



October 15th, 2018  
Volume 1, Issue 2

# SPS Library Newsletter

## Leadership

As I write this, we're less than a week away from the end of September. When I contemplate that, I don't know whether to be amazed or terrified. I can't believe the school year is already rolling by so quickly. Of course, I'm not managing

students every day, so your perceptions of the year may be entirely different! It's been a busy first month of school of all of us, though, and some exciting things have been planned or finalized.



First, I'm happy to announce that sometime in the first two weeks of October, all of our middle and high schools will be added into the Seattle Public Library's Library Link program. That means all of our middle and high school students will have access to all the rich digital resources provided by SPL. This is a strong step in the direction of equity of information access for our students. But having access isn't enough to eliminate the opportunity gap. The SPL staff and I all expect that each of you will work hard to promote these resources and to get teachers sharing these and encouraging use of these in their classrooms. That's crucial for the success and continuance of this marvelous program. We all hope to see some impact on student learning from this amazing gift. SPL main and branch staff will be ready and waiting to come out to your schools to help you learn about these resources and to instruct teachers on their use. Please take advantage of this valuable partnership. Elementary librarians, you can look to have your schools brought into Library Link in groups over the coming school year. This is an opt-out program that gives all students access to all the databases and eBooks available through SPL, so we anticipate some parents seeking to opt out. We want to be able to manage those requests well, so we'll be adding you in slowly. But I'm terribly excited about this development and am grateful to the leadership at SPL and SPS for making this happen for us all.

Also coming in October is a fun and inspiring literacy event with Mr. Schu, Scholastic Book Fair's Ambassador to School Libraries. John Schumacher, aka Mr. Schu, is passionate about sharing great books for young people and is a book talker extraordinaire. He will make you laugh, maybe make you cry, and definitely get you fired up about sharing great books with your kids. I've seen John speak and can tell you that all levels of librarians will leave his talk inspired, uplifted, and excited about their jobs.

And saving the best for last, I'm excited to talk about a very special event in November called "A Taste of Making". This will be the first of what I hope will become many makerspace expos designed to inform school librarians about how to integrate makerspaces into their libraries. Your colleagues Abigail Levin at Cedar Park ES, Stacia Bell at Madison MS, Erin Sterling at Eckstein MS, Craig Seasholes at Dearborn Park International ES, and TuesD Chambers at Ballard HS have spent many hours and lots of energy thinking, planning, and working to bring this amazing activity together. And we've had awesome support and cooperation in this from Shannon Wallace and Ashley Braun from Seattle Public Library and from Daniel Rother and Matt Eaton from the Pacific Science Center Tinker Tank. They've really ramped up our thinking and helped us create what I think will be a knock-your-socks-off event. We'll have many different kinds of maker materials and activities on hand and lots of ideas about how to use them with students. These activities and materials will be no, low, and high tech as well as low, medium, and high cost, so there's something for everyone! TuesD Chambers at Ballard High School will be hosting us on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 14, so plan on being there. You'll walk away with lots of great ideas and inspirations and knowing that you, too, can embrace the #MakerMovement!

And remember, the Washington Library Association Annual Conference is October 17 – 20 in Yakima. There will be lots of great learning and connecting for all school librarians to enjoy, especially on Saturday. Please find a way to take part in this important and beneficial professional opportunity. I know I'm going to come home with lots of new and innovative ideas that I'll be looking to implement and share. I hope to see you in Yakima.

Best,  
Marian

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- To contribute to the next newsletter please contact TuesD Chambers at [tschambers@seattleschools.org](mailto:tschambers@seattleschools.org)

## ES/K-8 Librarian Spotlight

*Do you want to learn more about the SPS Great Puzzle Challenge and compete with Kristi?*

Go to:

[SPS Great Puzzle Challenge Information](#)



All schools are encouraged to compete for a trophy and party!

### SPS Rubik's Cube Challenge

\*If interested check out [SPS Rubik's Cube Challenge](#).

\*Teachers or librarians need to go to [SPS Rubik's Cube order form](#).



## From Reluctant Readers to Library Regulars

*A Teacher Librarian's Intervention Plan*

Please read more about Jeff's passion for putting books in student hands by reading his [article in Teacher Librarian](#) to understand more about his research, intervention strategies, and how he believes that if teacher librarians build a reading relationship with individual students, they can match individuals to reading material that they enjoy.



**Kristi Leland** at Wedgwood Elementary is in her 4th year as a Teacher-Librarian and considers this her DREAM job! The library allows her to bring in all of her favorite parts of teaching. She loves that each day she gets to talk with kids about books! What a treat to LISTEN to kids talk about books they are loving and to turn and have them ask us about books that we're reading. Even better, Kristi loves finding ways to connect kids with their favorite authors.



This year, thanks to the inspiration of Stacia Bell, she is part of the SPS Great Puzzle Challenge. She is excited about partnering up with other schools to connect kids through a puzzle challenge. She has had puzzles in the library before, but letting kids know that they are connecting with other schools in the district really gives them inspiration to come in and work on the puzzles.

She is also really proud of the sense of community that they've been building in the Wedgwood Library. The kids are coming to do more than just read. Students are coming to explore the makers space, to work on coding projects, and the library is really becoming the heart of the school.

Kristi believes our libraries do more than just house books, but also connect kids with the world and bring in diverse resources to our teachers and students. We provide opportunities for our patrons to explore their diverse interests. Kristi's absolute favorite part of being a librarian is connecting with other librarians. Every day she is in awe of what is happening in other libraries in our district and in our wider community. This is a great time to work in school libraries!

## Secondary Librarian Spotlight

**Jeff Treistman** is in his 10th year at Denny Middle School as a librarian and is an inspiration to those who are passionate about providing access to books for all students.

Jeff created the Home Library Project with the mission of providing every 6th grade student at Denny Middle School with books of their own choosing for a home library going into summer break.

The impetus of the project was the culmination of three years of research with 70 students labeled "reluctant, non-readers, or alliterate" recommended to him by the 6th grade literacy team for intervention.

To make his Home Library Project a reality Jeff extensively networked, solicited help, and started grant writing. He was able to raise \$18,000 in cash and donations of over 3,000 books from various sources. The first grant he received was from the American Association of School Libraries' Inspiration grant and others came from Albertson's/Safeway and DonorsChoose.

With this funding the Denny Book Bazar became a reality. During the Denny Book Bazar all sixth grade students were given a book bag with a copy of *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and then allowed to select three books from the donated books by Comic Dungeon and three books from the Denny Book Depot. Eligible students were also given a budget of \$50 to spend at the scholastic book fair which was determined by the free lunch program which services over 65% of the student population.



Many 6th grade teachers declared it the best day of the year and students were beaming! Jeff did so well at fundraising that he has over \$4000 left and \$7000 in Scholastic bucks which can be spent with Scholastic anytime this year. He's received a book donation of over 250 new books and is hoping for a repeat grant of \$10,000. He would like to be able to give the 7th grade students (last year's 6th

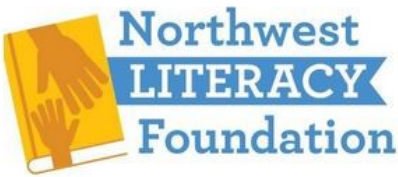
graders) five books to add to their home library.

Jeff is quick to remind people that if the mission is clear and the impact is direct you will be blown away by the generosity of donors and partners. "It was a tremendous community building exercise in addition to being a huge boost to literacy efforts."

# Collaboration

## NW Literacy Foundation

The Northwest Literacy Foundation (<http://NWLiteracy.org>) is a Seattle-area foundation that donates to support the SPL Global Reading Challenge and to several elementary schools in need in our district.



Craig Seasholes can be heard hear giving an interview with IHeartRadio about their generous support.

Librarians and library supporters please listen and follow up if you have any questions on how to engage your school community with the work of the foundation.

[Northwest Literacy Foundation Interview with Craig Seasholes](#)

*“I feel lucky every day to be a part of this amazing community.”-Kristi Leland*

## Historical Resource Collaboration: Freedom Riders

In collaboration with [Gilder Lehrman](#), Betty Brennan, Ingraham High School librarian created an incredibly impactful Freedom Riders display aimed at voter registration and student action.



She posed the following questions to students:

Would you get on the bus? Are you willing to be a part of the change? What changes need to happen in my neighborhood?

How can you use your economics to make change in our community?

How can you today share your advantages to equal the balance at Ingraham High School?

To create the Freedom Rider experience Betty applied for a museum exhibit grant, studied current events, and created a 70 foot display for her library.

Schools can apply to be affiliates with Gilder Lehrman and use their resources for teaching historical research, attend fellowship classes, and receive posters and book recommendations.

To learn more about this opportunity or to create one of your own reach out to Betty Brennan.



## Makerspace

Everyone is invited to attend **the Taste of Making Expo at Ballard High School on November 14th from 1:30-5:00 pm.**

There will be no tech, low tech, and high tech Makerspace opportunities to learn about.

We will have Pacific Science Center, Seattle Public Library, and Brian Hanser of Follet School Solutions available to teach and answer questions.

Please reach out to Marian Royal if you have any questions about the event.

Parking is limited and carpooling, using public transportation, or Uber is suggested.

Where: Ballard HS  
When: 11.14.18  
Time: 1:30-5:00





## Equity

### Equity

#### Decolonize Your Bookshelf

Kristin Sierra, Tacoma born and raised Teacher Librarian at Lincoln High School, in a podcast explores the importance of collection analysis and decolonizing your bookshelves as a critical component of a diverse school library collection. Kristin is passionate about representation and shares how she curates resources that reflect the diversity in her school.

Please follow her at:

[@LincolnAbesRead](https://twitter.com/LincolnAbesRead)



The Global Read Aloud  
One Book To Connect  
The World



To learn more go to:

[The Global Read Aloud](https://www.theglobalreadaloud.org/)

**Project Lit** is a grassroots literacy movement empowering readers and leaders in hundreds of schools and communities across the country. Project LIT was founded by Jarred Amato, an English teacher at Maplewood High School in Nashville, TN, who is passionate about creating a culture of reading in all classrooms and communities.

In August 2016, he and his students started Project LIT to increase access to high-quality, culturally relevant books and promote a love of reading in their community. They believe wholeheartedly in the power of reading and in its ability to bring people together and transform lives.

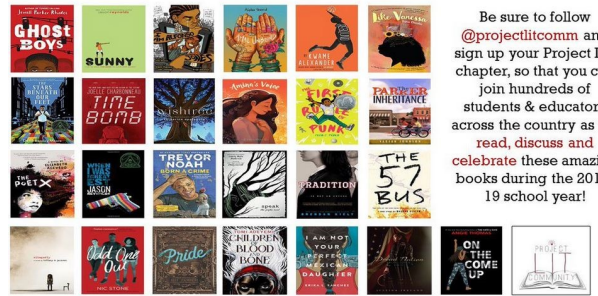
Now, they are excited to build a growing network of all-star teachers and students around the country! Currently, there are more than 400 chapters in 46 states across the country, which means there is now a community of passionate educators ready to support others as they begin the journey.

Every chapter looks a little different and that's by design! With that said, all Project LIT leaders are expected to embody their mission by a) putting students at the center of this work and b) reading and discussing several of our Project LIT Book Club titles (from the 17-18 or 18-19 lists).

If interested please fill out the application below:

[Project Lit Chapter Leader Application](#)

#### **Project LIT Book Club 2018-19 MG & YA Selections**



Be sure to follow [@projectlitcomm](https://twitter.com/projectlitcomm) and sign up your Project LIT chapter, so that you can join hundreds of students & educators across the country as we read, discuss and celebrate these amazing books during the 2018-19 school year!

## #DISRUPTTEXTS

**Disrupt Texts** is a crowdsourced, grass roots effort *by teachers for teachers* to challenge the traditional canon in order to create a more inclusive, representative, and equitable language arts curriculum that our students deserve. It is part of our mission to aid and develop teachers committed to anti-racist/anti-bias teaching pedagogy and practices.

Each week, join us for the #DisruptTexts slow chat on Twitter as teachers from across the country and world come together to apply a critical lens on a central text. We'll discuss how to disrupt traditional pedagogies by suggesting alternative titles and approaches through thoughtful pairings, counter-narratives, and inclusive, diverse texts sets.

The [#DisruptTexts chat](#) and website are facilitated by [Tricia Ebarvia](#), [Lorena German](#), [Dr. Kim Parker](#), and [Julia Torres](#).

[Click here to learn how to participate.](#)

## Best Books-

### SPS Librarian Book Recommendations 2018

## Student Voice

The Nathan Hale High School Library is proud to announce our third year of Hale Ambassadors, an ELL and Native American student-leadership initiative supported by Johns Hopkins University and Seattle Public Schools to improve family and student engagement at our all-school campus events, and at our feeder schools' Jane Addams Middle School and John Rogers Elementary. Welcoming families is but one way they make newcomers feel at home. Our multilingual ambassadors translate between English and their Heritage Language(s), and answer some of the most frequently answered questions. Parents report that they feel incredibly welcome and informed because of our Hale Ambassadors.

To learn more about the program or how to start one of your own please reach out to Deb Gallaher at Nathan Hale High School.



## Learning and Leading Professional Growth

**Oct 16<sup>th</sup>-Kwame Alexander in Tacoma**-Librarian Kristin Sierra, @lincolnabesread leveraged her social media contacts and is bringing Kwame Alexander to Tacoma -free evening event <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3626445>



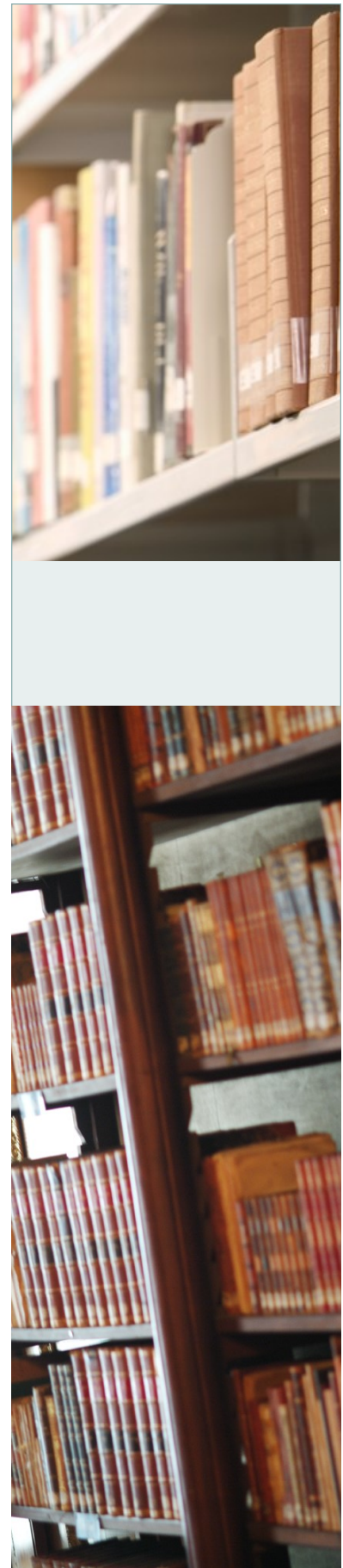
**Oct 17-19 -Washington Library Association Conference in Yakima.**

Even if you can only make it for a Saturday, this gathering of librarians is essential PD and networking for librarians of all type. <https://www.wla.org/2018-wla-conference-keynotes---events>

**Nov 10-11-ISTE Creative Constructor Lab** to Seattle for tech and media savvy librarians and teachers looking to strengthen specific skills essential to Future Ready teaching and learning <https://conference.iste.org/2018CreativeConstructorLab/location.php>



**Jan 25-29, 2019 -ALA-Midwinter to Seattle.** You can sign up for a volunteer shift via WLA to earn substantial discounts, request an exhibits-only pass from vendors, or sign up for one or multi day conference <http://2019.alamidwinter.org/>



## Collaboration



### [The Moth Education Inquiry Form](#)

The Moth Education Program works with young people and educators to build community through storytelling workshops, performances and innovative resources.

To learn more about being a school partner please explore the website and connect with TuesD Chambers to partner in the work.

[The Moth](#)

## SPS Professional

## Learning

## Communities

[SPS Librarian Professional Learning Communities](#)

### Leadership and Promoting Your Library

Are you currently promoting your work in staff newsletters, with table tents at staff meetings, sending out all school emails or newsletters to families and community members?

How are you making your work visible to the school, your community, and the world? Please let us know so we can highlight your efforts in the next newsletter.



## Technology Tips

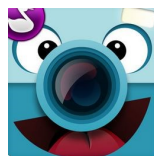
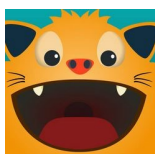
[Doink Green Screen App](#) -Green Screen by Do Ink makes it easy to create incredible green screen videos and images right on your iPad or iPhone. The app lets you combine photos and videos from the camera roll with live images from your iPad or iPhone's camera. With Green Screen by Do Ink, you can tell a story, explain an idea, and express yourself in truly creative and unique ways.

Check out Rebecca Wynkoop's use of this app doing her Digital Learning Library orientations:

[Robert Eaglestaff Library Tour- Rebecca Wynkoop](#)

### Chatterpix and Chatterbox apps-

Both apps turn any picture into funny animations that you can share and use to learn more about a subject. Grab your camera! Kids can make anything talk. Simply take any photo, draw a line to make a mouth, and record your voice and share your thinking.



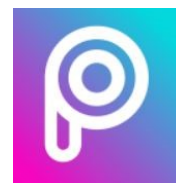
Check out the use of Chatterbox drumming up support for reading:

[Beaver Readers Headband- Flipgrid Promotion](#)

[PicsArt](#) is an all-in-one image editing app that makes it easy to take your photos and draw, crop, put in text overlays, and artistically design and promote your library while maintaining the anonymity of your students.



Check out a photo of students at Robert Eaglestaff Middle School



# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Please let us know what you have planned for:  
National American Indian Heritage Month  
#MeToo and teaching consent  
International Day of Persons with Disabilities  
Reading Programs/Competitions for Winter Break

Have news to share? Questions? Please send to [tschambers@seattleschools.org](mailto:tschambers@seattleschools.org)

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