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Lego Monument returns to Indiana State Library for the holidays



Upcoming workshops and important dates

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Central Time


Where: Lake County Public Library
- St. John Branch

[Public Library Social Media Policies: A Legal and Realistic Overview](#)

When: Dec. 10, 10-11 a.m.
Where: Webinar

[craft exchange program](#)

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- [Libraries Transforming Communities grant application deadline is Dec. 11](#)

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Indiana library jobs



This week's new Indiana library jobs

[User Experience Manager](#)

Ball State University

[Bookkeeper/Treasurer](#)

Frankfort Community Public Library

[Public Services Assistants \(part-time\)](#)

Hamilton East Public Library

[Neighborhood Branch Manager - Adult Focus](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

Visitors to the Indiana State Library's Young Readers Center can now see a startlingly accurate recreation of one of the most cherished and iconic monuments in Indianapolis.

The 7-foot-tall Lego replica of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument that resides in downtown Indianapolis will be on display until Feb. 14, 2025.

Indiana artist Jeffrey Allen Smythe, of Center Grove, used in excess of 75,000 Lego pieces to build the replica monument. The initial construction back in 2017-2018 lasted 15 months, including three months of planning and sketching. Pieces used to create the sculpture, which includes a roughly 6-foot circular base area, were obtained from existing kits, Goodwill stores, auction houses and via online retailers and resellers. The piece was constructed at a 1:48 scale to accommodate Lego minifigures. Smythe, who attended the Herron School of Art and Design and graduated from IUPUI with a degree in interior design, said, "I rediscovered a passion for Lego when my nephew outgrew his Lego sets and they ended up unassembled in storage tubs. I began sorting through the storage tubs and seeing which of his old sets I could rebuild from scratch."

Since the initial build, Smythe has tweaked the design and grouped

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: LaGrange County Public Library - Topeka Branch

[What's Up Wednesday - Video Game Collections in Libraries, Pt. 2: Processing, Cataloging, Displaying, and Best Practices](#)

When: Dec. 11, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Dec. 13, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Delphi Public Library

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Dec. 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Culver-Union Township Public Library

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Dec. 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Pike County Public Library - Petersburg Branch

[Collaborate Summer Library Program 2025 Color Our World Webinar](#)

When: Jan. 7, 2025, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Jan. 9, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Marion Public Library

[Professional Development Roundtable](#)

[Public Services Librarian- Adult Focus](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Branch Manager](#)

North Madison County Public Library System

Those who would like their Indiana library job posting to be listed in the Wednesday Word must submit the position and its description to the Indiana State Library. Click [here](#) for submission guidelines and to submit.

In the news



[Library asks Allen County Council for partial funding of major renovation project](#)

Allen County Public Library

[Dolly Parton's Imagination Library bringing books and smiles to local kids](#)

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana

different combinations of characters around the base of the monument to tell different visual stories and provide lots of opportunities for viewers to seek and find.

The sculpture will be decorated with lights for the holidays and may be viewed during the library's regular [operating hours](#). Please contact [Suzanne Walker](#), Indiana Young Readers Center librarian, with any questions.

The library is located at 315 W. Ohio St. in downtown Indianapolis.

Allen County Public Library earns marketing award



The Allen County Public Library has announced that it has been awarded the 2024 Sara Laughlin Marketing Award by the Indiana Library Federation in recognition of its communication strategy for the 2023 rollout of the Library's System Upgrade.

The Sara Laughlin Marketing

When: Jan. 9, 2025, 2-3 p.m.

Where: Webinar

[Color Our World: Summer Reading 2025 In-Person Workshop](#)

When: Jan. 17, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Where: Jackson County Public Library



Welcome to Ex Libris. Ex Libris will appear as a special column in the Wednesday Word throughout the year. The General Collection at the Indiana State Library houses an array of materials related to matters at home and abroad, and Ex Libris aims to bring these items to light.

Carl Linnaeus, 18th century physician and biologist

[Painting and hot cocoa at Eckhart Public Library](#)

Eckhart Public Library

[JCPL branches sprinkle good cheer during month of December](#)

Jasper County Public Library

[How Kurt Vonnegut's board game was revived from IU's Lilly Library to store shelves](#)

Lilly Library at Indiana University

[Indianapolis hosts World AIDS Day event](#)

Indianapolis Public Library

[Middlebury library supporters respond at county meetings](#)

Middlebury Public Library

[Library to have murals painted on express stops around county](#)

Putnam County Public Library

[Centre Township branch of the St. Joseph County Public Library closes for renovations](#)

St. Joseph County Public Library

[Get a head start on wrapping](#)

Syracuse Public Library

[Warsaw Community Public Library unveils December events](#)

Warsaw Community Public Library

[Westfield Washington Library expands Spanish-language collection](#)

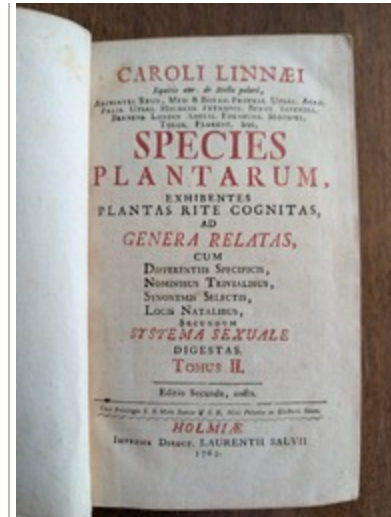
Westfield Washington Public Library

Is your library making news?

Award honors and recognizes a library for its successful, creative and contemporary marketing efforts and is presented to an institution that met the criteria for excellence in creative use of current marketing approaches and calling attention to the indispensable role of the library in the community. Nominees must provide documentation of planning and program materials, data, evaluation, letters of support and in-house publications that give concrete examples of how data was used to make decisions, how creative efforts were employed and how the project resulted in positive outcomes for patrons.

The System Upgrade's intricate technology and accelerated timeline required cross-departmental collaboration and focused communications. The award recognizes not only the external communications that supported patrons, but also the internal communications that ensured employees were informed and trained as the project was rolled out.

"Our librarian colleagues worked tirelessly on the system upgrade to give Allen County the best library experience possible and, as the communications team, it was our job to make sure everyone was aware of the changes to come," said Allen County Public Library



"If you do not know the names of things, the knowledge of them is lost, too." – Carl Linnaeus

When it comes to naming things, no one is more associated with the endeavor than Carl Linnaeus, the 18th century physician and biologist. Indeed, the thoughtful Swedish scientist undertook the task of naming, well, every living organism. He is regarded as the father of modern taxonomy and his book, *Species Plantarum*, (ISLM QK91 .S6) first published in 1753, continues to be used in the naming of plants today. The Indiana State Library houses the 1763 second edition of the work along with numerous biographies of Linnaeus.

Known for promoting the exploration of the relationship between an organism and its environment, Linnaeus was also an early ecologist.

[Email](#) news links for inclusion in the Wednesday Word's "In the news" section.

To be featured in the Wednesday Word, please [email](#) a press release and a photo.



State Library blog



Follow the [Indiana State Library's blog](#) for weekly posts covering all aspects of the State Library.

Indiana library employees who would like to contribute a guest blog, please send an [email](#) with an idea.

director of communications Aja Michael-Keller. "The project was vast and affected all aspects of patron services. Our team is proud of the rollout overall and it is so rewarding to be recognized for our part in its success through strategic marketing efforts."

Michael-Keller, along with Allen County Public Library staff members Nate Burnard, systems services manager; Jeff Garver, digital communications specialist; and Chris Ford, marketing manager, accepted the award on Nov. 19 at the Indiana Library Federation's annual conference in Indianapolis. They were presented with a crystal trophy and a \$1,000 monetary award which will be placed in gift funds to support library or staff initiatives.

North Webster Community Public Library launches new craft exchange program



North Webster Community Public Library staff members Izzy Espinoza and Jill Chalk help unveil the library's new craft exchange.

Ironically, Linnaeus' work resulted in a second and more formal name for himself, Carl von Linne, bestowed upon him when he was ennobled. While neither appellation is much bandied about today and his formal names for plants are used less frequently than their common ones, perhaps he will come to mind this December when decorating with *ilex verticillata* (winter berry) or kissing under the *phoradendron leucarpum* (mistletoe.) Even if Linnaeus remains in the background of one's thoughts, it is worth remembering that though a rose by any other name would smell as sweet - it must still be named!

Learn more about Linnaeus and his work [here](#).

Libraries Transforming Communities grant application deadline is Dec. 11

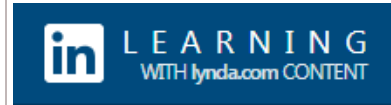


The American Library Association invites applications from small and rural libraries for the third round of funding of the [Libraries](#)

Miss an issue of the Wednesday Word?

Back issues of the Wednesday Word are available [here](#).

Free training for librarians and library employees on LinkedIn Learning



Upcoming Indiana State Library holiday closures; InfoExpress reminder



The Indiana State Library will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday. The State Library will also be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 for the New Year's holiday.

Libraries that need to make delivery adjustments to their InfoExpress

The North Webster Community Public Library has announced the launch of its new craft exchange program, a free initiative aimed at supporting local creativity and promoting sustainability. The program began on Dec. 2, and community members are invited to donate unused or gently used craft supplies to the library, helping to build a resource for patrons to share and access materials for their next creative project.

The craft exchange is designed for everyone whether they're an experienced artist or a beginner looking for inspiration. By donating craft materials such as yarn, fabric, beads, paints and tools, patrons will be contributing to a collaborative environment where creativity can flourish. The library hopes that this initiative will not only help residents access free craft supplies but also foster a spirit of community as people come together to recycle, reuse and share.

Donations can be dropped off at the library - located at 110 E. North St. in North Webster - during regular operating hours. Items will be available for free to all patrons, giving everyone the opportunity to explore new projects and find the materials they need without the cost.

For more information about the craft exchange program, please call

[Transforming Communities:](#)

[Accessible Small and Rural Communities](#)

grant. The initiative will offer 3.5 million in grants to small and rural libraries to increase the accessibility of facilities, services and programs to better serve people with disabilities.

Libraries selected for round three will receive \$10,000 or \$20,000 to support costs related to their community engagement project; virtual training to assist project directors in developing their community engagement, facilitation and disability service skills; a suite of online resources developed to support local programs; and technical and project support from the ALA Public Programs Office throughout the grant term.

Up to 300 libraries will be awarded in this application period. Previous awardees from round one or two are eligible to apply. Note that prioritization will be given to applicants not previously awarded.

The opportunity is open to libraries serving small and rural communities in the U.S. and U.S. territories. To be eligible, a library must be located in an area that's more than, or equal to, five miles from an urbanized area and with a population of 25,000 or less, in keeping with Institute of Museum and Library Services definitions of small and rural libraries.

schedules during these holidays should contact the InfoExpress coordinator .	the library at 574-834-7122 or send an email .	Click here to read more and to apply. The application deadline is Dec. 11. Please email or call 312-280-5045 with any questions.
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