

USL Quarterly

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Introducing the New State Librarian!

By Chaundra Johnson, Director and State Librarian

Hello, Library Community!!

I am so excited to serve as Utah's next State Librarian and Director of the Utah State Library. In my role as Library Development Program Manager the past 2 years, I have had the privilege of working with many of you and look forward to working with those of you I have yet to meet.

I knew when I walked into my first library in Hudson, IA at the age of 4 that the library was the place for me. Working in libraries for the past 16 years has only made my love of libraries stronger and my deep sense of respect for those who work in libraries deeper.

We have faced unprecedented challenging times this past year. Every institution and occupation has been affected and libraries have risen to the challenge to support their communities in amazing ways. It is my hope that we can continue to support each other, collaborate, and improve services as we carry on the shared mission of access to information for all, literacy and lifelong learning, and being a community resource.



On March 22nd, the Utah State Library Division welcomed [Chaundra Johnson](#) as its new Director and fifth Utah State Librarian.

Johnson received her Masters of Library Science from Louisiana State University and worked at the East Baton Rouge Parish public library for 14 years before accepting the position as Library Development Program Manager at the Utah State Library in 2018.

We look forward to working with Chaundra in her new role.

Farewell

By Colleen Eggett, Ret. Director and State Librarian

Essentials of Dynamite Librarianship

I first started working in libraries in 1989. For these past thirty something years I've learned much about dynamite librarianship.

Make decisions that benefit the customer.

My dear friend, Bev Dusserre, taught me this truth. She hung a wall sign at least six feet long with this saying. Whenever someone walked in the room, they could recognize it as a guiding tenant. I believe that our workgroup became kinder, more person-centric, and just plain better by following this one wise maxim.

Find strength in strategic planning.

Nolan Davis, Milford City's Mayor, illustrated this magnificently. He listened and when the time was right, he paved the way for their library to gain more space for children's services. When strategic planning is done inclusively with community members, the board, staff, and those interested in literacy and the library, magic happens and your strategic plan can move your library forward like no other vehicle. Make a difference by getting everyone on the same page with common goals.

Build connections.

Lynn Wilson was my ultimate role model, building natural connections wherever she went. Think about people you serve and then think about others that serve these same people, and work together for the common good of all. Don't ever stop caring about those you work with. It's about benefitting the people in our communities.

Just as your success is gratifying, so your struggles offer perspective. I appreciate the USL staff immensely. Likewise, I appreciate each of you library colleagues. It's been an honor to serve with you and I'm forever grateful for the opportunity. If there is a group of librarians that can make a difference, it's Utah's librarians. Thank you so much for your unique contributions.

Online Book Discussion

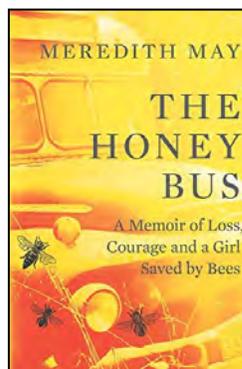
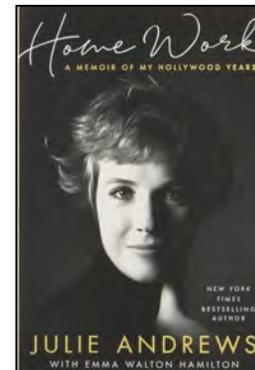
Don't miss the Online Book Discussion, the book club sponsored by the USL, Program for the Blind and Disabled. Anyone can join in, just call in!

Tuesday, May 11, 2 PM to 3 PM (MST)

Discussion led by Paula Stuart

We have 3 books to choose from this meeting!

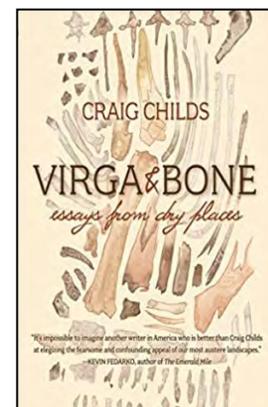
Home Work: A Memoir of My Hollywood Years
by Julie Andrews,
with Emma Walton
Hamilton



The Honey Bus: A Memoir of Loss, Courage and a Girl Saved by Bees
by Meredith May

Virga & Bone: Essays from Dry Places
by Craig Childs

Virga and Bone is the first One Book, One Utah selection, a statewide reading adventure part of Utah's 125th Anniversary of Statehood.



To Join the Online Book Discussion:

stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup

Participate by phone:

1-877-820-7831, passcode 331626

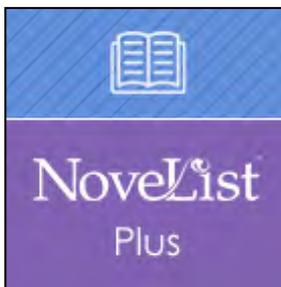
Database Spotlight

NovelList is a resource that provides book recommendations based on appeal factors, curated lists, and read-alikes for titles you enjoy.

Appeal factors are specific elements of a story that NovelList has created to help identify what you enjoyed about a title. The Recommended Reads Lists are collections of titles that have a similar theme. Every title has a “Read-alikes” section with similar titles for you to peruse.

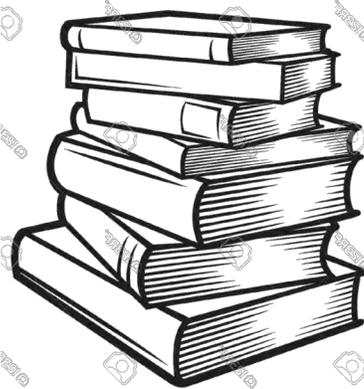
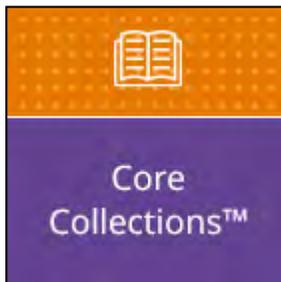
There are two versions of NovelList- NovelList Plus and NovelList K-8.

Utah libraries have access to both through [Utah’s Online Public Library](#).



While NovelList K-8 helps kids find books just right for their reading level and interests, NovelList Plus includes the same content, but adds more titles geared toward adults. So nothing is stopping you from finding your next favorite book.

Give NovelList a try!



Tech Moment

Top 5 Ways Libraries Are Connecting Our Communities

5. In the ongoing puzzle of broadband access, “anchor institutions” are a critical piece of the United States’ infrastructure.

Our libraries continue to establish better, faster data connections, which allows for better connections in homes as well.

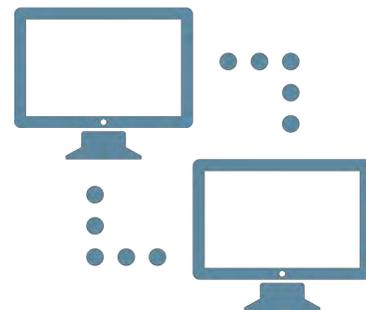
4. Mobile connectivity has made giant strides in the hands of our librarians as well. Over 700 mobile hotspot devices are in circulation right now, bringing home wifi to library patrons.

3. Summer Reading is just around the corner, traditionally a chance for our youngest patrons and their grownups to connect with librarians, neighbors, and friends. This year, libraries will hold programs in parks, online and even stretched out along sidewalks.

2. In February, the State Library granted the remaining CARES Act funds to libraries of all kinds. With these and local CARES funds, libraries upgraded computers, networking equipment, and safety measures, all to provide patrons with better digital connectivity.

1. Libraries lead the charge in connecting our communities by providing books for everyone and in every format. This year, One Book One Utah will connect readers, and libraries are proud to be part of it.

Libraries will evolve to connect 21st century communities in new ways. It’s exciting to predict what those might be!



Utah Libraries Have You Covered

Utah Libraries Have You Covered is a statewide marketing campaign put on by USL and the Marketing Resource Center.

The Utah State Library is launching a statewide marketing campaign to promote Utah libraries and library services - Utah Libraries Have You Covered.

The purpose of the campaign is to highlight the amazing services that Utah libraries provide.



Campaign materials include posters, flyers, bookmarks, Spanish language materials, animated GIFs, and other social media/website images.

Campaign materials will be shared on USL's social media and can be downloaded in the Marketing Resource Center online at: library.utah.gov/marketing. Additionally, the Marketing Resource Center provides downloadable logos and links to vendor marketing materials.

Download our materials, share our social media posts, or create your own. We will be adding new materials monthly. Use the hashtag: [#UtahLibrariesHaveYouCovered](https://twitter.com/UtahLibrariesHaveYouCovered).

Contact Darci Card at dcard@utah.gov for more information or to recommend library services to promote.

Book Your Summer

Utah State Library is partnering with my529 to support summer reading and saving for college once again. Utah children who participate in their local library's Summer Reading Program can also participate in "Book Your Summer" and can register for a chance at one of four regional \$1,000 my529 scholarships.

Additionally, the winner's library will win \$500 toward the purchase of collection materials. Utah residents ages 18 and younger can enter the drawing by going to bookyoursummer.com. A parent or guardian registering a child for the drawing will need to agree to rules, select a local library, and provide contact information. Registration is free and open from May 15 to August 15, 2021.

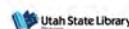
Book Your Journey Fantasy Adventure Escape Mystery Summer

You could be awarded a **\$1,000** my529 scholarship

Register for the summer reading program at your local library. Starting May 15, 2021, enter for a chance at one of four regional \$1,000 my529 scholarships and \$500 for your library.

One entry per reader, age 18 or under. Learn more and enter at bookyoursummer.com.

No purchase necessary to enter.



Upcoming Trainings

Self-Care and Collaboration

Tuesday, Apr. 13 - 1 PM, MDT*

Learn from communications instructor, Karin Peabody, how self-care and self-awareness impact the workplace. The workshop will be limited to 40 participants.

This interactive 3-hour Zoom workshop is designed to facilitate connection and awareness, and to equip teams for working well together, even from remote locations. Two topics are unpacked in this engaging workshop; Self-Care that is do-able and supported in the workplace, and Self-Awareness of four universal pain responses to high stress situations. Practical and equipping, this workshop identifies key areas where stress prevents collaboration. Engagement with these two topics increase personal ownership of health and mindset for healthy work culture.



At the end of this workshop, attendees will be able to:

- Identify what stressors are contributing to Cognitive Distortions in the workplace
- Choose 2 daily and doable ways to start practicing Self-Care to combat Compassion Fatigue.
- Learn what your tendencies are to self-protect in the workplace.
- Choose an action step to reorient focus for healthy workplace culture.



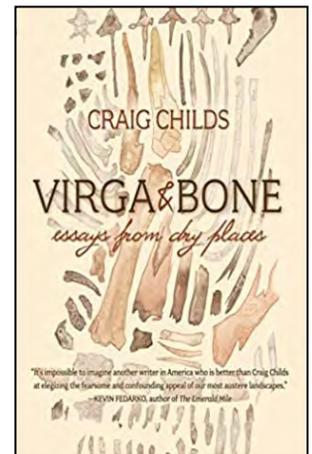
A Voice from the Desert

Thursday, May 27 - 7 PM, MDT*

Listen to author Craig Childs speak about his book *Virga and Bone: Essays from Dry Places* as a capstone to Utah State Library's One Book, One Utah program.

Funds for this project have been provided in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act and are administered by the Utah State Library Division.

Please contact Merrily Cannon at mcannon@utah.gov if you would like accommodations.



To register for Workshops & Trainings:

library.utah.gov/workshops

To access live webinars:

stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining

*Zoom links will be sent to all participants prior to the webinar.

2020 CARES Act Report

The Utah State Library (USL) received an award of CARES Act funds through the Institute of Museum and Library Services last spring totaling \$289,686.

These funds were intended to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 and to expand digital network access, purchase internet accessible devices, and provide technical support services.



Since that time, \$118,227 has been directly granted to certified public libraries to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) and items that support digital inclusion efforts.

Libraries have been able to protect their staff and patrons from exposure with funding support for health and safety measures. They also bridged the digital divide for community members now living in a very digital world by providing education and support, virtual programming, and even device lending.

USL has also used funds in partnership with the Utah Education and Telehealth Network to support broadband access in some of Utah's most rural and Tribal communities in both San Juan and Tooele Counties.

The final portion of these funds have been awarded to certified public libraries that applied in a grant round for additional projects. These projects include additional safety measures, digital inclusion projects, new approaches to summer reading, and the creation of virtual programming.

The funds given to us through the CARES Act have enabled our Utah library community to navigate pandemic changes. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to support the COVID response by granting these funds.



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Utah State Library Division

A DIVISION OF THE UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF HERITAGE & ARTS

