



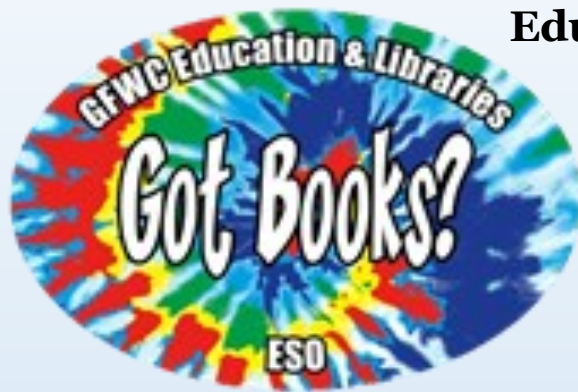
GFWC 2022-2024

Education & Libraries

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Newsletter

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Federal Funding for Libraries

Libraries serve a significant role in communities across the nation. Every day, libraries provide no fee access to computers and the internet, jumpstart small businesses, help people find jobs, support literacy development for children, and help veterans transition to civilian life. Libraries have also been instrumental in providing support for community members in need during the COVID-19 pandemic by offering free Wi-Fi access in their facilities' parking lots, loaning internet hotspot equipment and connected devices to patrons, assisting with unemployment benefit applications, and even supplying access to COVID-19 tests and vaccines.

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) is the only source of dedicated federal funding for the more than 117,000 public, school, academic, government, and special libraries across the nation. LSTA Grants to States ensure that every state has access to needed resources and authority to determine their use. LSTA funds support a wide range of essential services, including:

- Preparing students for the job market with coding and STEM programs;
- Accelerating business development with services provided by skilled business and technology outreach librarians;
- Supporting people with print disabilities by providing accessible digital and print content;
- Narrowing the digital divide with Wi-Fi and hotspot lending; and
- Providing equitable access to technology for all

Funding of at least \$232 million for LSTA and \$50 million for IAL allows more than 117,000 public, school, academic, government, and other libraries to advance employment, entrepreneurship, education, empowerment, and engagement in communities across America. School libraries and librarians provide targeted literacy skills development and resources for all students, including those in the most high-need areas. The Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grants are administered by the Department of Education and provide age-appropriate books, parental engagement programs, and professional development for library experts to ensure children are best positioned for success. Greater literacy support at an early age is strongly linked to increased reading scores and progress for students. Funding of at least \$232 million for LSTA and \$50 million for IAL is a modest, but critical, investment in your libraries and the opportunities they provide your constituents. We must urge Congress to continue to make full funding for our nation's libraries a priority for 2024.

—Taken from the American Library Association website. For more information go to ala.org.



TOP 10 HOLIDAY MOVIES as listed in ew.com

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|---|--|
| 1. <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> (1946) | 6. <i>Love Actually</i> (2003) |
| 2. <i>A Christmas Story</i> (1983) | 7. <i>Bad Santa</i> (2003) |
| 3. <i>A Charlie Brown Christmas</i> (1965) | 8. <i>The Muppet Christmas Carol</i> (1992) |
| 4. <i>Elf</i> (2003) | 9. <i>The Year Without a Santa Claus</i> (1974) |
| 5. <i>How the Grinch Stole Christmas</i> (1966) | 10. <i>Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer</i> (1964) |

Education & Libraries - Top Projects 2022

“Storybook Trail”

The **GFWC/Iowa Grangers Women’s Club** partnered with the Granger Public Library to display a series of published children’s picture books at a local park. The Storybook Trail focused on families with small children to enjoy nature and be entertained by reading books along the walk. The walk was 835 feet long and each page of the story was separated by 32 feet. Pictures from the children’s book were installed along the path with the help of club members. As families stopped along the path, they were directed to the next page in the story. Pages frequently were accompanied by activities. Twenty-five stations were installed in the park.

“Eagle Scout Project”

Greenland Women’s Club (NH) has long supported those Scouts working on their Eagle Scout Project. This year they donated \$500 towards the Eagle Scout Project of Scout, Max Murdach, who designed and built an outdoor pergola on the grounds of the Greenland Central School to be used as outdoor classroom space.

Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) - Top Projects 2022

“Blind Date with a Book Meets Dirty Santa Exchange”

GFWC Clarksville Women’s Club (TN) hosted a Blind Date with a Book Meets Dirty Santa Exchange at the December book club meeting. Each member brought a gently read book wrapped in plain brown paper with only a few clue words written on the wrapper. The exchange was made using the Dirty Santa game where members took turns and enjoyed ‘stealing’ each other’s selections. Everyone walked away with a ‘new’ book.

“Spring Social”

The GFWC Literary and Civic Club of Baton Rouge (LA) held a Spring Social in which each course was featured as in a book review. Champagne Cocktails from Scott Fitzgerald’s *Great Gatsby* was served, along with Appetizers of Pears & Cheese & Brie en Crote to go with Eric Carle’s *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*; Shrimp Remoulade and Avocado Salad from Cynthia LeJeune Nobles’ *A Confederacy of Dunces*; the main course was Pork Tenderloins with Jezebel Sauce from Margaret Mitchell’s *Gone with the Wind* with rice and onions and green peas; and Dessert of Death by Chocolate to go with Rex Stout’s *The Nero Wolfe Cookbook*.

GFWC ESO BOOK CLUB on Facebook—Welcome to all.

This group of more than 1,600 members belong to this online book club and features

Education and Libraries project ideas and ESO.

It is a private group and you must ask to join. See GFWC ESO BOOK CLUB on Facebook.

Literary Calendar

December 2023

Read a New Book Month

7 – Letter Writing Day
10 – Dewey Decimal System Day
16 – Jane Austen’s birthday
21 – Crossword Puzzle Day
21 – National Short Story Day

December 2023

New Releases

The Frozen River by ARIEL LAWHON

Ruthless Vows by REBECCA ROSS

The Wildest Sun by ASHA LEMMIE

The Lost Tomb by DOUGLAS PRESTON

The Engagement Party by DARBY KANE

[https://www.booklistqueen.com/
december-2023-book-releases/](https://www.booklistqueen.com/december-2023-book-releases/)

Books by State (N)

Nebraska - Prairie Trilogy Willa Cather, Children of the Corn Stephen King, Zoo Nebraska: The Dismantling of an American Dream Carson Vaughan

Nevada - Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas Hunter S. Thompson, The Goldfinch Donna Tartt, Leaving Las Vegas John O’Brien

New Hampshire - The Hotel New Hampshire John Irving, Our Town Thornton Wilder, Labor Day Joyce Maynard

New Jersey - American Pastoral Philip Roth, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao Juno’s Diaz, In the Unlikely Event Judy Blume

New Mexico - Bless Me Ultima Rudolfo Anaya, Death Comes for the Archbishop Willa Cather, Red Sky at Morning Richard Bradford

New York - The Legend of Sleepy Hollow Washington Irving, The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald, Last of the Mohicans James Fenimore Cooper

North Carolina - Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl Harriet Ann Jacobs, Look Homeward Angel Thomas Wolfe, If Morning Ever Comes Anne Tyler

North Dakota - The Night Watchman Louise Erdrich, The Dakota Trilogy Debbie Macomber, The Grass Dancer Susan Power

GFWC Thompson Falls Woman’s Club, Montana

100 Books B4 Graduation

To stimulate a love for reading, a challenge is being offered to 9th to 12th grade students in Sanders County from Thompson Falls west to include both Thompson Falls and Noxon High Schools plus home-schooled students to read 100 Books Before Graduation.

Students enroll with a parent/guardian’s approval in person or via email through the Thompson Falls Public Library, where a reading log will be kept for each student. Books must be reading level appropriate and may be a classroom assignment, but not the class textbook. Using the provided form, students may report a completed book in person or via email stating the title, author, format, and signature of a parent, guardian, teacher, or school counselor. Print, Ebooks, audiobooks, or another format are all acceptable.

Every book read will earn one entry into a quarterly drawing. There will be one top prize winner for a \$25 gift card and one \$10 gift card winner each quarter from all the entries. The winner will be offered a choice between two or three gift cards for local businesses such as gas or food. Drawings will take place at the Woman’s Club meeting in January, April, July (at TFPL), and September.

“Reading is an important part of future success and a source of much pleasure throughout life. The GFWC Thompson Falls Woman’s Club is delighted to join with the Thompson Falls Public Library to bring this program to our community. We realize Juniors and Seniors will find it difficult to complete 100 books before graduation, but they are most welcome to try for the quarterly drawings,” stated Woman’s Club President, Cathy Mills.

All students reporting having read 100 books before graduation will receive a \$100 gift card.