

**CONNECTIONS:** YOUR LINK TO THE  
State Library of Oregon



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## AGENCY NEWS

### State Library Building Scheduled to Reopen

The State Library building is scheduled to reopen to the public on Monday, January 3rd. As staff prepare to welcome the public back into state buildings, please remember things are going to be a little different, especially the way services are delivered. Also, please remember that [masks are required for all](#)

[people in state buildings](#), regardless of vaccination status. We encourage you to call ahead and make an appointment if you need to access materials that are only available for in-house use or want to pick up a new Talking Book and Braille Library cartridge. Many of the services our library provides can be accessed through our [website](#), and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to [contact us](#).

## LIBRARY SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

### Getting to Know the Library Support and Development Services Division

Featured staff: Jen Maurer (she/her)



Jen Maurer, whose last name rhymes with flower,

Is the [School Library Consultant](#) in the State Library tower.

Need to know about [OSLIS](#), a K-12 information literacy website?

On that topic, Jen can shed much light.

Wondering [how many licensed teacher-librarians](#) there are?

Oregon data is collected and shared near and far.

Jen's consulting tasks range from small to big;

Some are quick [email](#) replies, and others require time to dig.

Presently, Jen is working with staff from the Oregon Department of Education  
On a legislatively-required report about the current school library situation.

Another frequent partner in crime

Is [OASL](#) and its board – each member quite sublime.

Inquiries about school libraries are not a problem;

All wonderings are welcome.

Despite not always enjoying the “up” part of a hike,

Exploring waterfalls gets a big like.

Also, Jen is not actually a poet,

But, shh! She doesn't seem to know it.

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## **Northwest Digital Heritage Adds 50,000 New Records**

It's harvest season, and the State Library of Oregon's [Northwest Digital Heritage](#) project recently reaped, baled, and shipped an additional 50,000 records to the Digital Public Library of America!

A partnership which formally launched earlier this year between the [Washington State Library](#), the [Oregon Heritage Commission](#), and the [State Library of Oregon](#), Northwest Digital Heritage (NWDH) leverages existing infrastructure and best practices from the [Washington Rural Heritage](#) project to help Oregon-based libraries, museums, and cultural heritage organizations build and share their local digital collections. Northwest Digital Heritage also operates as a service hub of the [Digital Public Library of America](#) (DPLA), which helps bring these unique and local Northwest collections to a wider audience. Funding is provided in part by the [Institute of Museum and Library](#)

## Services.



*Denham, Hugh E. Denham Collection. [Stone farm house. ca. 1906.](#)*

A few highlights from the most recent metadata harvest:

- Baker County Library District's complete [Digital Archive](#)! We are thrilled to have a second Oregon public library participate in NWDH, and Baker County Library District now has over 6,800 images from the region available via DPLA. This rich collection includes mining scenes from Oregon's [Elkhorn Mountains](#) and images of [Baker City's Main Street](#) from the 1860s through the 2000s.
- Over 40,000 records from the [State Library of Oregon's Government Publications](#) digital collections. The scope of this collection ranges widely, from a video about [WPA murals in the Oregon State Capitol building](#) to [COVID-19 materials in over 40 languages](#) – currently the largest collection of COVID-19 information in the DPLA from a single institution.
- Collections from the Oregon Historical Society including [Vortex I](#) Music Festival photos from 1970, and early scenes of Portland scanned from [glass negatives](#).



*[Musicians performing at the Vortex I Music Festival. 1970-09.](#)*

To find out more about Northwest Digital Heritage, please visit [northwestdigitalheritage.org](http://northwestdigitalheritage.org) or contact Ross Fuqua, Data & Digital Projects Consultant, at [ross.fuqua@slo.oregon.gov](mailto:ross.fuqua@slo.oregon.gov).

## TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE LIBRARY

### **Give the Gift of Being Able to Read Again**

This holiday season, give the gift of being able to read again.

The number one reason users say the Talking Book and Braille Library adds value to their lives is because they love to read, and the library has provided them an opportunity to read again. Many users are lifelong readers who have lost their vision, and the huge selection of audio books means they can keep up with their favorite series, revisit familiar stories, or try something new to keep

their minds active.

Many of us know someone - whether a family member, friend, or acquaintance - who is missing the world of reading they love. If you have the chance to visit them this holiday season, encourage them to give the Talking Book and Braille Library a try. Use the [Talking Books Unified Theory of Reading](#) to help prove your proposal, or show them the [Duplication on Demand Infomercial](#) to make them laugh. You can even complete the necessary [application](#) for the person to help make the process as easy on them as possible.



And remember that using our library is FREE, personalized, and comes right to you. It's the joy of reading and a connection to the world delivered.

Happy holidays, everyone!

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## 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 are last month's answers:

- *Before becoming the new Director of the National Library Service, Jason Broughton was the State Librarian of...? **VERMONT***

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

*Q: What is the name of the publication created by Deschutes Public Library and distributed by Meals on Wheels in Central Oregon?*

- Library Out Loud (LOL)
- Giving It Forward (GIF)
- Oh My Goodness (OMG)
- The Library Corner (TLC)



**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.

## GOVERNMENT INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES

### **Cataloging State Government Publications in Multiple Languages**

The State Library has Oregon state government documents and publications (in a wide variety of formats) in 56 languages other than English. The top ten languages, each with over 500 titles, are Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, Arabic, Somali, Korean, Hmong, Marshallese, and Chuukese.

Some of the interesting and new-to-us languages are five Mayan languages and American Sign Language.



Publications we have been collecting on the topic of COVID-19 have dramatically increased the number of publications in languages other than English. The number of non-English titles jumped from 505 in 2019 to 3406 in 2020, a sevenfold increase! The [COVID-19 digital collection](#), with over 15,000 digital objects, and publications in 46 languages, has become 11% of the [State Government Publications collection](#) on our [Digital Collections](#) site in just 20 months. Eighty percent of the COVID titles are non-English.

We don't have expertise in these languages, so we rely on what state agencies say about their content. We rigorously check our settings and processes to ensure we are displaying non-Roman scripts and making them searchable for speakers of those languages. Our metadata, including the records for non-English state government publications, has been harvested and included in the Digital Public Library of America through [Northwest Digital Heritage](#).



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

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## Mission

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

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**Our mailing address is:**

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