

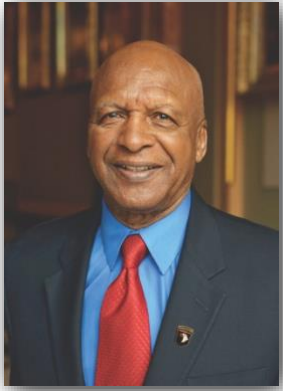


Illinois State Library

Annual Report — Fiscal Year 2019
(July 1, 2018 — June 30, 2019)

Jesse White Secretary of State and State Librarian

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I am pleased to present this annual report detailing the outstanding work performed by the staff of the State Library during state fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019). As set out in its mission statement, the State Library is committed to promoting excellence in information access and innovative services for government, libraries and the general public. Since 1839, the State Library has served as the principal library for Illinois state government officials and employees, and its role has expanded to include library development in Illinois.

More than 5 million items are housed in the State Library's collection, concentrating on government and public policy. The State Library also coordinates the Illinois Library and Information Network (ILLINET), which consists of approximately 4,300 academic, public, school and special libraries statewide. In working to promote and enhance library services throughout Illinois, the State Library awarded more than \$43 million in grant funds for library and literacy programs in FY19.

It is an honor to serve as State Librarian, and I applaud the work of the State Library staff in addressing the educational and informational needs of state government and the citizens of Illinois.

Jesse White

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Secretary of State and
State Librarian

Introduction

The mission of the Illinois State Library (ISL) is to provide leadership in information access and to support essential and collaborative library and literacy services. The ISL envisions a future where everyone is aware of the valuable role of libraries and has timely access to library and information services.

The ISL is a department of the Office of Secretary of State, a constitutional office. Advising the director and the State Librarian is the Illinois State Library Advisory Committee, which is appointed by the State Librarian and composed of librarians and citizens representing all types of libraries and the interests of library users throughout the state. The ISL has five divisions: Administration; Library Services; Talking Book and Braille Service; Library Development; and Library Automation and Technology.

Library Administration includes general oversight of the library and its programs, library accounting, contract and grant administration, library construction, and communications.

Library Services serves the information needs of state government and renders public access to government documents and the library's general collection. Materials in the extensive collection are accessible on site and loaned to libraries throughout the state as well as worldwide. The map collection at the ISL is the second largest state library map collection in the United States.

Talking Book and Braille Service provides Illinois residents who have temporary or permanent visual or physical impairments with access to a free talking book and Braille program from the Library of Congress.

Library Development promotes statewide library development services, which include library consulting, continuing education, library grant programs, regional library systems, public library trustees, and special programs and events. The Literacy Office coordinates grant programs and provides public information and technical assistance for literacy programs.

Library Automation and Technology provides electronic access to state government publications and the combined library holdings in the State of Illinois. The division is responsible for the Illinois Digital Archives, an electronic depository of historical and cultural materials held by Illinois libraries, and participating in national digital initiatives. It also manages the Illinois Document Depository Program (IDDP), modeled after the federal system. The ISL is the regional federal depository library and, therefore, receives and circulates much of the materials published by the federal government, as well as state government documents. The IDDP gathers all publications from state agencies, placing copies in ISL's permanent collection in both print and electronic formats.

State Library Grants

During state fiscal year 2019 (FY19), the State Library awarded grants in the following categories:

Illinois Veterans' Home Libraries — Awards totaled \$50,000. The grant is allocated through the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to support library services at veterans' homes in Anna, Chicago, LaSalle, Manteno and Quincy.

Literacy — Awards totaled \$4,537,042. Literacy grants are awarded to organizations/libraries in one of three areas. Adult Volunteer Literacy programs utilize volunteer tutors to provide one-on-one instruction for adults who want to improve their reading, math, writing and language skills. Penny Severns Family Literacy programs equip parents and their children, together and separately, to improve their basic reading, math, writing and language skills. Workplace Literacy programs allow the educational needs of working adults to be met, whereby basic skills and learning opportunities occur within the workplace and the employer agrees to a 50-50 funding match.

Public Library Construction — Awards totaled \$620,800. Public Library Construction grants are allocated, upon application and review, for remodeling for accessibility, mini-grants, new construction, or additions to or remodeling of existing facilities.

Public Library Per Capita — Awards totaled \$15,210,353. By statutory formula, grants are awarded to public

libraries, upon annual application, and provide up to \$1.25 per person served within the public library service area.

Equalization Aid Grants — Awards totaled \$248,011. Grants are awarded to public libraries that have a low tax base to support public services.

Library System Area and Per Capita — Awards totaled \$15,517,863. Grants are allocated to the three library systems (Chicago Public, Illinois Heartland and Reaching Across Illinois) on a statutory formula basis for population within the service area and geographic area served.

School District Library Grant Program — Awards totaled \$1,330,523. By statutory formula, grants are awarded to public school districts, upon annual application, and provide up to \$0.75 per pupil in the school district that has a qualifying library that supports its attendance center.

Chicago Public Library — Awards totaled \$1,288,800. This is a special appropriation allotted to the Chicago Public Library and is awarded simultaneous to its application for the annual Public Library Per Capita grant.

Blind and Physically Handicapped Program — Awards totaled \$365,449. Grants are awarded to support access to daily news, read by volunteers and heard only: 1) by obtaining a special radio receiver; 2) via password protected internet web stream or telephone; or 3) as secondary programming on local access television. The grants support daily broadcast of local news and information not generally heard on regular news broadcasts.

Technology Grants — Awards totaled \$5,836,114. Technology grants are allocated to libraries and library systems to provide the infrastructure for resource sharing, as well as discovery of and access to library resources throughout the world. Included in this grant program is support of the Illinois Library Delivery Service to facilitate physical movement of library materials.

Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) — Funding is utilized, in conjunction with state funds, to extend library services for Illinois residents by providing access to information and library services, to support lifelong learning and information fluency, and to address the diverse needs of Illinois residents. The majority of federal funding is allocated in conjunction with state funds to support programs, such as the Back to Books, Project Next Generation, and Library System Area and Per Capita programs, that are further delineated in this document (the amounts are included within that category and not here).



Project Next Generation (PNG) — Awards totaled \$526,790. Grants allow public libraries to establish educational, “after-school” programs that provide access to computers, technological devices and software to help students develop skills. Programs specifically target at-risk students and facilitate the use of mentors to encourage technology and library-based group projects.

Library Development Group Activities

In addition to grant review oversight, the Library Development staff was involved with the following initiatives.

Annual Certification — In compliance with Illinois statutes and administrative rules, annual certification is required of all library system members in order to retain system membership and eligibility for grants and programs administered by the Illinois State Library. In FY19, 1,794 library agencies statewide certified, including:

- 148 academic agencies.
- 640 public library agencies.
- 790 school agencies.
- 216 special agencies.

Delivery Service Operations — Resource sharing throughout ILLINET, the state’s multi-type library network, is supported by delivery service operations that facilitate the shipment and return of books and other library resources throughout Illinois.

The four delivery service operations are:

1. Chicago Public Library System (CPLS).
2. Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS).
3. Illinois Library Delivery Service (ILDS), which links delivery through a statewide backbone that encompasses the library system delivery hubs as well as academic libraries.
4. Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS).

Over 13 million library resources were transported statewide:

- IHLS transported approximately 4.4 million items.
- RAILS transported approximately 9 million items.
- ILDS transported approximately 764,831 million items.

ILLINET Interlibrary Loan & Reciprocal Borrowing

Ensuring that Illinois Library and Information Network (ILLINET) member libraries participate in resource sharing is a high priority for the Secretary of State's office. The percentages as indicated prove the dedication of ILLINET member libraries to resource sharing as it relates to interlibrary loan. FY18 statistics were reported in FY19:

- ILLINET member libraries requested over 12 million items on behalf of patrons of all ages. These requests were filled at 85.56%.
- ILLINET member libraries received over 13 million requests for items. Items requested via interlibrary loan were supplied at 83.7% on behalf of library users nationwide.

Illinois Library Service Areas Map — The State Library in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Revenue launched the Illinois Library Service Areas Map in FY16. The map is a web-based illustration of the public library taxing and service areas in Illinois. It features multiple layers, such as library service areas, school district and city boundaries. State Library staff works annually with the Illinois Department of Revenue to ensure that the map data is current and accurate. Access to the map has been distributed to all Illinois public libraries.

Illinois Literacy Newsletter — This quarterly publication provides Illinois residents with information on literacy initiatives, highlights grantee and learner accomplishments, and provides useful resources and a calendar of literacy related events and educational opportunities. The newsletter is distributed directly through email to 499 literacy grant program staff, and a weblink is provided in the Illinois State Library's monthly E-news.

Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) — IPLAR is a statutorily required annual statistical report, submitted by each ILLINET public library, that includes data for the previous fiscal year's activity in areas such as revenue, expenditures, circulation and programming. The State Library preserves and publishes data from the annual reports. The IPLAR is due to the State Library 60 days following the conclusion of each library's fiscal year. In FY19, 643 Illinois public libraries completed their IPLAR.

The State Library also participates in the Public Library Survey (PLS). The PLS is administered annually by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The purpose of the survey is to provide statistics on the status of public libraries in the United States. Statistical data regarding revenue, expenditures and collections is collected from approximately 9,000 public libraries with approximately 17,000 individual public library outlets in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and outlying territories. Public libraries are encouraged to use the collected data for comparative analysis at the regional, state and national level. During FY19, IPLAR data reporting on FY18 was submitted to the PLS for 624 public libraries, including 804 outlets.

Literacy Support Services:

- **Spotlight on Achievement and Service Awards** — The Secretary of State honored 20 Illinois residents at the Annual Spotlight on Achievement and Service Awards held at the State Library. Ten adult learners, chosen from more than 12,281 program participants, were nominated and selected for a Spotlight on Achievement Award based on their accomplishments in improving their reading ability or English-language skills. Ten tutors, chosen from nearly 5,381, were selected for a Spotlight on Service Award for their efforts in helping adult learners improve their literacy skills. Since the establishment of the Spotlight on Achievement Awards in 1994, 248 adult learners and 205 tutors have been honored.

- The Adult New Reader Book Club Collections are made available to grantees to conduct adult new reader book clubs. Each book collection contains 20 copies of 22 titles and a Discussion Leader Guide that contains background information about the author, book and discussion questions. Nineteen book discussions took place in FY19 using this resource.
- Family Literacy Story Kits include participatory literature-based activities that engage parents in educational experiences with their children. Twenty-five different children’s titles are available in 27 kits. Eleven story kits were circulated to literacy projects by the State Library.
- The Adult Literacy Volunteer Tutor Training Resource provides online training to prospective literacy tutors. The tutor training provides an interactive, web-based alternative for the local project’s tutor training requirements.

Literacy Outreach and Agency Collaboration — One thousand fifty-eight participants attended 15 presentations made by literacy staff through conferences or webinars. Monthly emailed updates were sent to 446 grant program staff members. A State Library staff member serves as a statutorily required member on the Illinois Community College Board Advisory Council.

Try-it! Illinois — Each year from October 1 to November 30, the State Library hosts Try-It! Illinois, a free statewide database trial. Try-It! Illinois offers library staff and Illinois residents an opportunity to use and evaluate a wide variety of electronic resources. Thanks to partnerships between the State Library and the participating electronic resource vendors, there is no charge for accessing these databases during Try-It! Illinois. There were over 16,906 successful requests made to the resources provided in FY19. More than 30 vendors participated representing financial, reference, genealogical and other types of databases.

Illinois Center for The Book — The Illinois Center for the Book (ICB) is a programming arm of the Illinois State Library and the Illinois affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Each State Center for the Book carries out the national mission to sponsor programs that highlight its state’s literary heritage and to call attention to the importance of books, reading, literacy and libraries. The mission of the ICB is to nurture and connect readers and writers, and honor Illinois’ rich literary heritage. During FY19, the Illinois Center for the Book sponsored numerous programs and partnered with like organizations to help extend its mission. The programs and activities in FY19 included:

- **Amaranth Apple Festival** — A celebration of Springfield’s own Vachel Lindsay in downtown Springfield on July 13 and 14, 2018. The ICB sponsored a Vachel Lindsay interpreter, Steven Duchrow, for the event. Along with the festival presentations, Duchrow also presented a one-hour brown bag lunch with a 30 minute Q&A in the Illinois State Library’s Illinois Authors Room on July 13 at noon titled: “Would I Might Rouse the Lincoln in You All! – Vachel Lindsay: Springfield’s Maverick Poet and Civic Activist,” Partner: Downtown Springfield, Inc.



- **Family Reading Night** — The Secretary of State’s annual Family Reading Night took place on Nov. 15, 2018. To celebrate, schools, libraries, and youth and literacy organizations across the state hosted a variety of programs. The theme was “Reading Takes You Everywhere!” Schools, libraries, and youth and literacy organizations hosted a variety of programs to participate in the statewide event. More than 3,800 posters and 321,000 bookmarks were mailed to Illinois school library buildings, Illinois public libraries and Illinois Secretary of State Literacy programs to help in their efforts. The materials were also made available for download from the ICB website. Program partners include ILLINOIS READS, a program of the Illinois Reading Council, and iREAD, a program of the Illinois Library Association.
- **Illinois Authors Directory** — This is an online resource to share information about Illinois authors, illustrators and photographers. During the year, author profiles were updated and 154 author profiles were added bringing the total number to 3,891 at the end of 2018.



- **Illinois Emerging Writers Competition** — Annual competition created by Secretary White to promote creative writing and recognize new poetic talent in Illinois. Three Gwendolyn Brooks poetry award winners received cash prizes and a plaque at an awards ceremony with Secretary White. The winners' poems were also submitted for review and publication consideration in Illinois journals — "Ninth Letter," "Quiddity," and "RHINO" along with "Poetic License Press" publications. Judges' feedback is also shared with any entrant.

The 14th annual awards ceremony was held at the Illinois State Library on Dec. 4, 2018. The Illinois Emerging Writers Competition Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award winners were:

- First place — Donna O'Shaughnessy of Saunemin for her poem "In the Kitchen They Danced."
 - Second place — Emma Morris of Evanston for her poem "MS57947."
 - Third place — Laura Bandy of Jacksonville for her poem "Knockout."
- **Letters About Literature** — National reading and writing program that encourages students to read a book and write a letter to the author reflecting on how the book changed their life or their views of the world. Judges select the state winners, finalist, semi-finalists and honorable mentions on three competition levels based on grade level. The state winners compete at the national level. Each first-place winner received a \$200 check and a plaque, while the winners' teachers each received a \$100 check to purchase books for their schools' libraries, as well as a certificate.

Over 4,675 students from across the state took part in the competition, making Illinois the highest participating state for the 12th year in a row. There were 1,261 honorable mentions, 454 semi-finalists and 95 finalists certificates issued.

The state awards ceremony took place at the Illinois State Library on May 9, 2019, with the Illinois Secretary of State. The following students were state winners:

1. Level I, Grades 4-6 — Ava Smithwick of Huntley wrote to author Robert Munsch about his book, "Love You Forever." A student at Heineman Middle School in Algonquin, Ava's letter was submitted by teacher and stepmother, Beverly Smith. Her letter was selected from over 989 other Level I entries.
 2. Level II, Grades 7-8 — Saranya Rao of Hawthorn Woods wrote to author Allie Benjamin about her book, "The Thing About Jellyfish." A student at Lake Zurich Middle School North in Hawthorn Woods, Saranya's letter was submitted by teacher Alba Pollok. Her letter was selected from over 1,890 other Level II entries.
 3. Level III, Grades 9-10 — Amatallah Mir of Hickory Hills wrote to authors Sana Amanat and G. Willow Wilson about their "Ms. Marvel" book series. A student at Aqsa School in Bridgeview, Amatallah submitted her letter on her own. Her letter was selected from over 1,796 other Level III entries.
*Amatallah's letter was also selected as the Level III National winner.
- **Illinois Literary Heritage Award** — This award recognizes and acknowledges extraordinary contributions to literary culture in Illinois. Illinois author Elizabeth Berg was presented with this award for her highly acclaimed "Writing Matters," one-day writing workshops which nurture emerging writers, and her popularity of being one of the most sought after speakers in the nation. This presentation took place on Sept. 13, 2018, at the Association of Rural and Small Libraries annual conference in Springfield.
 - **Read for a Lifetime** — Read for a Lifetime is the State Library's popular reading program for high school students that highlights contemporary and classic literature and promotes reading for pleasure. Students who read at least four titles from the list of 25 books selected for the 2018-2019 school year received a certificate signed by Secretary White. The book list changes annually and includes a mix of classic and contemporary literature. During the 2018-2019 school year:
 - 908 students and 42 adults from 46 high schools and public libraries read 5,817 books.
 - 34 high school seniors received four-year participation certificates.
 - 60 students read all 25 titles and four seniors read all 25 titles all four years.

The top five most read books in FY19 were “The Hate U Give” by Angie Thomas; “One of Us Is Lying” by Karen McManus; “Lord of the Flies” by William Golding; “Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda” by Becky Albertalli; and “Long Way Down” by Jason Reynolds.

- **Illinois READS** — The Secretary of State is the Honorary Chair of this annual statewide initiative by the Illinois Reading Council to promote the importance of reading for Illinois citizens of all ages and Illinois authors. The FY19 program kicked off on March 16, 2019, at Waukegan High School. Each year, 36 books written and/or illustrated by Illinois authors from six different age bands, from birth to adult, are selected for this reading list. The program officially concludes on Family Reading Night.

The ICB coordinator serves on the book selection committee. The authors and their titles selected for 2019 were:

- Birth-4 years: “Hope” by Matthew Cordell; “The World Never Sleeps” by Natalie Rompella; “What to do with a Box” by Chris Sheban; “Kitten and the Night Watchman” by John Sullivan; “The Forever Tree” by Terease Surratt and Donna Lukas; and “Ready, Set, Sail” by Meg Fleming.
 - K-2nd grade: “Through the Window: Views of Marc Chagall’s Life & Art” by Barb Rosenstock; “What Can A Citizen Do?” by Dave Eggers; “My Heart is a Compass” by Deborah Marcero; “Hey Black Child” by Useni Eugene Perkins; “Shark Nate-O” by Beckie Cattie; and “Auntie Yan’s Great Soybean Picnic” by Ginnie Lo.
 - 3rd-5th grade: “Earth Verse: Haiku from the Ground Up” by Sally M. Walker; “Dangerous Jane” by Suzanne Slade; “Stick Cat: A Tail of Two Kitties” by Tom Watson; “The Mortification of Fovea Munson” by Mary Winn Heider; “Field Tripped” by Allan Woodrow; and “The Cardboard Kingdom” by Chad Sell.
 - 6th-8th grade: “Out of the Wild Night” by Blue Balliett; “The Unsinkable Walker Bean and the Knights of the Waxing Moon” by Aaron Renier; “The First Rule of Punk” by Celia C. Perez; “Speechless” by Adam P. Schmitt; “Drum Roll, Please” by Lisa Jenn Bigelow; and “It’s Not Me, It’s You” by Stephanie Kate Strohm.
 - 9th-12th grade: “A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riot of 1919” by Claire Hartfield; “I am not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter” by Erika L. Sanchez; “Love, Hate and Other Filters” by Samira Ahmed; “How to be an American: A Field Guide to Citizenship” by Silvia Hidalgo; “Fatal Throne: the Wives of Henry the VIII Tell All” by Stephanie Hemphill, Linda Sue Park and Candace Fleming; and “American Panda” by Gloria Chao.
 - Adult: “The House of Broken Angels” by Luis Alberto Urrea; “The Great Believers” by Rebecca Makkai; “The Feather Thief” by Kirk Wallace Johnson; “The Girl from Berlin” by Ronald H. Balson; “Murder in the News: An Inside Look at How Television Covers Crime” by Robert H. Jordan Jr.; and “A Word for Love by Emily Robbins.”
- **Literary Landmark** — A national designation program to encourage the dedication of historic literary sites. On March 16, 2019, Ray Bradbury Park in Waukegan, Illinois, was dedicated as an official Literary Landmark. The dedication ceremony, held at 4:51 p.m. at the park, was the finale of the Illinois READS Book Festival hosted by Waukegan School District 60 and Waukegan High School. The ceremony included several distinguished speakers and Bradbury scholars. Before the unveiling of the plaque, the play “The Whole Town is Sleeping” from Bradbury’s “Dandelion Wine” was performed by the high school drama department. Program partners included Illinois READS, Ray Bradbury Experience Museum, Waukegan Park District, and the Waukegan School District.

The plaque was set into a boulder on the main entrance path to the park. It reads:
Author Ray Bradbury (1920-2012), born in Waukegan, Illinois, is renowned as one of the most celebrated fiction writers of our time and one of the most important figures in the genre of science fiction and fantasy. This park, where Bradbury played and frequently walked through to get downtown as a child, is located on the Waukegan River Ravine System and is not far from the Bradbury family home. It is described by Bradbury in several of his Green Town/Waukegan books, most notably the “113 steps” of the “Dandelion Trail” in his semiautobiographical “Dandelion Wine.”

- **National Book Festival** — This national celebration hosted by the Library of Congress brings together over a hundred best-selling authors and thousands of book fans each year. The festival took place on Sept. 1, 2018, at the Walter E Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The ICB highlighted Illinois author and Illinois Reading Council’s Prairie State Award Winner Aaron Reynolds and his book selection “Creepy Pair of Underwear!” at the Illinois table, as well as in the 52 Great Reads section of the Discover Great Places Through Reading map/brochure. Illinois Reading Council’s 2018 Illinois READS posters and bookmarks were also distributed at the table.

Continuing Education Programs — The skills and knowledge of the Illinois library workforce and literacy providers were enhanced as staff facilitated and participated in a number of continuing education opportunities held in-person or virtually.

- Illinois Heartland Member Day, September 2018: Library Service Areas Map presentation — 45 attendees; Illinois Public Library Annual Report and Public Library Per Capita Grant presentation — 40 attendees.
- Project Next Generation Mentors Sharing, Oct. 5, 2018 — 27 attendees.
- Illinois Library Association, Oct. 8-11, 2018: Elevate Preconference Leading with Purpose — 150 attendees; Delivery Table Talk: Illinois Public Library Annual Report Passive Programming — 50 attendees.
- Reaching Forward South, May 2019: Illinois Public Library Annual Report and Public Library Per Capita Grant presentation — 25 attendees.
- Directors University, June 2019: panel discussion featuring Public Library Per Capita Grant; Talking Book and Braille services; Illinois Public Library Annual Report; and Interlibrary Loan Traffic Survey — 75 attendees.

Adult Literacy programs were featured during conferences and webinars in FY19:

- Chicago Literacy Coalitions Grant Writing Workshop, November 2018 — 45 attendees.
- Northern Adult Education Conference, December 2018, two programs — 34 attendees.
- On the Road to Literacy, March 2019 — 209 attendees.
- Illinois Adult Educators Association, March/April 2019, four programs — 526 attendees.
- Enlace Grant Writing Workshop, June 2019 — 20 attendees.
- Five Adult Volunteer Literacy and Family Literacy informational webinars — 224 attendees.

Veterans History Project — The focus of the Illinois Veterans History Project is to create a permanent record of the names and stories of Illinois war veterans and civilians who served our state and country during war time, so that their contributions will not be forgotten. During FY19, library staff participated in a number of outreach events to promote awareness for the program.

- August 12 — staff displayed information about the Veterans History Project during Veterans Day at the Illinois State Fair.
- August 27 — staff visited the Illinois Veterans Home in LaSalle, Illinois.
- October 10 — staff hosted an hour long informational presentation about the program during the Illinois Library Associates Annual Conference in Peoria.
- October 18 — the ISL hosted its annual Illinois Veterans History program ceremony, attended by close to 200 veterans and their families.
- November 5 — staff presented information before members of the Quad County Hospice Program for Veterans in Pana, Illinois.

Targeting Autism: A Comprehensive Training and Education Program for Librarians — During FY19, the Illinois State Library provided two multi-day Train-the-Trainer workshops in partnership with Dominican University, one of which targeted participation from libraries in the Southwestern and Southeastern regions of the state. At the completion of the workshops, librarians had gained the skills to accomplish their goals in making their library services and programs more accessible for individuals on the spectrum. During fiscal year 2019, the Targeting Autism project also delivered five independent face-to-face trainings, presented at six conferences (two consortia conferences, two statewide conferences and one international conference), conducted one live webinar with another scheduled for September 2019, and provided 18 library consultations and four library site visits, educating over 424 librarians statewide. A fifth Targeting Autism forum, funded by the Illinois State Library, was held in May 2019 at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois. Topic included universal design and access; supporting the community through Neurodiversity Libraries; autism and human/civil rights; the need for autistics to be at the table when planning services; and ways that libraries might support the needs of families in the Latino, Black and Muslim communities. In

addition to valuable presentations by autistic librarians and self-advocates, John Elder Robison, internationally known author and Neurodiversity Scholar in Residence at William and Mary College, shared his experiences on turning childhood disabilities into adult gifts. Tom Iland, Distinguished Toastmaster presenter and author, provided insight on self-discovery for autistics.

State Library Operations Activities

The primary mission of Library Operations is to meet the information needs of state government employees and elected officials. In FY19, Library Operations staff members added over 2,580 items to the library's online catalog. Added materials included approximately 3,577 Illinois and 10,677 federal government documents in print, microfiche and electronic formats.

ISL reference staff addressed over 1,792 reference questions for state government employees and various researchers. Many library users continue to utilize the extensive map and plat collections. This year, over 272 maps were viewed and another 205 maps were scanned.

Resource sharing or net lending of materials continued in FY19, with 4,982 items shared externally with users at other Illinois libraries and state agencies. The ISL also exchanges materials nationally and internationally.

The popular eRead Illinois project is funded through a grant awarded by the Secretary of State and the State Library to the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) and the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS). The program circulated 739 e-book and 806 audio titles in FY19. State Library patrons (state employees and elected officials) and patrons from the Talking Book and Braille Service have access to the e-materials through their computers or hand-held devices.

Talking Book and Braille Service

The Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service (TBBS) continued to fulfill its mission as the liaison between the Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) and residents of Illinois who have a print disability. In cooperation with the U.S. Postal Service, books are mailed as "Free Matter for the Blind or Handicapped." Approximately 581,000 audio books were delivered to 16,694 patrons through the mail or via download from the Library of Congress' Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) program in FY19. The TBBS website was accessed by 82,274 times for information regarding TBBS.

Eleven Illinois Radio Information Service Stations provided local news and educational and informational programs to residents of Illinois via a unique radio station, telephone or internet streaming. The stations received a total of \$365,449.00 in grant funds.

Newsline, an electronic information service, was used by 1274 print disabled subscribers. Over 500 newspapers and magazines were accessed by a variety of methods, including using a touch-tone telephone, accessing content on the web, or downloading publications to a digital talking book player or MP3 player.

Five Readers Advisors answered 28,199 calls. They talked with prospective patrons, added new patrons to the service, changed patron information, answered reference questions and took book orders.

Library Automation and Technology and Government Documents

Government Documents — The Government Documents Section (GDS) of the Illinois State Library encompasses two distinct functions within the library — the Federal Depository Library Program, for which the Illinois State Library is the Regional Federal Depository for the State of Illinois, and the Illinois Documents Program.

As the Federal Regional Depository, the GDS oversees 50 federal depository libraries around the state. The State Library added 17,009 new federal items, 10,456 were online and 6,553 were tangible.

The Illinois Documents Program has the statutory mandate to receive and disseminate certain state publications to

the public through a public computer network — the Electronic Documents of Illinois database (EDI) — and to state documents depositories (15 ILCS 320/7(q)). To achieve this goal, the GDS works with state agencies that distribute state publications to deposit items into the State Library. For FY19, GDS received 625 volumes, 119 were distributed to the state document depositories. EDI added 9,293 documents with a total number of documents in EDI at 139,591.

Illinois Digital Archives (IDA) — IDA contains over 170 collections from all over the state of Illinois. IDA in total has over 516,404 items. Libraries and other institutions that are unable to host their own digital collections can find a home in IDA. IDA added new collections, including Centennial of the State of Illinois, Illinois National Guard World War I Maps, Gilman Lane: Frank Lloyd Wright Collection, and the George D. Rice Collection.

The State Library along with CARLI, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Chicago Public Library became a Digital Public Library of America Service Hub — The Illinois Digital Heritage Hub (IDHH). The committee was formed, and work continues on ingesting digital collections from Illinois into the Digital Public Library of America. The last ingest included 253,276 items.