

# USL Quarterly

A publication of the Utah State Library

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## Introducing Book Buzz Directory

We have big news!

We have replaced the Google document!

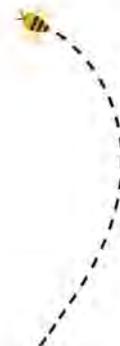
Say hello to quicker searches and finding titles easier!

This new Book Buzz Title Directory allows you to search for titles, add genre filters, find read-a-likes, links out to other resources, and so much more!

This has been in the works for a while and we all hope that this is a useful tool for everyone. We just launched this new directory and the link on our website will reflect these updates and will take you to the new title directory.



## BOOK BUZZ FOR BOOK GROUPS



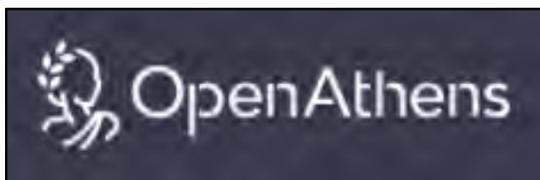
If you would like a guided tour to introduce you to this new system, please check out this simple tutorial:

<https://my.nicheacademy.com/utah/course/38617>

This tutorial will take you through the basics of the new title directory as well as the process of requesting Book Buzz titles.

If you have other questions or need help navigating the new directory please reach out to [bookbuzz@utah.gov](mailto:bookbuzz@utah.gov) or give us a call at 801-715-6771.

## Database Spotlight



The State Library launched OpenAthens, its new authentication platform, managed through TDNet. All links to online resources provided by the State Library will be changing on [Utah's Online Public](#)

[Library](#). Those libraries that simply link out to that page, won't need to worry about link changes, but the libraries with direct links on their own pages will need to change to the new OpenAthens links before the old links are disabled in early January. All new links for these resources can be found [here](#).

In addition, library patrons wishing to access these resources will need to create an OpenAthens account using their library card. All library staff should [register for an account](#) so they will be able to guide patrons through the process. A brief 6 minute [tutorial](#) on the registration process has been created in Niche Academy. Additionally, we offer [these instructions](#) for distribution.

The State Library will be scheduling a training for all directors and designated admins to demonstrate the OpenAthens admin module. The admin module will allow individual libraries to pull usage statistics for their library for these databases. Thank you for your patience with us as we complete this process.

Please feel free to reach out to the OpenAthens Migration Team at the State Library with any questions at [USL@utah.gov](mailto:USL@utah.gov).



## Tech Moment

Random Access Memory (RAM) was invented earlier than you might expect!

Humans had the edge over technology when it came to memory, at least at first. Early computers could only recall data in exactly the same way it was stored. Think of it like a record player, where the needle reads the record's grooves in the same pattern every time.

All that changed 75 years ago. In 1946, Frederick Williams [patented a cathode ray tube](#) which could be written and read in any order, like flipping through your music library and picking just the song you want. RAM changed the tech world. It allowed the first commercial computers like the IBM 701 (1951) to do complex tasks such as advanced calculation, weather prediction, and translation.

We may not use vacuum tubes anymore, but we owe the RAM that makes our modern computers so snappy to Fredrick Williams. You can read more about RAM [with this article](#), or you can [listen to RAM](#) courtesy of Daft Punk.



## Upcoming Trainings

### Year of Learning

This year Utah State Library is partnering with the Utah Library Association (ULA) to provide a Year of Learning on ULA's 2022 theme: United in Diversity. Once a month, a knowledgeable moderator will guide a Zoom Meetup for Utah librarians and library staff on the current month's topic. Resources will be forthcoming. To learn more about this initiative visit our website:

<https://library.utah.gov/equity/learning/>

### Highlighting Diverse Authors, Discussion

Thursday, Jan. 27 - 12 PM, MDT

During our discussion we'll talk about what we've learned about highlighting diverse authors and brainstorm ideas on how to fill any gaps in library services. We can also chat about any issues you've encountered or details you've learned or anything you'd like to share about shining a light on diverse authors.

### Critical Cataloging, Discussion

Thursday, Feb. 24 - 12 PM, MDT

During our discussion we'll talk about what we've learned about critical cataloging and brainstorm ideas on how to fill any gaps in library services. We can also chat about any other issues you've encountered or details you've learned or anything you'd like to share about critical cataloging.

To register for Workshops & Trainings:

[library.utah.gov/workshops](https://library.utah.gov/workshops)

To access live webinars:

[stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining](https://stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/usltraining)

To view archived webinars:

[library.utah.gov/webinars](https://library.utah.gov/webinars)

USL Training Coordinator:

Merrily Cannon, [mcannon@utah.gov](mailto:mcannon@utah.gov)

## 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!

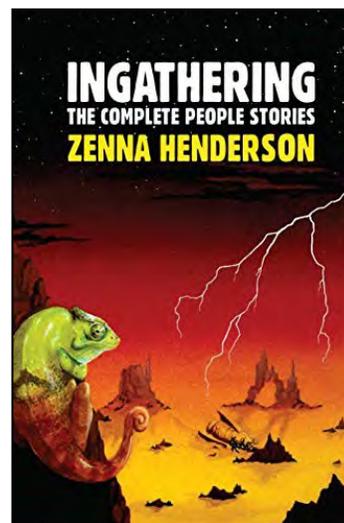
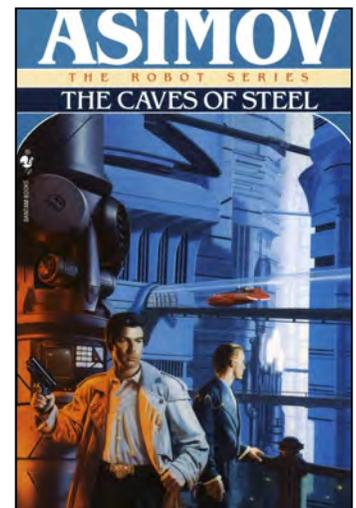
Tuesday, January 11, 2 PM to 3 PM (MST)

Discussion led by Paula Stuart

Two books this time!

### *The Caves of Steel*

by Isaac Asimov



### *Ingathering:*

*The Complete  
People Stories*

by Zenna Henderson

To Join the Online Book Discussion:

[stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup](https://stateofutah.adobeconnect.com/bookgroup)

Participate by phone:

1-877-820-7831, passcode 331626

## Book Your Summer Winners

Congratulations to the Book Your Summer winners! Each winner received a \$1,000 my529 regional scholarship and \$500 for their local library.

### Region 1

Xavier B. - Pleasant Valley Library

### Region 2

Aalyah W. - American Fork City Library

### Region 3

Oliver C. - Sprague Library

### Region 4

Calvin S. - Taylorsville Library

book  
your  
summer

## STEM Kits

Stress has been a common issue for nearly everyone during the pandemic, including children. To help address this, the State Library partnered with our sister agency, the STEM Action Center, to create circulating stress relief kits for public and school libraries. Kits contain six different activities informed by STEM-based principles to encourage stress relief for 2nd to 4th graders. In total, 397 kits will be sent to 45 libraries, 39 public and six schools. We are excited to provide this offering and hope that the benefits are seen in the community.



# Thank you!

By Chaundra Johnson, Director and State Librarian

Greetings Library Friends,

I would like to take the opportunity in this newsletter to say "Thank You!"

Thank you for all that you do for your library, thank you for all you do for the communities you serve, thank you for your dedication, knowledge, partnership, and thank you for being you! The holiday time really amps up my gratefulness meter and I am definitely grateful to be able to work with such an amazing library community here in Utah. Having a community to rely on means that you are never alone and now more than ever we need to be there for each other, supporting one another whether we are laughing or crying. I know it might sometimes sound cliché, but we really are better together. We all know challenges and obstacles seem to be everywhere right now and can quickly overwhelm even the most positive person.

BUT as we have proven through the pandemic, opportunities tend to spring up right along with the challenges and libraries tend to always be one of the first places to see that and act on it. I will close like I started with a heartfelt and resounding

THANK YOU!

From myself, and all of the wonderfully talented staff at the Utah State Library we wish you Happy Holidays and a great start to the New Year!!

Best Library Wishes,

*Chaundra Johnson*



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**Utah State Library**  
Division



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