AARP Tax-Aide Program

- The State Library of Ohio will be a site for the AARP Tax-Aide Program this year from February 1 – mid-April located in Room 108.
- This is a program open to taxpayers of all ages and AARP membership is not required. The AARP volunteers are IRS-Certified and will prepare taxes for citizens free of charge.
- Appointments are offered at the State Library from 9am – 3pm on Thursdays by calling 614-547-2442.

Acquisitions and Cataloging

- Reference/Cataloging Librarian Josh Jones researches, acquires, and catalogs new print titles for our department. Recently, acquisitions have focused on topics such as Healthcare, Management and Voting. New Books are highlighted on our website monthly.

Announcements

Email Listserv

- Registration now open for the next Reimagining School Readiness Workshop. February 6, 2024.
- Eric Taggart Appointed to Serve on State Library Board. February 6, 2024.
- WhoFi Suite of Services webinar for public libraries is February 2. February 8, 2024.
- Library Leadership Ohio Returns in 2024. February 8, 2024.

Website – What’s new announcements

- Ron Woods Joins Our Staff. February 2, 2024
- Eric Taggart Appointed to Serve on State Library Board. February 6, 2024
- State Library Now Location for AARP Foundation Tax-Aide. February 7, 2024
Ohio Deaf History Month Begins March 13th: February 15, 2024

Library Leadership Ohio is Back: February 20, 2024

Collaboration
- Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch assisted Otterbein University chemistry major Owen Gregg with his project “Analysis of 19th century books for pigments containing toxic metals using x-ray fluorescence.”
  - Shannon helped Owen identify 10 books from our Rare Book collection that Owen tested for arsenic based pigments and heavy metals.

Collection Tours
- Research and Catalog Services staff gave several tours of the State Library of Ohio’s collection. Tour attendees included State Board of Education Board Member Dianna Fessler, staff from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Central Ohio High School Librarians, and Students from St. Joseph Montessori School.
  - These tours included the State Library of Ohio’s Rare Book Rooms which include many rare and unique items such as original letters written by President George Washington, Medieval Manuscripts and early Federal and State Documents.

Government Documents
- The State Library of Ohio is a Congressionally designated depository for U.S. Government Publications and the official Ohio government documents depository, and our Government Documents Librarian Elissa Lawrence is the Regional Depository Coordinator for Ohio. If you have questions about Government Documents, feel free to contact Elissa with questions at elawrence@library.ohio.gov.

Guiding Ohio Online
- Applications are now open for the upcoming 2024-2025 Guiding Ohio Online (GOO) program year. The deadline to submit applications is March 25 at 11:59 pm. The GOO grant initiative provides funds for libraries serving rural populations to hire a dedicated technology trainer/contractor for their patrons and staff.
  - Libraries applying for the GOO grant are encouraged to submit a draft of their proposal for review prior to submission. Drafts will be accepted through Monday March 18, and can be e-mailed to: LSTA@library.ohio.gov.
- State Library staff recorded an informational webinar in January about the Guiding Ohio Online application process that can be viewed here.
- State Library staff hosted a live, virtual Open Office Hour for Guiding Ohio Online on February 23 from 1-2 p.m. in order to answer questions about the program and the application process.
- If you have any questions regarding the funding or budget of Guiding Ohio Online, please contact the LSTA Office at LSTA@library.ohio.gov.
If you have any questions regarding Guiding Ohio Online trainers (hiring, best practices, etc.) please contact Anne Kennedy, Technology Consultant, at akennedy@library.ohio.gov or by calling 614-466-1710.

Library Leadership Ohio (LLO)

Library Leadership Ohio (LLO)—a partnership between the State Library of Ohio and OhioNet—will take place July 23-25, 2024, at the Cherry Valley Hotel and Conference Center in Newark, Ohio. LLO is an individual-based, in-person, residential library leadership program for Ohio library staff at all position levels and library types.

- Applications are being accepted through Wednesday, March 20; full information on what is expected as part of the application process can be found here.
- State Library and OhioNet staff hosted an LLO 2024 Info Session on February 22. A recording of that session can be viewed here.
- If you have any questions regarding Library Leadership Ohio, please contact Erin Kelsey, Library Consultant, at ekelsey@library.ohio.gov.

List of New Acquisitions

A list of print books, ebooks, and audiobooks recently added to the State Library’s collection for February is available on our website.

Low Vision Support Group

The State Library of Ohio is the site for the Low Vision Support Group. They meet here monthly, and their target audience is people who are visually impaired, especially those who have experienced recent loss.

- Their next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5 from 1-3 p.m.
- Please contact Mike Pitroff with questions or for more information. He can be reached at mike.pitroff@ftsjobs4u.com.

LSTA

The State Library of Ohio’s Celebrating Ohio Book Awards and Authors (COBAA) grant initiative closed on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The COBAA grant initiative provides libraries and eligible institutions with up to $2,000 in federal LSTA funds to build or expand a collection of books by Ohio authors and books recognized by Ohio-based book award programs. Applications were reviewed, and the following institutions were awarded a grant:

- Adena Local Schools
- Arrowhead Primary School
- Brown County Public Library
- Central Local School District
- Central State University
- Chagrin Falls High School Library
- Chillicothe & Ross County Public Library
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

Applications for this year's Summer Library Program (SLP) LSTA grant closed on Tuesday, February 20. Reviewers are currently evaluating proposals with the intention of providing notifications to applicants in late-March.

- The grant term for SLP awards runs April 1, 2024 – August 31, 2024.
- The SLP grant program allows eligible libraries the opportunity to request up to $2000.00 to enhance their summer program offerings.

Submissions for the State Library of Ohio’s LSTA Open Grant program remain closed. The application is currently undergoing revisions and will be reopened in February. No Open Grants were awarded in January.

Questions regarding the LSTA program should be addressed to Jeff Regensburger, Library Consultant/LSTA Coordinator, at LSTA@library.ohio.gov.

**NASA@My Library and Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries (SEAL)**

- The State Library of Ohio is currently circulating four kits designed to facilitate Libraries' Space Science Programming.
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

- The **Younger Audience** kit provides activities geared at younger audiences such as elementary age students. The Kit includes a Sunspotter, Mini Sunoculars and an activity based on the book *MoonBear’s Shadow*.
- The **Multi-Generational Programming** kit is designed to help your library provide programs for all age groups. The Kit includes 2 large Sunoculars, a sun telescope, and activity materials about the sun.
- The **Sun-Earth-Moon Connections Kit** focuses on activities and experiences that better help patrons understand their place in space, and how the Sun and Moon impact our planet. Major content areas in this kit include: modeling both lunar and solar eclipses with easy to use tools, detecting ultraviolet light in a creative way, using sorting cards to explore concepts relating to size, distance, and temperature, and an experiential activity that allows for a greater understanding of the vast scale of our Solar System.
- The **Be a NASA Detective: Expanding Your Senses Kit** focuses on activities and experiences that help patrons be more comfortable using tools of science, and making predictions based on their observations. This kit focuses on things we cannot see with our normal vision on sense with our normal senses.

- Kit reservations may be made on the State Library’s [website](http://library.ohio.gov).
- Questions about the NASA@ My Library programs can be directed to Penelope Shumaker, pshumaker@library.ohio.gov.

**Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative**

- The **Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative** (OCAI) is an original, self-paced, collection analysis tool for considering collections that empower children and young adult readers by respecting and appreciating what makes them different and the same. OCAI is a collaborative project of the State Library of Ohio and TeachingBooks.net. The project is funded in whole or in part with Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal funds, granted to the State Library of Ohio. Register for access here!

- Notable highlights from this impactful initiative:
  - Free for staff working in all types of Ohio libraries! It is available at no cost to you.
  - There are no time constraints for completing this program. Set your own goals and progress at your own pace.
  - Personalized support. You have access to a dedicated, full-time specialist for assistance at any time.
  - Unlimited access to a Collection Analysis Toolkit. This toolkit complements the collection development work you already have in place.
  - Unlimited access to a vetted collection of materials about children’s & young adult books and authors.
  - Identifiable action steps. You will receive a custom Implementation Plan that outlines your collection development decisions and next steps.

- Click here to check out recorded workshops and webinars related to the Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative to learn more.

- Through February, OCAI has over 750 users in 88 of 88 Ohio counties!
- Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone (TeachingBooks) continue to host a slate of thematic webinars and workshops, teaching users how to enhance their youth-focused library collections.
- Additionally, Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone (TeachingBooks) continue to host drop-in Office Hours, where interested parties can ask a quick question or learn more about the initiative.
  - On February 20, Erin Kelsey and Jake Stone co-hosted a drop-in Office Hours
Drop-in Office Hours scheduled into Spring 2024 are from 11 a.m. to Noon (EST) on the following days:
- March 19
- April 2
- April 16
- April 30

Ohio Digital Library
- In the month of February, ODL patrons checked out 838,891 items. The total for 2024 stands at 1,770,702 checkouts. Here is a breakdown of February’s checkouts:

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
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<td>ebook</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>838,981</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The most popular magazine title in February was Women’s World, a weekly lifestyle magazine. The most popular non-magazine was Here For It, a romantic comedy that sizzles with chemistry and the magic of a Mardi Gras backdrop in an adorable opposites attract story.
- In mid-March 2020, ODL enabled the opportunity for Ohioans to take advantage of the Overdrive Instant Digital Card. A user can sign up with his/her phone number and gain quick access to e-content via ODL. Users that sign up via the Instant Digital Card will be directed to their local library to fill out a physical library card. In February 2024, 4,137 registrations took place.
- Curious about what’s being checked out? Take a look at the real-time checkouts and holds.

Ohio Digital Network [Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) Project]
- The State Library of Ohio selected 15 staff working in Ohio libraries and archives were selected to complete coursework to earn a Digital Curation Certificate from Library Juice Academy. The group began coursework in February and will complete it by September to earn their Digital Curation Certificate in 2024. This program uses federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded to the State Library of Ohio to cover the cost of enrollment. This award-winning Digital Curation Certificate is designed to build skills for work in digitization, digital preservation, metadata creation, and more, and is suitable for those interested in the work whether they have prior experience or not. The applicants selected were:
  - Jennifer Aloisi, Tiffin-Seneca Public Library
  - Katherine (Katie) Beverly, Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County
  - Stacy Chaney-Blankenship, Ohio Wesleyan University Libraries
  - Alexandra (Ali) Coleman, University of Toledo
  - Pamela Dean, Western Reserve Historical Society
  - Brenda Foster, Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD)
  - Stefani Haas, Toledo Lucas County Public Library
  - Faith Lumbus, Cleveland History Center - Western Reserve Historical Society & Cuyahoga County Public Library
  - Riza Miklowski, Akron-Summit County Public Library
  - Dai Newman, Ohio State University at Newark/Central Ohio Technical College
  - Mamie Pratt, Wood County District Public Library
  - Kimberly Rammel, Fort Recovery Museum
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Ohio Memory

- Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch researched and wrote the Ohio Memory blog post: The Story of Your Family: Genealogy, Social History, and Ohio Memory.
- Ohio Memory is the collaborative statewide digital library program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. On this free website, you can explore digital content from over 390 cultural heritage institutions representing all 88 of Ohio’s counties covering a wide range of topics from prehistory to present day.
- Ohio Memory contains over 1,600,000 digital images from a variety of primary and secondary source image types, including:
  - Photographs, maps, drawings, and paintings
  - Manuscripts, letters, diaries, and journals
  - Archaeological artifacts, natural history specimens and historical objects
  - Newspapers, books, and e-publications
  - Audio and video
- Materials are selected for inclusion on Ohio Memory based on their historical significance, scanning potential, complementary value, ownership, and copyright.
- If you have questions about this program, you can contact our Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch at strausch@library.ohio.gov.

Ohio Ready to Read

- Registration is now open for Storytime Foundations, a free, one-day conference on everything storytime, taking place in Columbus on Tuesday, April 30. Keynote speakers Dr. Laura Justice (Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy, The Ohio State University) and Dr. Katie Campana (School of Information, Kent State University) will contextualize libraries’ important work in support of young children and their families. Librarian-led breakout sessions will explore storytime applications of the Five Practices from the Every Child Ready to Read initiative (reading, writing, talking, singing, playing). Storytime Foundations is planned and produced by Ohio Ready to Read.
- Early Literacy 101 is a free, full-day (6 contact hour) hands-on workshop to help library staff build a firm foundation in early literacy. Participants learn how brain development impacts how young children learn; discover effective, research-based early literacy resources and activities; and explore how storytime supports early literacy. Registration for May workshops in Bowling Green and Akron will open in March. Learn more about the Early Literacy 101 workshop.
- Ohio Ready to Read is a partnership initiative of the Ohio Library Council and State Library of Ohio that helps librarians and library workers to educate Ohio’s families on the importance of early childhood literacy. Contact Janet Ingraham Dwyer with any questions about Ohio Ready to Read.

Outreach

- On Tuesday, February 13, Manager Ryan Burley presented at Sustainable Ohio and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s yearly kickoff program. Ryan presented the State Library of Ohio’s history, resources, and sustainability efforts to an audience of business leaders, university professors and state officials.
Partnerships with State Agencies

- We continued to partner with the Ohio Supreme Court and the Ohio Office of Budget and Management assisting them with the digitization of their historic materials. We also partnered with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and assisted Director of Policy Melissa Wulliger with the digitization of student artwork for a contest they had organized.

Presentations

- As part of the Library Leadership Ohio (LLO) "launch party" webinar, Erin Kelsey, Jeff Regensburger, Katy Hite, and Penelope Shumaker presented information on LLO—its history and impact on Ohio’s libraries—to more than 70 attendees.
- Jeff Regensburger presented information on the State Library of Ohio’s LSTA grants program to a group of Central Ohio high school librarians. In addition to highlighting those grants of particular interest, Jeff also pointed to examples of how school libraries have been able to use LSTA funds in the past to make a difference for the students they serve.
- Jeff Regensburger presented information on the State Library of Ohio’s Summer Library Program (SLP) grant initiative during the day-long SERLS SLP Workshop, held at the State Library of Ohio. Special attention was given to eligible expenses, what libraries typically use SLP grant awards for, and the value of submitting a draft ahead of the proposal.
- As part of her work with the Ohio Collections Analysis Initiative, Erin Kelsey (along with Jake Stone of TeachingBooks) co-presented the online workshop, “The Power of Teaching Books: Authentic Resources.”

Professional Activities

- Research and Catalog Services Librarians Josh Jones, Stephanie Michaels, and Phil Willke hold the Consumer Health Information Specialist certification from the Medical Library Association and provide support to medical professionals.

Reference Services

- Research and Catalog services staff provided reference services to the public, businesses, and universities.

Reference Services to State Government

- Research and Catalog services staff provided reference assistance to the following state agencies. This included finding and providing articles, finding government documents, answering reference questions, assisting with electronic resources, etc.
  - Ohio Attorney General
  - Ohio Civil Rights Commission
  - Ohio Department of Agriculture
  - Ohio Department of Education and Workforce
  - Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
  - Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
  - Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction
  - Ohio Department of Transportation
  - Ohio Supreme Court
  - Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Reference Statistics

- Reference staff answered 133 questions in January totaling 2,359 minutes of reference research.
Reimagining School Readiness

- The State Library of Ohio is proud to support the Reimagining School Readiness Toolkit, a suite of research-backed resources created for library staff to help families prepare children ages birth to 8 years for success in school and in life. The toolkit was developed by the Bay Area Discovery Museum in collaboration with the California State Library and the Pacific Library Partnership.
- Registration is now open for the Reimagining School Readiness Spring Workshop on March 28, 2024. The workshop will be offered in-person at the State Library of Ohio and registration information can be found on the State Library of Ohio’s Website.
- Please keep an eye on the various library listservs and traditional communication channels for additional workshop announcements and registration openings
  - These workshops cover such topics as:
    - key findings from current cognitive and developmental psychology research
    - the implications of those findings for library staff’s daily work
    - practical ready-to-implement ideas for activities
    - resources for staff training and for parents/caregivers
  - If your library is interested in hosting a Reimagining School Readiness training for your staff, contact Penelope Shumaker, pshumaker@library.ohio.gov
- Additional information about this initiative can be found here. Questions regarding Reimagining School Readiness should be addressed to Penelope Shumaker (pshumaker@library.ohio.gov).

SEO Service Center

- Total automation consortium circulation for the past 30 days—1,021,451
- Total number of new users created in the past 30 days—12,997
- Interlibrary loans initiated for the past 30 days—782
- In-house periodicals filled—23
- Total number of support tickets created for the previous month—925
- Support tickets logged with Integrated Library Software (ILS) vendor SirsiDynix—22

Phone Support

- 1,043 Total calls
  - 403 Incoming
  - 326 Outgoing
  - 314 Internal staff calls
- 59 hrs. 56 min. total call duration
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Remote Customer Support On-Demand Access
- 37 on-demand remote sessions

SEO Consortium Libraries App (BCMobile) Stats
- 3,142 new devices
- 28,526 holds placed
- 68,900 app launches
- 81,407 total searches

Click and Collect Curbside service with the Consortium Libraries App
- 32 service locations actively using Click and Collect “Curbside Pickup” to serve their patrons
- 153 Page Loads – number of times the “Curbside Pickup” button was engaged
- 55 Patrons arrived and completed their session

Consortium Service Highlights
- The Brumback Library went live on the SEO Library Consortium as the 99th member library. The Brumback Library has locations in Van Wert, Convoy, Middle Point, Ohio City, Willshire, and Wren.
- On February 2, Jay Miley attended the OCLC Cataloging Community Meeting.
- On February 6, Paula Clark met with staff at Mechanicsburg Public Library and Public Library of Steubenville & Jefferson County to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.
- On February 7, the SEO Management Team met with Hannah Ellinger, Youth Services Supervisor for Licking County Library.
- On February 7, Heather Miller met with Melissa Lattanz from NEO-RLS.
- On February 8, Paula Clark met with staff at Dorcas Carey Public Library to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.
- On February 8, Heather Miller connected with the Ridgemont Public Library Director.
- On February 8, John Stewart and Heather Miller met with the new director from St. Clairsville Public Library.
- On February 8, Jay Miley met with Don Yamman for their monthly touch base to discuss SEO and OPLIN projects.
- On February 8, Jay Miley attended a check-in meeting with Gene Shimshock, COO of Patron Point.
- On February 12, Ron Woods, Michael Postlethwait, Heather Miller, and Jay Miley attended Sure Sailing meeting with Kat Stephens.
- On February 12, the migration team had a call with SirsiDynix to review the project for adding Marvin Memorial Library to the SEO Library Consortium.
- On February 13, the migration team met with SirsiDynix to review the data for adding Brumback Library to the SEO Library Consortium.
- On February 12, Nicole Brown, Brenda Michel, and Jay Miley met with Wendy Bittle & Hannah Ellinger from Licking County Library to review how to use BLUEcloud Analytics.
- On February 14, Michael Postlethwait and Jay Miley attended the Fall in Love with our Kids and Theme Catalogs webinar.
- On February 15, Heather Miller attended the Niche Academy Training meeting.
- On February 20, the SEO Customer Support team held Open Office Hours. The team presented on Advanced Searching Techniques.
- On February 21, Wendy Knapp, Katy Hite, and Heather Miller attended library visits at Pickaway County Library and Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library.
- On February 22, SEO attended the SEO Advisory Committee online meeting.
- On February 22, Jay Miley attended the Meet CommunityIQ Demographics webinar.
On February 26, John Stewart and Jay Miley met with representatives from OCLC to discuss the CatExpress and WorldShare ILL contract.
On February 26, Paula Clark met with staff at Carnegie Public Library - East Liverpool to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.
On February 27, Michael Postlethwait, Jay Miley, and John Stewart met with SirsiDynix Library Relations Manager Kirby Gill.
On February 27 – March 1, Jay Miley, Heather Miller, Don Winland, Ron Woods, and Brenda Michel attended the in-person training/go-live for Brumback Library.
On February 29, Paula Clark met with staff at Carnegie Public Library – Washington Court House to demonstrate the Patron Point Marketing Platform.

- **Niche Academy Stats**
  - Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views - 995
  - Online Catalog Tutorials views - 534
  - Technical Services Committee – 2
  - ASL Storytime – 15

- **Syndetics Unbound Statistics**
  - **Enterprise Catalog**
    - 12,254,978 cover images loaded in online catalog searches.
    - Syndetics Unbound enriched 96,677 (95%) out of 101,762 pages loaded.
    - 40,362 patron interactions with enriched content.
  - 85 display widgets updated.
  - 64,684 widgets loaded
  - Patrons have interacted with display widgets 10,330 times.

- **PatronPoint Notices sent to consortium patrons**
  - 108,957 email notices sent
  - 79,924 SMS notices sent
  - 47,681 unique patrons notified
• **Offsite Storage**
  - 7,132 items are housed at SEO for offsite storage.
  - 65 items were sent to fill holds for consortium members

**Services for the Blind and Print Disabled**
- Library service for the blind and print disabled in the United States is delivered through a network of libraries and agencies coordinated by the [Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS)](https://www.loc.gov/rr/braille/). In partnership with the Ohio Library for the Blind and Print Disabled (OLBPD) at the Cleveland Public Library, the State Library of Ohio serves as the machine lending agency for the state providing playback equipment to eligible blind, visually impaired and print disabled residents. To help in this effort, we have machine sub-lending agencies, local public libraries, or social service organizations to help assist eligible residents in their areas.
- Contact Tracy Grimm at tgrimm@library.ohio.gov with any questions concerning the Talking Book Program.

**Strategic Planning**
- Libraries currently receiving strategic planning services from State Library consultants include:
  - Milton-Union Public Library
  - Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library
  - Williams County Public Library
  - Alexandria Public Library
- If you have questions about the State Library’s strategic planning services, or would like to be placed on the waiting list for this service, please contact Evan Struble at estruble@library.ohio.gov.

**Summer Food Service Program**
- Many libraries in Ohio and around the USA participate in the [Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp), a USDA-funded program that provides free meals and snacks to children ages 0-18 in communities with high levels of need. Besides the obvious benefits of addressing hunger and supporting vulnerable youth, SFSP participation benefits libraries through:
  - Access to new user groups, especially underserved and marginalized populations
  - Increased visibility of the library as a community asset
  - Opportunities for new partnerships
  - Positioning of the library as an important stakeholder in community well-being and positive child outcomes
  - Support for summer library programming through increased attendance
- If you are already an SFSP site or have been in the past, work with your current/previous sponsor to prepare for summer 2024.
- If you want to become an SFSP site, the Collaborative Summer Library Program offers a thorough, clear how-to guide: **Libraries and Summer Food** provides a step-by-step for libraries interested in becoming SFSP sites, or otherwise getting involved in addressing child food insecurity during the summer.
- The State Library also offers a basic guide for Ohio libraries: library.ohio.gov/summer-food.
- The Ohio Department of Education administers the SFSP in Ohio. Contact the ODE with questions or for assistance in identifying a potential sponsor.
- A non-congregate option for rural communities allows sites in rural-designated areas to provide grab-and-go meals. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, Office of Nutrition is developing guidance about this option. More information will be shared via Ohio library listservs in coming weeks. Find out if your library is in a rural-designated area.
Summer Library Program

- Several partners are again supporting Ohio public libraries' summer programming with incentives and special offers:
  - The 2024 Ohio Renaissance Festival coupon, good for 50% off gate admission for all ages, is available to Ohio public libraries. Complete this form by March 20 to request Ren Fest coupons.
  - The Ohio Expo Center will again provide a printable voucher for free child (ages 5-18) admission to the Ohio State Fair. This incentive will be announced on Ohio Library listservs and the Ohio Summer Library Program website when available.
  - The Greater Cleveland Aquarium offers a specially discounted virtual program for libraries. Each booking of the Virtual Aquatic Escape program by an Ohio public library comes with two complimentary Aquarium admission passes that you can use as SLP prizes. Learn more and book a program. This offer is available year-round.

- The 2023 Ohio Summer Library Program evaluation report is available (download/print a PDF copy here). SLP participation continues to rise across Ohio libraries and communities. If participation and attendance trends over the past two summers continue, summer challenge participation and event attendance in 2024 will be very near pre-pandemic levels. Some libraries have already reported turnout exceeding their previous records. But the numbers tell only a small part of the story. See the full report for anecdotes, observations, and lots of photos from libraries around Ohio.

- See the Ohio Summer Library Program website for resources to support summer planning. Contact Janet Ingraham Dwyer with any questions about SLP.

Take 5

- The 2024 Take 5 event will take place at the Huber Heights Branch, Dayton Metro Library, on Friday, May 3. The event features 2022 YALSA Innovation Award winner Grace Hammond, leading a hands-on Whole Learner mini-workshop. The event also features an expert troubleshooting panel and small group discussion breakouts on timely topics and big-picture perspectives. Registration is just $25 including morning refreshments and box lunch. Register here.

- Take 5 is a day of dialogue and discovery for public library teen and youth services specialists, school librarians, and other youth advocates. Take 5 events feature active learning opportunities, speaker sessions with allies outside the library field, hands-on activities, and networking. Learn more about Take 5. This year's Take 5 event is co-sponsored by SWON Libraries.

WebJunction

- There were 113 WebJunction course completions in February 2024, up from 150 in January. Individuals completing courses in February represented the following types of libraries: 91 public, 15 academic, 2 school, and 5 did not include identity for a library type.

2021-2024 Number of Completed Courses in Months & Years
The numbers represent courses completed not individuals.
The vision of the State Library of Ohio is a Smarter Ohio where every Ohioan can access the necessary resources to be engaged citizens, excel at their jobs, participate in the workforce, and pursue their passions and interests.

### 2021-2023 Number of Completed Courses in Months & Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2022</th>
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<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>178</td>
<td></td>
<td>419</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
<td>275</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>276</td>
<td></td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
<td>253</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>263</td>
<td>1480</td>
<td>1344</td>
<td>1838</td>
<td>4925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2021-2024 Number of Active Users in WebJunction Courses

- Number of unique logins accessing course each month

### Course Completion in February by Library Type

- Public
- Academic
- School
- State Agency
- None of the above

### 2021-2024 Number of Active Users in WebJunction Courses
WebJunction Webinar Reports are received on a quarterly basis.

- In the fourth quarter of calendar year 2023 (October-December), seven webinars were offered and there were 230 views from Ohio (combined all webinars, live and recorded viewings)—up from 217 views in the third quarter of 2023. The seven webinars included:
  - Climate Justice
  - Revitalizing Morale: Cultivating a Supportive Library Culture
  - Building Community Relationships for Better Library Services
  - Let’s Talk Race: Community Healing through Conversation
  - Living Our Values Out Loud: Programs that Walk the Talk
  - Tools for Reimagining School Readiness
  - Stronger Together: Collective Impact and Climate Action Programming

- Recordings of WebJunction webinars can be found in the WebJunction Course Catalog.

Note: The number of views does not reflect occurrences when more than one person gathers to view together.