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Celebrating 50 Years



This is an exciting time for the South Carolina State Library, as we gear up to celebrate our Golden Year since becoming a state agency! Our current building located at 1500 Senate Street was built 50 years ago; it was at that time that the South Carolina State Library also became a state agency.

Prior to 1969, the South Carolina State Library was known as the South Carolina State Library Extension Agency, which was formed in 1929 with

legislation that permitted counties, townships, and municipal corporations to establish public libraries, but there was no funding attached to that authorization. In 1934, the public library law was extended to permit regional library systems. The State Library Extension Agency hired a field agent, rented office space, and provided travel funds. The mission of the agent was the development of public libraries in the state.

From 1935 to 1943, the WPA initiated a statewide library project in South Carolina. Ms. Fanny Taber, Ms. Ida Bell Entreken, and Ms. Margaret Davies (head of the WPA) worked across the state in 1936 to lay the foundation for a statewide library program. During this time, the WPA established fourteen County Libraries and one regional library.

In 1943, the South Carolina State Library Extension Agency became the South Carolina State Library Board and the Legislature appropriated \$15,000 to the Board. By 1956, with the Library Services Act, a strong foundation of support for libraries had been established and thirty-eight counties had a library! Under Governor Robert McNair, the State Library Board became the South Carolina State Library and was recognized for the first time as a state agency. The South Carolina State Library building located at 1500 Senate Street was completed in 1969.

Our building was a beacon of hope for the future of South Carolina libraries to serve each community. Many similarities of service exist today as they did in 1969, with the primary differences being in delivery of those services. The State Library has always believed in equal access to information and it remains a cornerstone to what we do today.

The building has gone through many changes over the years. We have an exhibit on our first floor, which includes photographs and various items celebrating the history of the South Carolina State Library. We even received a Proclamation from Governor Henry McMaster designating October as a celebratory month for the South Carolina State Library.

The [anniversary celebration on October 3](#) was enjoyable with engaging speakers, building tours, and refreshments. Our keynote speakers were Jim Johnson and David Goble, who are both past Directors of the South Carolina State Library. We had over 100 people in attendance!

While the South Carolina State Library has gone through many changes over the years, our passion to library service remains steadfast. We are looking forward to our next 50 years!

All the best,

Leesa Aiken



SC Libraries

Inclusive Collections Webinar

If your library is similar to most, it probably has more books that misrepresent Indigenous peoples than books that provide accurate information about them. Here is your chance to break away from the majority. [Dr. Debbie Reese](#) is a tribal member of the Nambé Pueblo, a sovereign nation in the state currently known as New Mexico. She will host a webinar on October 22 at 2:00 p.m. to teach library staff how to analyze materials with Native content. Dr. Reese offers tips on selecting and deselecting books, shelving them, and revising development policies to make it easier to update collections. This webinar is free and will not be recorded, so [register today](#).

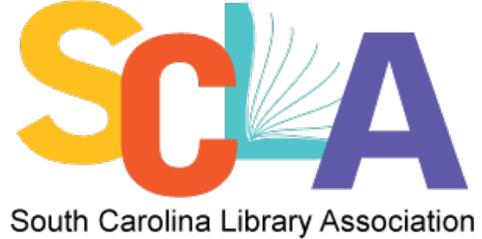


Tools of the Trade

Thanks to last month's [Read Eat Grow kickoff event](#), many of you are ready to host food literacy programs at your library. The [National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#) (NNLM) is one of many tools available to help you get started. The NNLM provides a variety of databases that can help with research, recipes, and program ideas. [Roz McConaughy](#), Assistant Director of Education and Outreach at the [USC School of Medicine Library](#), will explain how to navigate NNLM databases during a training from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on October 29 at the State Library. [Register to join us](#) and learn about resources that can help your community get to know Read Eat Grow.

Genealogy Webinar

Libraries are a first stop for new, as well as, seasoned family historians and local history researchers. Some customers are getting started, some are trying to expand their genealogy research and some are exploring the history of their churches and neighborhoods. Can we help all of these different research needs in our local libraries? It is possible with help from this webinar on October 31 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. [Richland Library's Debra Bloom](#) will teach you how to better navigate the online resources that make historical materials more accessible, but not necessarily easy to find. [Registration](#) is free.



State Employees

Proposal Writing 101

You have the plan, but what about the proposal? Learn the basics of proposal writing for your nonprofit organization during the [Proposal Writing Basics](#) class on October 18 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Information Services Librarian [Dawn Mullin](#) answers your questions about the key components of proposal writing and provides suggestions on ways to package the proposal, who should sign it, and where to find more information. Don't put off getting started. Register today and take the first step toward turning the plan into a polished proposal.



SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE DOCUMENTS
DEPOSITORY SYSTEM

Is Your Agency Twitter Worthy?

It is if you send us copies of your agency documents. As the official state depository of all state publications, the South Carolina State Library provides access to documents produced by state agencies and state-supported academic institutions. Physical publications can be found using the [SCLENDS catalog](#), while digital documents are made available through the [South Carolina State Documents Depository](#). These publications supply citizens with crucial information about state government, including statistics, annual accountability reports, and data on a wide variety of topics related to the state. Our collections also preserve the work of state agencies and the individuals who serve the state. But we can't do it without you. We need your documents. Please send document PDFs to

StateDocuments@statelibrary.sc.gov. Physical documents can be mailed to the library, or dropped off. When you send us your state publications, you may find your agency featured on a [Twitter](#) post using the hashtag #GovDocGeek.

SC Residents



A History Lesson

Visit our lobby at 1500 Senate Street in Columbia to see how library equipment and technology evolved during the last 50 years. The changes start as soon as you enter the building. Today, a motion detector counts patrons instead of the

old fashioned door tally clicker. One of those clickers is on display along with a sealing iron for books, an old fashioned card catalog, and copies of this newsletter that date back to the early 1930s. The collection represents a chapter in our story that we enjoy sharing with the people who we serve.

An Unforgettable Exhibit

Our traveling exhibit featuring the work of photographer Cecil Williams is on display at the [Etherredge Center Gallery](#) on the campus of [UofSC Aiken](#). Mr. Williams will be on campus for an author talk and book signing reception this Sunday, October 13

from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. [Watch this video](#) to learn the story behind his book *Unforgettable: Celebrating a Time of Life, Hope, and Bravery*.



From Our Collection



The term "throwback" is often used in popular culture. We invite you to tour the ultimate throwback of library history by viewing our [collection of historical photos](#) that shares the vision for our building from planning, through construction, and into the early days of service. We would not be here without the drive and dedication of the people who served during the early years of our agency. See their faces, view the history and remember that any vision is possible when people care enough to make it a reality.

Want more information about SC and its libraries?

It can be in your inbox every month.



Connect with Us

@SCStateLibrary | #SCStateLibrary



For more information on the South Carolina State Library, and a list of our board members, please visit the [About Us](#) section on our website. Visit our Digital Collections to [view previous issues of More](#). ISSN 1554-5768

