

Marigold Library System 2024 Conference



Save the Date!

We are excited to announce that the date for our annual conference is on **Wednesday, May 15!** The conference will be held at the Best Western Premier Calgary Plaza Hotel & Conference Centre. Keep an eye out for updates at marigoldconference.ca

Call for Session Proposals

The Planning Committee invites session proposals which may benefit, support, or inspire library staff and board members. The 2024 Marigold Library System Conference would like to highlight innovative work and programs that address diversity, intellectual freedom, staff management, board development, and more through collective and collaborative efforts of libraries and beyond.

The deadline for proposals is end of the day Friday, January 26th.

Apply Now!

Making a Difference Awards

Marigold Library System's Making a Difference Award recognizes and celebrates excellence and innovation in library service. The Award traditionally acknowledges a library and team who are proud of an achievement in an area such as programming, outreach, advocacy and public relations, partnerships, innovative use of technology, inclusion, equity, and diversity, and intellectual freedom. Please note that the evaluation criteria for this year has changed.

A winner and an honourable mention will be chosen by the Marigold Library Board Standards and Services Committee from a library that serves a population of less than 2,000 people and a library that serves a population of more than 2,000 people. Each winner will receive a certificate of recognition and a monetary award of \$1000 and each honourable mention will receive a certificate of recognition and a monetary award of \$500 to be used at the local Library Board's discretion.

As you reflect on 2023, what are some of the amazing initiatives, programs, and services that you offered at your library? We know great things are being done in Marigold libraries, and we want you to share them! **Apply now for the [Marigold Making a Difference Awards!](#)**

The awards will be presented at the [Marigold Library System Conference](#). Applications can be filled out using this [online submission form](#).

Deadline for award applications is January 26, 2024.

If you have any questions or you require a physical submission form, please contact your consultant.

Apply Now!

Marigold News



Ashley Sherman - Administrative Support

My name is Ashley and I am new to Marigold Library System! My position at Marigold is Administrative Support. I spent the last year at home soaking up every minute with my daughter. Before maternity leave, I was working at a busy accounting firm in Calgary but have since settled with my family in Strathmore and am excited to have a job close to home!

In my free time, I love reading, watching reality tv shows, and spending time with my husband, daughter, and two dogs.



Indigenous Information

Decolonizing Pledge

Decolonizing begins with individuals and then moves out into our communities, our countries, and the world. Here is a short list of steps anyone can take to begin the process. Please feel free to use any part of this document to create a pledge for your own library staff and patrons.

I will...

- **Discover whose traditional territory my home is on.**
- **Learn how to say a few words in the language of the local nation.** Simple to use, free apps to help you learn Metis, Nakoda, Cree, and Blackfoot languages are available.
- **Attend a cultural event such as a powwow or lecture.**
- **Learn about the residential school system and its long reaching impacts.**
- **Learn about the distinction between elected and hereditary leadership.**
- **Read about [Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action](#) and consider how they might apply in your life.**

- **Read the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(UNDRIP\)](#).** Don't be intimidated, it is thirty two pages long but the font is very large!
- **Read at least one fiction and one nonfiction book by an Indigenous writer.** There is an amazing abundance of Indigenous titles being published right now. My favorite for nonfiction is "Indigenous Writes" by Chelsea Vowell. "Indian Horse" by Richard Wagamese would help you learn about the residential schools as well as being a wonderful read.
- **Listen to an Indigenous podcast.** I like "Warrior Life" by Pam Palmeter but there are hundreds to choose from with a wide range of subject matter.
- **Look for and follow Indigenous social media influencers.** I follow many Indigenous content creators; one I really enjoy is @yllwhrseblackfoot on TikTok. I think it is important to say that Indigenous creators on social media are constantly attacked which can be painful to witness.
- **Educate myself about the many ways colonization is still impacting Indigenous people.**
- **Be willing to feel discomfort as I learn about Canada's history.**

Submitted by Rose Reid
Indigenous Outreach Specialist
Marigold Library System

Introduction to Blackfoot

January 16 | 4:00-5:30

Blackfoot is a language spoken by the Blackfoot people who are indigenous to the Great Plains region of North America. It is a part of the Algonquian language family, which includes languages like Cree and Ojibwe.

Learning Blackfoot can provide a deeper understanding of the Blackfoot culture and traditions. It allows you to connect with the rich heritage of the Blackfoot people and gain insights into their worldview.

In the Rivers to Success language series, you will learn the fundamentals of the Blackfoot language, including essential phrases, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Their skilled language instructor will lead interactive sessions and provide resources for further practice.

Register

From the Literary Community

Project Grant Funding for Rural Library Boards

For the second year in a row, the Ministries of Agriculture & Irrigation and Municipal Affairs are partnering to offer public library boards serving populations of 20,000 or less one-time project funding to build capacity and skills for work, learning, digital literacy, and support for new Canadians. The purpose of this one-time grant program is to support public library boards in rural areas to strengthen their service and/or program offerings to support their communities in becoming resilient and sustainable.

Access more information and an application form [here](#). The deadline for applications is **Friday, February 2nd, 2024** and project grants between Government and successful library board recipients will need to be signed and approved by March 31st, 2024.

If you have any difficulty accessing the information, please email PLSB at libraries@gov.ab.ca or call their main branchline at 780-427-4871.

eResources

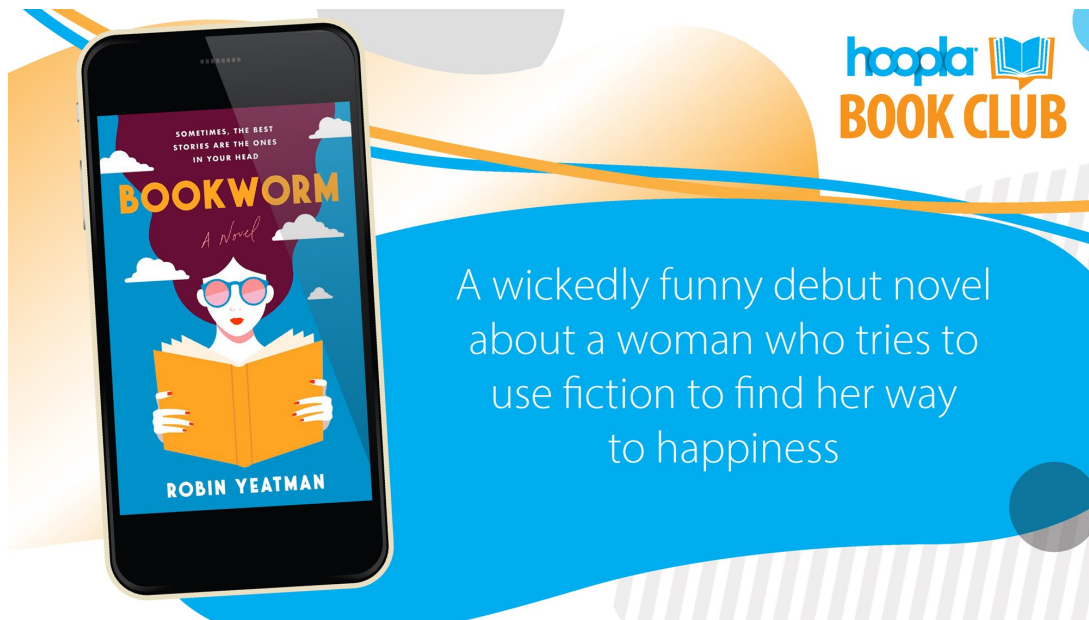
OverDrive/Libby Holds

Library Patrons can now place up to **40 holds** on OverDrive/Libby. Place your holds today!



hoopla Book Club

"Bookworm" by Robin Yeatman is hoopla's Book Club Spotlight in January and February! The hoopla Book Club always uses hoopla instant titles so there are never holds or late fees. Clubs of any size enjoy instant, simultaneous access to their choice of audiobook or eBook. Find social media graphics in the [Resource Center](#) to promote this title to your patrons.



Professional Development

Updated Leap Tutorials

Are you looking to refresh your Leap skills? The following Leap tutorials have been updated and can be accessed on Niche Academy:

- [Leap Circulation Basics](#)
- [Leap Patron Accounts Quick Overview](#)
- [Leap Searching & Placing Holds](#)

Find these tutorials and more in the **Leap, Polaris, and SimplyReports** category.

Centering Teens in the Fight Against Censorship

January 16 | 12:00-1:00

Attempts to ban books from classrooms and libraries disproportionately target stories for and about young adults, especially those reflecting historically marginalized communities. Public libraries have a role to play in empowering and educating teens and young adults to fight for their right to read freely. Join representatives from Brooklyn Public Library, Seattle Public Library, and Austin Public Library as they share strategies for helping teens to engage in intellectual freedom advocacy and make their voices heard.

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Verbalize the goals of the Books Unbanned campaign, and how they may be replicated in other libraries;

- Understand how libraries can proactively protect the needs and rights of youth regarding reading access;
- Recognize areas where teens need support and guidance in developing as community advocates and peer leaders; and
- Develop intellectual freedom resources and programming for young adults.

Register

Do You Get Legal Questions? Alberta Law Libraries Can Help!

February 15 | 12:00-1:00

Alberta Law Libraries (ALL) connect members of the public with legal information. On February 15 at noon, they are offering a webinar to introduce you to their system, highlight the most useful internal and open-access legal resources and websites, and explore ways of collaboration.

Located in courthouses and provincial buildings [across the province](#), Alberta Law Libraries connects Albertans with reliable sources of legal information. The libraries provide access to an impressive array of [electronic legal research tools](#) and a vast print collection that contains materials considered essential to the practice of law in Alberta. They are actively engaged in educating clients on the identification and effective use of authoritative information sources.

Discover all the services and legal information resources available to public library staff and all Albertans at [Alberta Law Libraries](#).

Register

Just for Fun!

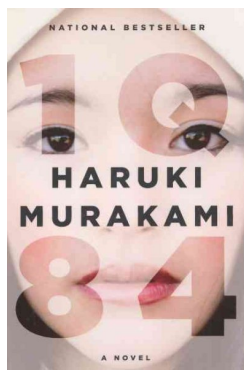
Quotes about Libraries and Librarians

Enjoy quotes about libraries and librarians? Then check out Librarianship Studies & Information Technology's post about "[Best Quotes About Libraries Librarians and Library and Information Science](#)"

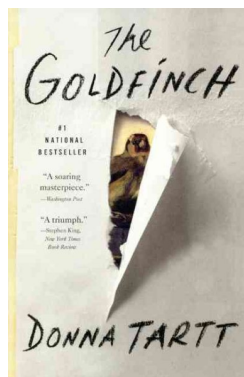


Extra Long and Extra Good Books

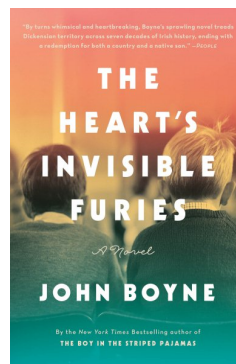
Want any excuse to not leave your house? Try one of these extra long books!
Click on the book cover for a full synopsis and to place a hold today.



925 Pages



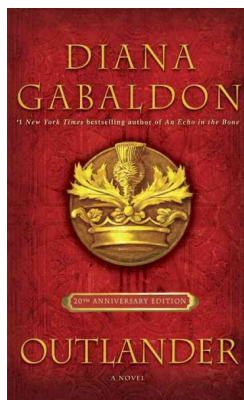
771 Pages



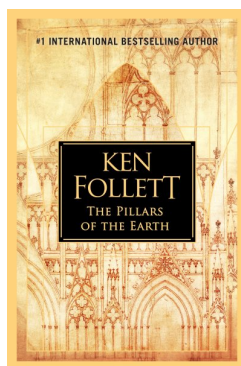
580 Pages



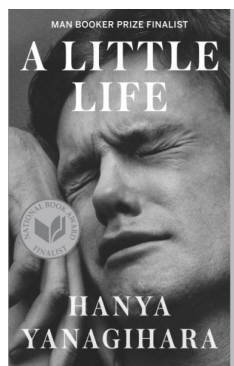
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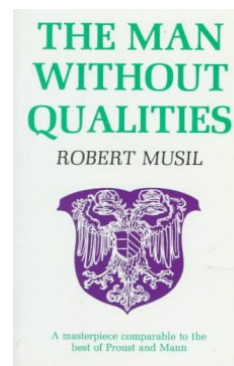
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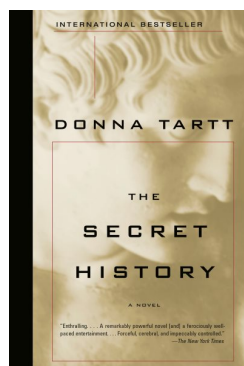
973 Pages



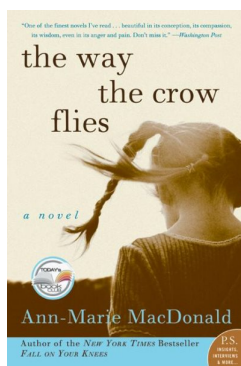
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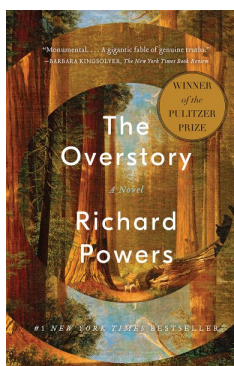
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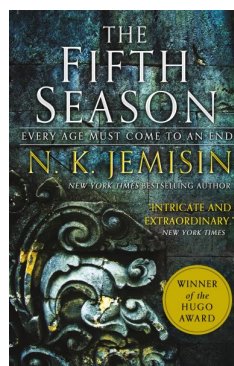
523 Pages



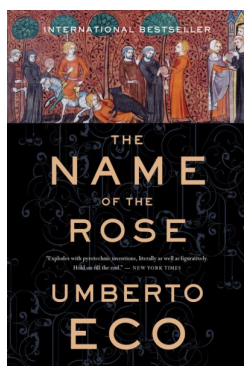
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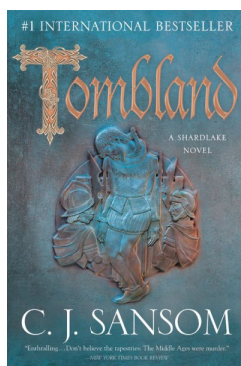
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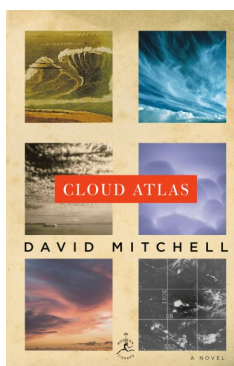
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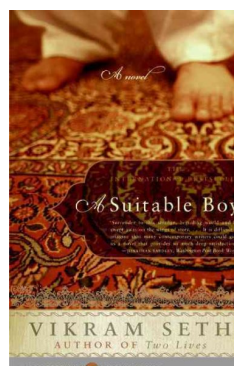
611 Pages



856 Pages



509 Pages



1349 Pages

Share with Us!

What's happening in your library? We'd love to hear from you!

- News or updates about your library
- Programs or events you'd like to share
- Pictures of your library or events at your library

Email your Consultant with any newsletter submissions you'd like to share with the Marigold Community.

Subscribe Now!



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