

# READS

REFERENCE AND ADULT SERVICES SECTION

## December/January 2020-2021 Newsletter

### Welcome New READS Board Members

Get to know our newest executive board members: **Treasurer Jessica DeLangie**, Head of Technical Services at the Derry Public Library and **Public Relations Chair Jane Martina**, Reference and Adult Services Librarian at the Wadleigh Memorial Library. We thank them for joining our board and look forward to their contributions!

### Jessica DeLangie

Hello! My name is Jessica DeLangie, and I am the Head of Technical Services at the Derry Public Library. I have been working in libraries, across all departments, for 14 years. I have always loved, and utilized, libraries and still consider myself incredibly fortunate to work in them! Throughout this time, I have participated in several NHLA groups and am very excited to continue my support as the treasurer for READS.



### Jane Martina

Hello! My name is Jane Martina, and I am the Reference and Adult Services Librarian at the Wadleigh Memorial Library. Over the past ten years, I have worked in both public and academic libraries in a variety of departments. Serving as the Public Relations

Chair for READS will be my first time supporting the New Hampshire library community at the state level. I'm very excited to bring my love of libraries and everything adult services to this position and to connect my fellow NH librarians to information and each other.



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## Renew Your READS Membership Today!

Don't forget to renew your membership to READS at the same time you renew your NHLA membership. While, there are a million reasons to be a member of READS, here are a few of the biggest and best:

- First look at our bi-monthly newsletter full of programming ideas, reference resources, event reminders, and editorials!
- Reduced price Fall Conference and Spring Roundtable registration.
- Advance knowledge of new READS-to-Go Kits!
- Opportunities to serve on READS Committees and the Executive Board.
- Special event reminders and announcement emails curated by our fabulous Membership Chair!

So what are you waiting for? Renewing costs only \$5, which is probably less than that double shot soy caramel macchiato you're too afraid to go inside the coffee shop to get anymore.

Renew both your NHLA and READS memberships [HERE](#).

## Thank you for continuing to be a part of our READS family!

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### Welcome to the READS Repository!

In our last newsletter, we told you that something exciting was about to happen. Well, this is it! READS is proud to announce the soft-launch of our new one-stop shop for all your sharable content needs.

The **READS Repository** is a publicly accessible Google Drive featuring Programming, Social Media, and Technical Training resources, plus SO MUCH MORE, submitted from libraries across the state. This database is a living organism administrated by the READS Vice President, and will house everything from guidelines for virtual programming, to fun reading-themed memes for your social media pages.

Anyone who has created an Adult or Reference Service related document is encouraged to share it on this platform!

#### Submission couldn't be easier:

- Email your PDF, png, jpeg, or Word document, to [READSrepository@gmail.com](mailto:READSrepository@gmail.com)
- Use the subject line: Steal This Content!

Recently, we asked libraries to submit their Curbside and Contact-less Services Infographics, as well as their Phased Reopening posters. To view these, and explore the Repository, click [HERE](#) or go to: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wte-uMGNKQ6P7q1Tpv9XTLNwu71j96Us?usp=sharing>

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### Virtual Holiday Programming

While the holidays may look a little different this year, get inspired with these festive programming ideas to spread some holiday cheer!

## Create Your Own Holiday Centerpiece at the Abbott Library

- by Mindy Atwood, *Director*, Abbott Library

Everyone loves flowers, right?. The week of Thanksgiving, in cooperation with one of our local florists, the Abbott Library offered a virtual Thanksgiving centerpiece workshop. On the day of the event, 34 participants picked up a fresh bundle of flowers and a vase at the library and at the appointed time, everyone joined a teleconference. Attendees were provided guidance about how to cut and arrange the flowers by the workshop leader and by the end of the evening, everyone had their own uniquely beautiful floral centerpiece.

It was a wonderful opportunity to partner with a locally owned business, create something beautiful for the holiday and make for lots of smiling faces. The event was such a hit, we are already planning a December holiday centerpiece workshop! If you are interested in planning a similar event and have questions, please feel free to contact me at [director@abbottlibrary.org](mailto:director@abbottlibrary.org) or 763.5513.



## Adult Craft Class: Snowman Ornaments at the Nashua Library

- by Mary Ellen Carter, *Reference Librarian*, Nashua Public Library

The Nashua Library holds monthly Zoom craft classes for adults. Participants pick up materials for the craft at the library, and register for the Zoom class, where we chat and make the craft together. In November, we made simple, cute snowman ornaments using wooden beads, baker's twine, and paint. Eight people attended the Zoom class,

while an additional 42 people picked up the materials to make the craft on their own at home!

We generally have the same 5 or 6 people in each Zoom class. The November class had the highest attendance so far, which was nice. I think the social aspect of the class is the main draw, since so many people feel isolated and lonely being stuck at home during the pandemic. Even when the craft is a very simple one, we have a good time chatting about books, hobbies, our pandemic pastimes, etc. I know I get a nice boost from the time I spend with the class participants, and I think they do too!

One of the big challenges has been finding craft ideas that are engaging, fun, simple without being TOO simple, and don't require participants to have access to tools like hot-glue guns, pliers, spray paint, etc. The technology aspect is a challenge, too -- we know that there are many folks who aren't confident using Zoom, or don't have access to a computer or a stable internet connection, so they can't join us for the class. Hopefully, providing the materials and instructions for those folks to make the craft on their own is helpful for them. In the meantime, we're all looking forward to being able to have the craft classes in person again in the future.



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## Political Fact-Checking Resources

Many of us find ourselves fielding questions from patrons, not to mention each other, about what the current election controversy means for the presidential transfer of power

and potential POTUS initiated court proceedings. It can be difficult to find reliable, comprehensive, and unbiased resources for these sorts of political and legal queries. The ALA's 'Evaluating Information' LibGuide is a wealth of links to fact-checking websites and programming content that can help you provide patrons with accurate nonpartisan information:

**ALA LibGuide:** <https://libguides.ala.org/InformationEvaluation>

In addition, READS Membership Chair, and Information and Technology Librarian at Manchester Public Library, Sue Harmon, shared two resources that may help the general public unravel the ever-increasing political spin:

### **C-SPAN Video Library**

([c-span.org/about/videoLibrary](https://c-span.org/about/videoLibrary))

The C-SPAN Video Library offers more than 223,000 hours of video (just about everything that has ever aired on C-SPAN) and is updated on a daily basis. Historical content includes debates, speeches, rallies, and more. You also have the ability to create custom video clips and share them with others.

### **Politwoops**

(<https://projects.propublica.org/politwoops/>)

Politwoops displays tweets that have been published and since deleted by local and national U.S. politicians and presidential candidates. A product of the nonpartisan Sunlight Foundation, Politwoops follows members of the House and Senate from both political parties.

Hopefully, these resources will help us do our part to inform the public with facts and provide answers to questions from both sides of the aisle.