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Email your news for inclusion in The Wednesday Word.
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[ISL Reference Hotline](#)
 866-683-0008
[eReference](#)

National Reflective Writing Contest Now Accepting Entries

Entry forms for this year's [Letters About Literature](#)

[About Literature](#) contest are now available on the Indiana Center for the Book's website. The national reading-writing competition, sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress in partnership with Target Stores, calls for entrants to write a personal letter to an author, living or dead, from any genre (fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic, etc.) explaining how that author's work changed the student's way of thinking about the world or their self.

As in previous years, all state semifinalists are invited to attend an annual awards ceremony featuring a notable young adult author. State contest winners will receive a cash award and plaque from the Indiana Center for the Book during a summertime awards ceremony. Top winners also receive a Target GiftCard and advance to the national level competition. National prizes include a \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant for the community or school library of the winner's choice. National winners also receive a \$500 Target GiftCard. National honorable mentions will each receive a \$100 Target GiftCard and a \$1,000 LAL Grant for the community or school library of their choice.

Visit [lettersaboutliterature.org](#) for contest updates and valuable teaching materials, such as lesson plans, writing samples, assessment checklists, and teacher tips. Letters About Literature is open to legal U.S. residents enrolled as a student in grades 4 -12 during 2011/2012 school year. Entries must be postmarked no later than January 6, 2012 for consideration.

One Week Remains to Provide Input via LSTA Survey

[LSTA Supports Indiana Libraries](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services [IMLS] requires the Indiana State Library to conduct an evaluation of how Library Services and Technology [LSTA] funds have been used in Indiana since 2007. Your comments and ideas will help shape the next Five-Year Plan and how LSTA funds are spent in the future. Please take time to share your ideas if your library uses **any** of the following statewide services:

- Inspire
- Evergreen Indiana
- OCLC/First Search
- Indiana State Data Center
- Talking Book and Braille Library
- Every Child Ready to Read Initiative

The six services listed above are funded with LSTA money from the IMLS. Visit the [LSTA Supports Indiana Libraries](#) webpage to learn about the LSTA-funded statewide services and sub-grants offered by the State Library. Those representing libraries funded with public and private funds of any size and type are encouraged to complete this [online survey](#).

Evergreen Indiana Welcomes Dublin Public Library

Next Tuesday, Evergreen Indiana will welcome Dublin Public Library (Wayne Co.). Dublin serves a population of 697, which brings the total Evergreen Indiana libraries in the consortium to 95 libraries serving a total population of 821,103.

Evergreen Indiana continues to accept applications from libraries seeking to migrate to Evergreen. For more information about Evergreen Indiana, visit [Information and Resources for Interested Libraries](#) or contact Shauna Borger, Evergreen Indiana Coordinator at 317-234-6536 or sborger@library.IN.gov.

Conferences & Workshops

Every Child Ready to Read 2nd Edition Workshops

September 23 - Allen County PL
 September 29 - Mooresville PL
 October 23 - Evansville-Vanderburgh Co. PL

Indiana Vision Expo/Walk

When: September 24 @ 9:00 AM
 Where: Indiana State Library

Navigating the New American Factfinder

When: September 27 @ 2:00 PM
 Where: Live Online

Government Websites

When: Sept. 27 @ 10:00 AM
 Where: Washington Carnegie PL

eResources Workshop

When: September 27 @ 1:15 PM
 Where: Washington Carnegie PL

Advanced INSPIRE K-12 Resources

When: September 27 @ 1:00 PM
 Where: Indiana State Library

ILF Legislative Forum

When: October 4 (All Day)
 Where: Oak Hill Mansion - Carmel

Society of Indiana Archivists Fall Workshop

When: October 7 (All Day)
 Where: DePauw University Archives, Greencastle

Advanced INSPIRE Genealogy & Local History


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 WebJunction Indiana
Get your geek on!
 INSPIRE Marketing Materials

The State Library's evaluation is being conducted by Martha Catt, former director of the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library in Zionsville. The survey will be available until **11:59 p.m. on September 26th**. Your input and ideas are both encouraged and greatly appreciated.

State QPAs Offer Libraries Cost-Saving Procurement Options

A recent article ("[Library saves with new print deal](#)")  State QPA's from the *Greenfield Reporter* highlighted savings recognized by the Hancock County Public Library after taking advantage of the State of Indiana's Quantity Purchasing Agreements (QPAs). HCPL contracted with IKON Office Solutions to cut the library's printing and copying costs, while also replacing older copiers with brand new machines featuring several technology and service upgrades.

The **IKON contract** offers copiers, MFP technologies and document management software and systems to deliver tailored, high-value solutions. Another great QPA to check out is through **Dell**, which provides great deals on desktops, laptops, servers, printers, Microsoft software and peripheral computer equipment for all Indiana governmental entities.

Those interested in finding potential procurement savings should check out the State of Indiana's complete [listing of State QPA's](#) organized alphabetically by product descriptions. Indiana cities, towns and other governmental/ political subdivisions, including libraries, are eligible for most of the hundreds of State QPA's. These agreements not only leverage the collective purchasing power of state government, but also allow public library districts to deal directly with the vendor and eliminate potential middleman costs or fees.

When: October 13 @ 2:00 PM
Where: Live Online

Ind. Black Librarians Network 10th Anniversary Conference

When: October 14 & 15
Where: Purdue University Black Cultural Center - West Lafayette

Midwest ContentDM Users Group

When: October 14 & 15
Where: Ball State University

SW Indiana YA Roundtable

When: Oct. 18 @ 11:00 AM (CST)
Where: Oakland City PL

Indiana Genealogy & Local History Fair

When: October 22 @ 9:00 AM
Where: Indiana State Library

IOLUG Fall Program

When: October 28
Where: Indiana Wesleyan University-Indianapolis North

ILF Annual Conference

When: November 14-16
Where: Fort Wayne

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Past issues are archived at the [State Library's Newsroom](#).