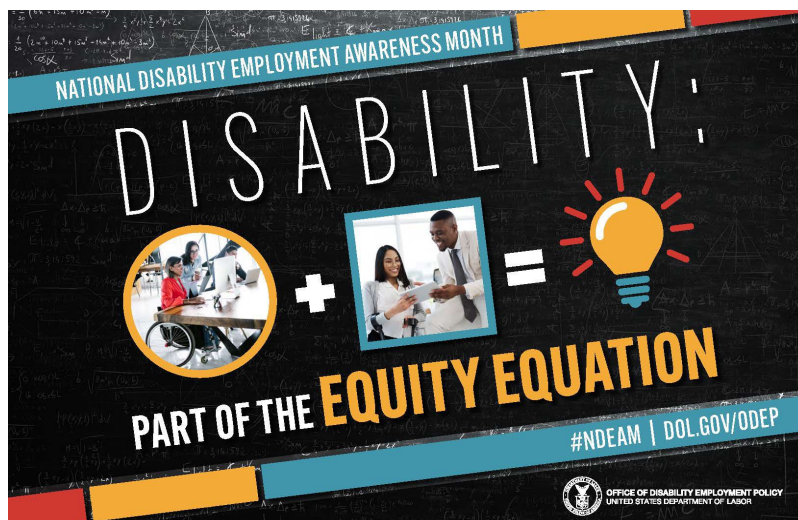


Volume 32, Issue 10 - October 2022

In this issue:

- [October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#)
- [Bottle Bill Digital Highlight](#)
- [Talking Book and Braille Library TRIVIA TIME!](#)
- [Edge Cohorts Prove Successful for Oregon Public Libraries](#)
- [The State Library Welcomes Sarah Walters](#)
- [OrDoc of the Month: Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow](#)

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month



By Joel Henderson, Studio Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for Talking Books

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), and everyone is encouraged to participate. The purpose of NDEAM is to encourage discussion related to disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities. This year's theme is "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation."

"Our national recovery from the pandemic cannot be completed without the inclusion of all Americans, in particular people with disabilities," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. "Their contributions have historically been vital

to our nation's success, and are more important today than ever. We must build an economy that fully includes the talent and drive of those with disabilities.”

Recent history of the National Library Service (NLS) proves the truth within these points. Karen Keninger, previous director of the NLS, began her tenure in 2012 after the director before her had infamously said people who are blind don't use iPhones. Her response to this antiquated perspective? She immediately prioritized the creation of the [BARD Mobile app](#), being a blind iPhone user herself. She also endeavored for years to modernize Braille service at NLS, having been (and continuing to be) a lifelong Braille reader.

Held annually, NDEAM is led by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, but its true spirit lies in the many observances held at the grassroots level across the nation every year. Efforts to educate the public about these issues began in 1945, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as “National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.” In 1962, the word “physically” was removed to acknowledge individuals with all types of disabilities, and 25 years later Congress expanded the week to a month.

For specific ideas about how you can support National Disability Employment Awareness Month, visit www.dol.gov/NDEAM. Suggestions range from the simple, such as putting up a [poster](#), to the comprehensive, such as implementing a disability education program. Regardless, all efforts play an important part in fostering a more equitable and inclusive workforce, one where all people are recognized for their abilities — every day of every month.

The National Library Service maintains a list of national organizations that provide information on a range of resources related to recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining employees with disabilities:

Employment Resource List from the National Library Service (NLS) for the Blind and Print Disabled

Specific subjects addressed include worksite accommodations, job analysis, small business opportunities, supported employment, and personal assistance services. Some organizations maintain sites for employers to post available positions, allowing individuals to search for jobs online. Others assist young people in their transition from school to work by providing internship and mentoring opportunities. Still others offer information about training, certification, and continuing education in rehabilitation. The information is intended for individuals with disabilities, their families, the professionals who work with them, and employers.

Please join the Talking Book and Braille Library, and indeed the entire State Library of Oregon, in celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

Digital Highlight Celebrates Oregon's Bottle Bill



By Kate Anderson, Digitization Specialist for Government Services

A five or [now ten-cent deposit](#) on a bottled beverage is just a fact of life in Oregon. But that was not always the case. [In 1969](#), Representative [Paul Hannemann](#), Representative Roger Martin, and Senator Robert Elfstrom brought a bill before the Legislature asking for a deposit on bottled beverages at the behest of a private citizen, Rich Chambers. The focus of the bill was to cut down on litter, although today it is viewed more as promoting recycling. The bill quickly died after it was referred back to committee, where it likely failed due to the number of industries that had gotten involved in the legislative process. Lawmakers, however, were undeterred. Later in the same year, Governor Tom McCall brought together people from various sectors to form [SOLV or Stop](#)

[Oregon Litter and Vandalism](#). With the help of this organization, and several more attempts across the country and even in other parts of the world, the Oregon Bottle Bill was finally signed into law on July 2 and went into effect on October 1, 1972.

But that was not the end of difficulties for the Bottle Bill. It would face many [legal challenges](#) throughout the next few years, as bottling companies tried to dismantle the bill from any angle possible – the constitutionality of the law, how the law affected their business within the state, that [litter](#) had actually increased rather than decreased. But all challenges failed because the evidence was just not there. The [bottle bill was constitutional](#). [Business did not suffer within the state](#): prices of bottled beverages were the same if not lower than neighboring states without a deposit bill. Litter was decreasing, and bottles and cans were being returned. There was an [increase in employment](#) after the passage of the bill, despite fears that the bill would decrease employment.

To celebrate the Oregon Bottle Bill, please browse the [digital highlight](#) on the State Library's Digital Collections site.

Talking Book and Braille Library TRIVIA TIME!

We're back with another Talking Book and Braille Library Trivia Time! But before we get to this month's question, here is last month's answer:

*The young readers book selected to represent Oregon at the 2022 National Book Festival is? **Game of Fox & Squirrels by Jenn Rees***

Thank you to everyone who submitted their answers, and feel free to keep participating each month. [Here is this month's question:](#)

Q: *The #ExplainABookPlotBadly example "Assassin recognizes orphan" describes the plot of which book?*

- *Intrigues* by Mercedes Lackey
- *Forever* by Maggie Stiefvater
- *A Troubled Peace* by L.M. Elliott
- *Rampant* by Diana Peterfreund



Hint: you can find the answer in a [previous issue of *Connections*](#).

Click the button above to submit your answer to the trivia question. If you provide your name and contact information and answer the question correctly, **you may win a fun prize!**

Check back next month to see the answer, and we'll be back with more trivia in future *Connections* issues.

Edge Cohorts Prove Successful for Oregon Public Libraries



By Sadie Verville, Communications Analyst, and [Darci Hanning](#), Public Library Consultant for Library Support and Development Services

Libraries went above and beyond during the pandemic to provide services and support to their communities. Now we're seeing their efforts in recovery and rebuilding – including their participation in cohorts focused on bridging the digital divide and better understanding data for the benefit of their communities.

Reports from participants in these cohorts showed a huge initial success.

“I am now more confident in presenting understandable data that tells a story that my board can understand and use to make informed decisions,” says one participant.

In 2022, Edge, a management tool that helps libraries of all sizes align their technology resources to community priorities, partnered with the State Library of Oregon to provide two six-month cohorts for Oregon public libraries as a resource in their continuing pandemic recovery efforts. The first of these cohorts focused on data fluency, which covered information on data sources, interpretation, and decision-making. The second focused on digital inclusion and was designed to help libraries address the digital divide, with particular attention to pandemic recovery.

Of these, 17 libraries were represented in the Data Fluency cohort, and 13 libraries were represented in the Digital Inclusion cohort.

The final participant survey report revealed a large success on the part of both cohorts. Some benefits reported from the Data Fluency cohort included:

- Comfort discussing library data with staff and external stakeholders

- Awareness of library data that allows staff to assess the outcomes and impact of library programs
- Ability to use data to form and strengthen partnerships with local leaders and community organizations

And some of the benefits reported from the Digital Inclusion cohort included:

- Comfort discussing digital equity and the digital divide with local community stakeholders
- Identification of broadband and internet needs and challenges in participating libraries' communities
- Comfort assessing the outcomes and impact of library programs related to digital inclusion

The results have a direct impact on communities across Oregon. For example, one participant noted, "Hearing from other libraries has given us new ideas for addressing disparity in devices and digital access." Keep your eye on your local library and the ways they're improving services over the coming months and years. We're excited to see how the libraries from these cohorts take these skills and apply them to their communities.

Curious about the upcoming 2023 cohorts? Stay tuned – Edge and the State Library will have more to announce about topics offered and the registration process by the end of this month. If this is something you think would benefit your community, tell your local library – you never know what could happen!

For more information on the Edge cohorts, contact Darci Hanning at darci.hanning@slo.oregon.gov.

The State Library Welcomes Sarah Walters



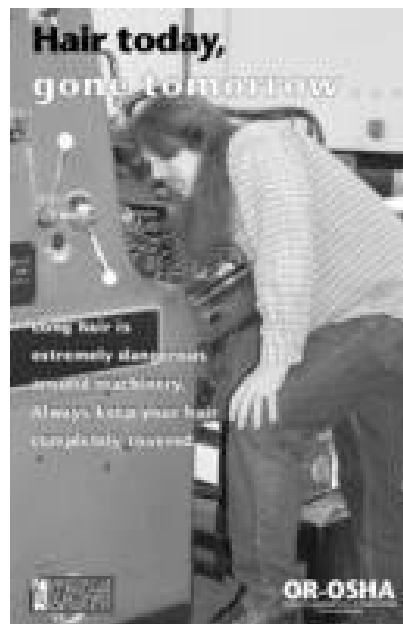
By Natalie Brant, Reference Librarian for Government Services

The Government and Information Services Division is excited to welcome Sarah Walters as our new Cataloging Assistant. She is currently cataloging gifts (monograph books) from the governor's office and working on a federal documents short records project that involves copy cataloging.

Sarah graduated from San Jose State University (SJSU) Information School's online program in December 2021 with a Master of Library and Information Science degree, doing so a little over a decade after earning her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oregon. During grad school, Sarah completed three remote/virtual internships, including a cataloging internship with a public library and a metadata internship with the Law Library of Congress. She was the assistant blog editor for SJSU iSchool's Special Libraries Association Student Chapter in 2021. In her free time, she enjoys reading and going to metal concerts. Sarah is a lifelong Oregonian.

Welcome to the State Library, Sarah!

OrDoc of the Month: Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow



By Jey Wann, Oregon Documents Coordinator for Government Services

October 1 was [National Hair Day](#). The Oregon Documents Collection has [a number of items about hair](#), mostly to do with hair-care licensing.

Our very favorite OrDoc about hair, however, has nothing to do with licensing. In 2003, the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division published [Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow](#), reminding folks that long hair can be dangerous in some work settings.

We're not the only ones who like this poster. It also appears on a bulletin board in the background of episode 5 of the comedy series "Shrill."



Definitely a picture worth 1,000 words!

CONTACTS

Library Support & Development Services Program Manager

[Buzzy Nielsen](#), 971-375-3486

Talking Book & Braille Library Manager

[Elke Bruton](#), 971-375-3509

Government Information & Library Services Manager

[Caren Agata](#), 971-375-3483

Chief Operating Officer

[Susan Westin](#), 503-378-5435

State Librarian

[Wendy Cornelisen](#), 503-378-4367

Connections is published monthly by the State Library of Oregon, and was formerly known as *Letters to Libraries Online*.

Mission

The State Library of Oregon cultivates, preserves, and delivers library and information services to foster lifelong learning and community engagement.



[Click here if you wish to change how you receive this newsletter or unsubscribe.](#)

Our mailing address is:

State Library of Oregon, 250 Winter St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Copyright ©2022, All rights reserved.