Monthly Report–September 2026

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

2026 KDLA Programming Conference, November 5-6 in Bowling Green

KDLA is pleased to invite library staff to the 2026 Programming Conference, taking place from November 5-6 at the Knicely Conference Center at WKU's South Campus in Bowling Green. The conference will include sessions for library staff serving every age group, as well as those who work in outreach programming or bookmobile services.

Early birds on Thursday, November 5 can attend one of three morning workshops: Family Literacy 101: Learning and Collaborating, Youth Services Public Librarianship: Foundations and Best Practices, or Notes from the Driver's Seat: A Bookmobile and Outreach Workshop. State Library Commissioner Denise Lyons will kick off the conference Thursday afternoon before attendees head to the afternoon sessions. Friday is a full day and includes a lunchtime keynote speech from Ava Bogard and Beth Davisson from Civics Bee.

Registration opens [DATE]. For more information, contact Amy Olson amy.olson@ky.gov or Hilary Writt hilary.writt@ky.gov.

Fiscal Year 2026 Audit Preparedness

Now that the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY 26) Year End Actuals have been calculated and submitted, many libraries are preparing for the audit. To avoid a place on the Department for Local Government (DLG) noncompliant list, KDLA offers the following guidance:

- Confirm your audit requirement for FY 26 under the Audit Requirement Tasks heading in the SPGE portal. The DLG uses reported budget year end actuals for both revenue and expenditures each fiscal year to determine whether an audit is required. If either category exceeds the statutory threshold, the SPGE will be expected to undergo an audit for FY 26, even if it previously qualified for an audit every four years.
- Schedule the FY 26 audit with your accountant as soon as possible. Auditors who are qualified to conduct GASB audits are in high demand and cannot guarantee completion by the June 30 deadline for SPGEs that wait until winter or spring to contact them.
- Insist on a contract that gives a concrete deadline for audit completion and allows for libraries to withhold final payment until the finished audit is delivered.
- Request a grant exemption from the DLG if the funds from a grant pushed your budget year end actuals over the statutory audit threshold.
- Confirm that you have uploaded the final report of the FY 26 audit to the SPGE portal. The DLG will reject any submission with a DRAFT watermark.

New Training for Library Leaders

KDLA will be developing training for library board trustees, library foundation board members, and Friends of the Library board members through our Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program (LB21) LEAD From Where You Are grant project. The training will focus on building the knowledge and skills needed to support effective library leadership and governance. To help us identify the topics and resources most valuable to you, follow this link to the Trustee Training Needs Assessment Survey or scan the QR code below. Your input will directly inform the development of this training.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

These services are made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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