



100 YEARS

STATE LIBRARY *of* LOUISIANA

2025 STATE OF THE STATE LIBRARY

STATE LIBRARIAN MEG PLACKE

LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AGENDA

- **FY 26 BUDGET**
- **LOCAL LIBRARY UPDATES**
- **STATE LIBRARY UPDATES**
- **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

FY26 BUDGET

STATE FUNDING

\$5.3 million

INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS

\$821,436

FEDERAL FUNDS

\$3.5 million

SELF-GENERATED FUNDS

\$90,000

TOTAL BUDGET

\$9.7 million



LOCAL LIBRARY UPDATES

NATCHITOCHEs

2024 Go Natchitoches award for Excellence in Public Services

OUACHITA

Groundbreaking for new main branch

ST. JAMES

Public Library Association funding (\$9,000) to increase digital literacy

ST. JOHN

First Excel High School graduate (virtual high school program); new Reserve Branch

TERREBONNE

New South Regional Branch

ASCENSION

Donaldsonville branch ribbon cutting

AUDUBON REGIONAL

Collect oral histories for Clinton bicentennial

CALDWELL

Ribbon cutting for expansion

CONCORDIA

Main branch renovation ribbon cutting

EVANGELINE

Basile branch groundbreaking

JEFFERSON

75th anniversary celebration

AND MUCH MORE ...



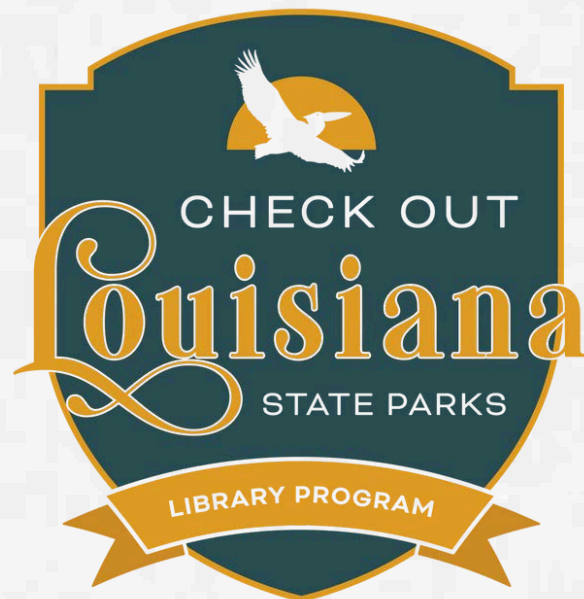
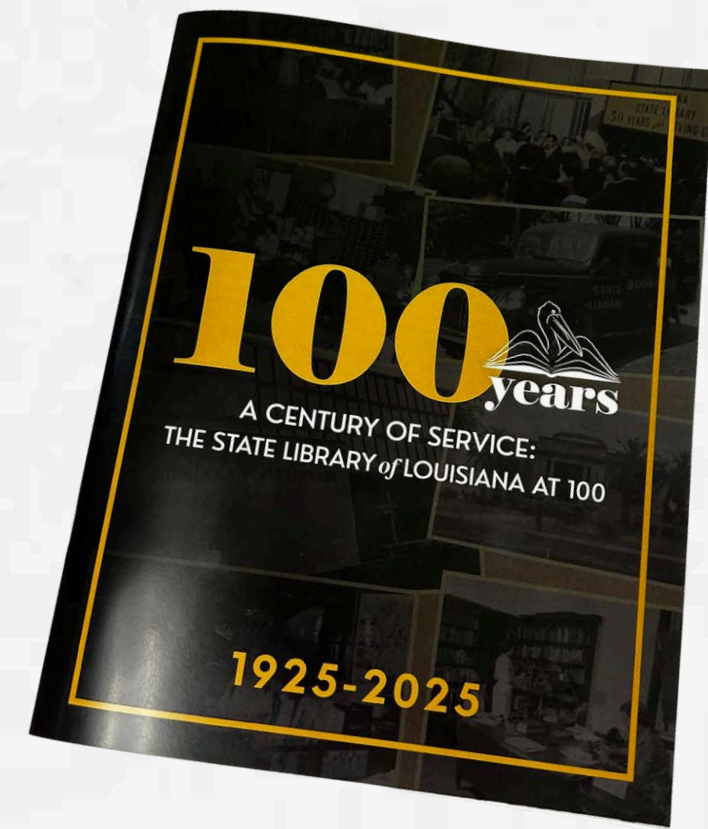
2024-2025 STATE LIBRARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



STATE LIBRARY UPDATES

100TH ANNIVERSARY

- History book, social media posts, celebration, traveling exhibit



CHECK OUT LOUISIANA

- Statewide pilot program among State Library, State Parks, and 19 public libraries



STATE LIBRARY UPDATES

SEMINAR CENTER UPGRADES

- New carpet, fresh paint, new furniture



COMING SOON: LITERACY LAB

- In planning phase now
- Replaces former bookstore

STATE LIBRARY UPDATES



NEW SERVICES

- Mometrix eLibrary
- Scholastic BookFlix,
ScienceFlix, TrueFlix

STATE LIBRARY UPDATES



STATE AGENCY OUTREACH

- Virtual & in-person meetings with state agencies to increase knowledge of State Library & our services

STATE LIBRARY UPDATES



Louisiana Library Connection

lalibcon.state.lib.la.us



Homework Louisiana

HomeworkLa.org

NEW LOOKS

- New logos for Louisiana Library Connection, Homework Louisiana
- Launched refreshed HomeworkLa.org
- Refreshed Louisiana Library Connection coming soon



CENTER FOR THE BOOK

Fourth annual Women's History Month program

- “The Dreamy Dreamer: Ellen Gilchrist’s Life in Stories”
- Presented virtually by Tracy Carr, author of the forthcoming *Conversations with Ellen Gilchrist*

Sixteenth annual National Poetry Month program.

- April 17, Noon, State Library Seminar Center
- Hosted by 2023-2025 Louisiana Poet Laureate Alison Pelegrin

CENTER FOR THE BOOK

National Book Festival

- Saturday, September 6
- Washington, D.C.
- Louisiana Center for the Book will participate
- Great Reads from Great Places selections to be named soon



LOUISIANA BOOK FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING READERS, WRITERS, & THEIR BOOKS

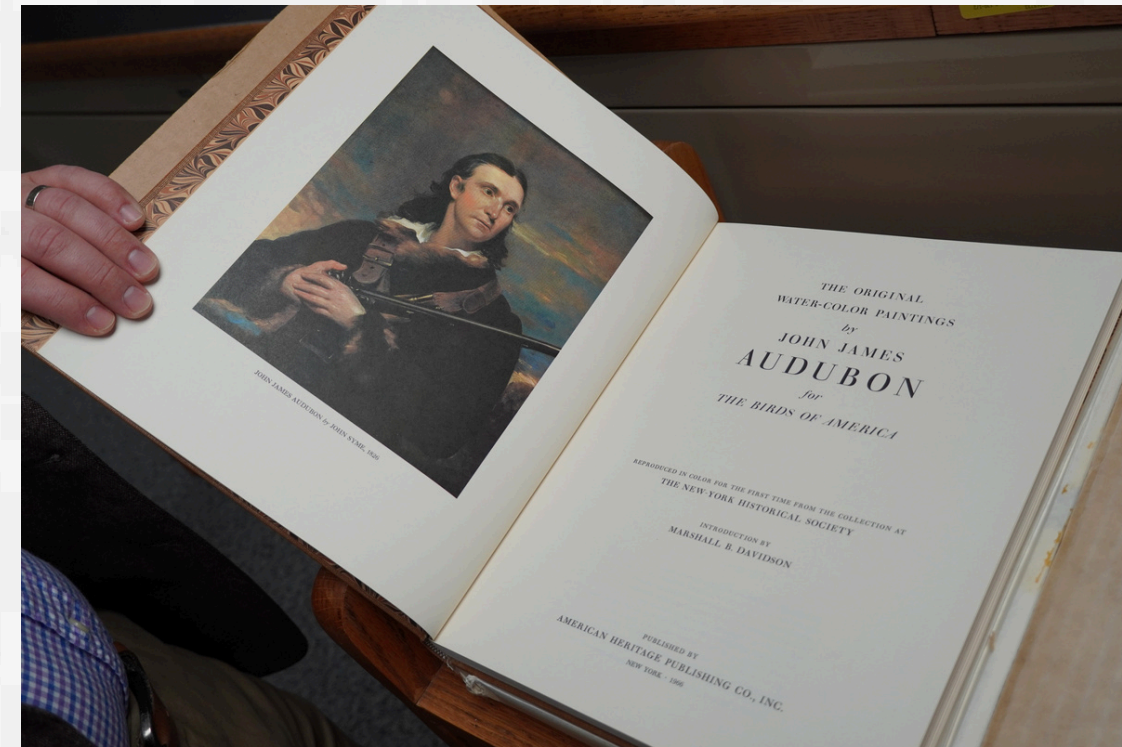
- Saturday, November 1
- 21st festival
- Expecting 200-plus authors
- 26th Louisiana Writer Award ceremony
- 2025 artwork by Pineville-based artist Matt Dawson



LOUISIANA COLLECTION

2024 DONATIONS

- Valerie Martin papers
- 1966 prints of John James Audubon paintings
- Rolland Golden art exhibit brochures from 1960s-2010s
- Historic materials from St. Martinville and St. Martin Parish
- Lincoln Parish Library donation of Louisiana and genealogical materials
- 1860 Surveyor General map of Louisiana

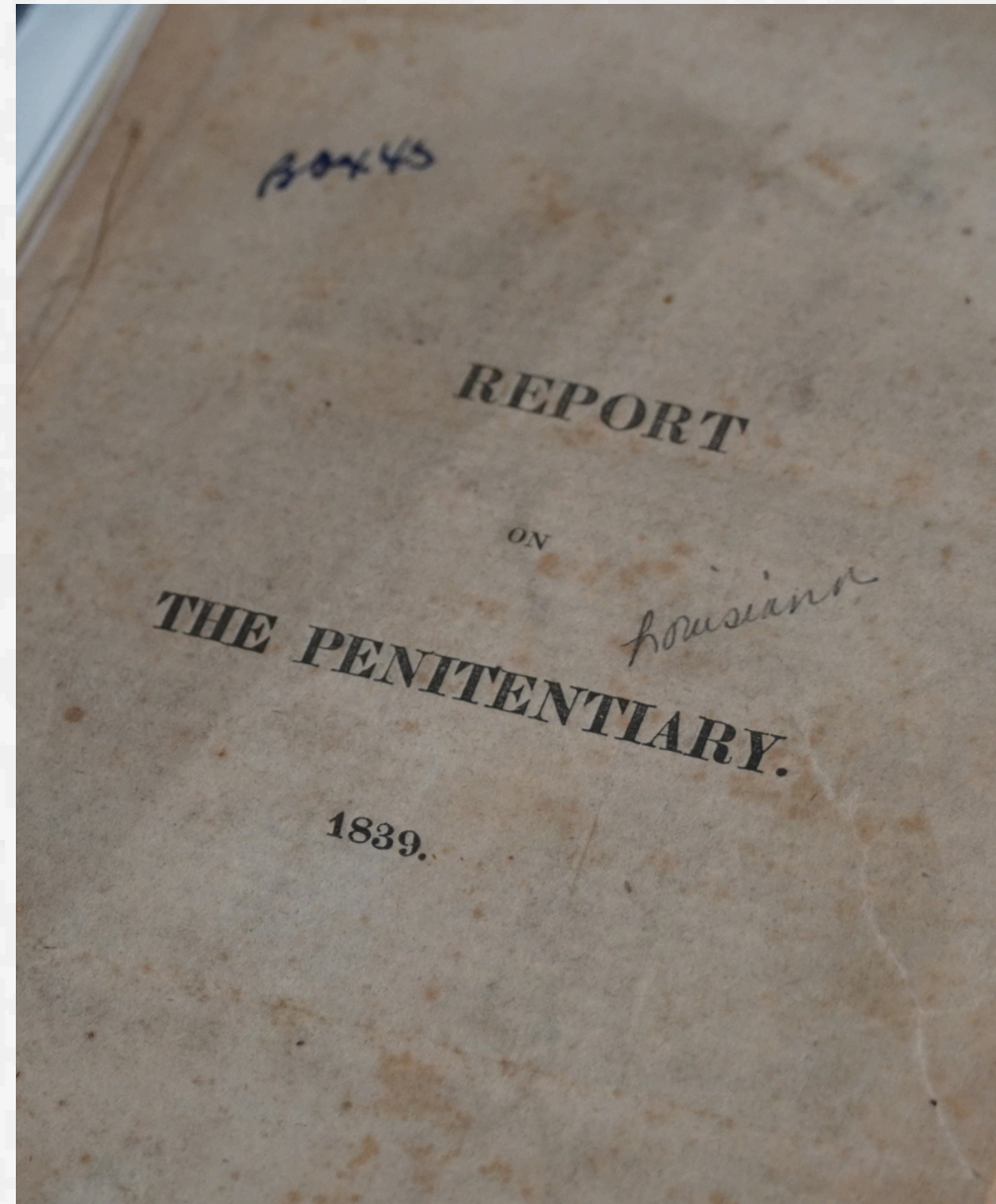


- Johnette Downing archives
- Baton Rouge *Weekly Advocate*, September 1878-June 1879

LOUISIANA COLLECTION

2025 DONATIONS

- 850-plus Louisiana postcards from the University of Kentucky Libraries' Special Collections Research Center
- 1839 report on the Louisiana State Penitentiary



2024-2025 WORK

- Processed 19,660 photographs and negatives
- Added 4,301 ephemera items
- Added 19,000 items to Louisiana Digital Library

TALKING BOOKS & BRAILLE LIBRARY



Talking Books & Braille Library

- 5,467 patrons from birth to 101 years old
- 207,681 audiobooks, magazines, large print books, and players distributed last year
- 36 children in Crib to Crayons
- All of TBBL's patrons switched to Duplication on Demand
- 5,000 NLS patrons have access to the Alexa Skill "My Talking Books"
- Coming soon from NLS: DA2 digital audio players

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

NEW STAFF SINCE LAST YEAR:

- Emily Davison – Admin Coordinator
- Brittany Whitfield – Library Consultant (CE)
- Katelin LeBleu – Library Consultant (Youth Services)

OUTREACH

- Outreach to correctional facilities now on a regular schedule
- Each state facility receiving an annual training visit
- Annual Report (statistics) due at the end of March

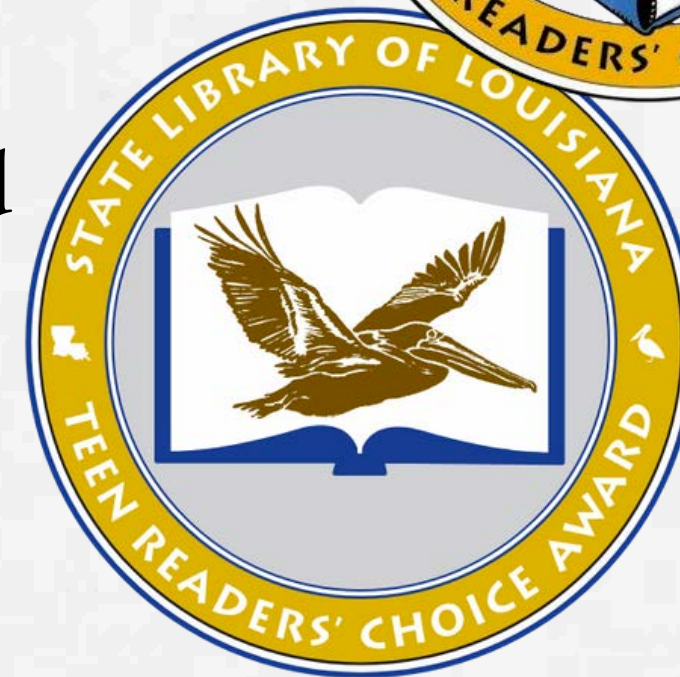
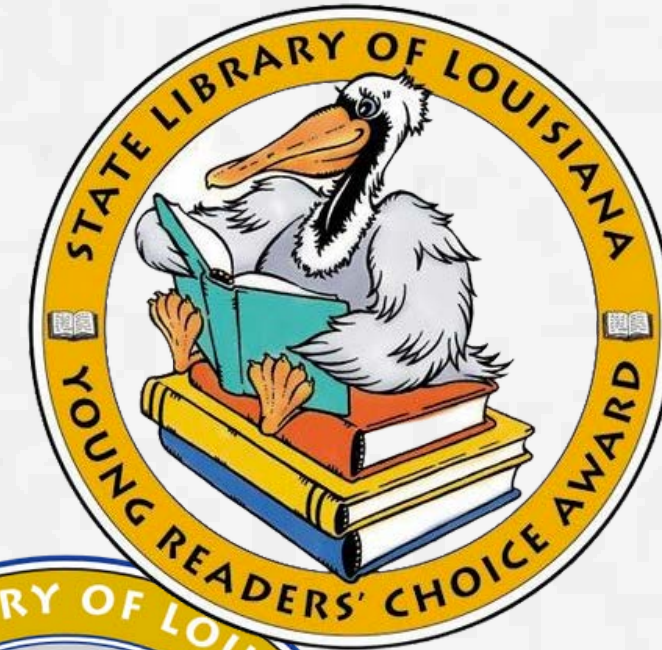
REFERENCE

- Provided both in-person and online training for public library staff
- Provided reference services for inmate facilities statewide and assisted library staff training for inmates at state facilities



READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

- K-2 list launched last year
- Almost 9,300 K-2 participants (9,274)
- Total amount of books read more than doubled from 39,029 to 80,654
- Monica Arnaldo, first K-2 winner, attended 2024 Louisiana Book Festival
- Accepting votes through May 1



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

2025 TECH FEST

- Friday, May 2
- Keynote: Kay Hall, VP of Government Sales/E-rate, Uniti Fiber.
- “The Value of Your Network and Funding Sources”
- Discuss trends in library technology, ways to overcome challenges of current technology trends, funding
- Registration open now

STATE LIBRARY I.T. UPGRADES

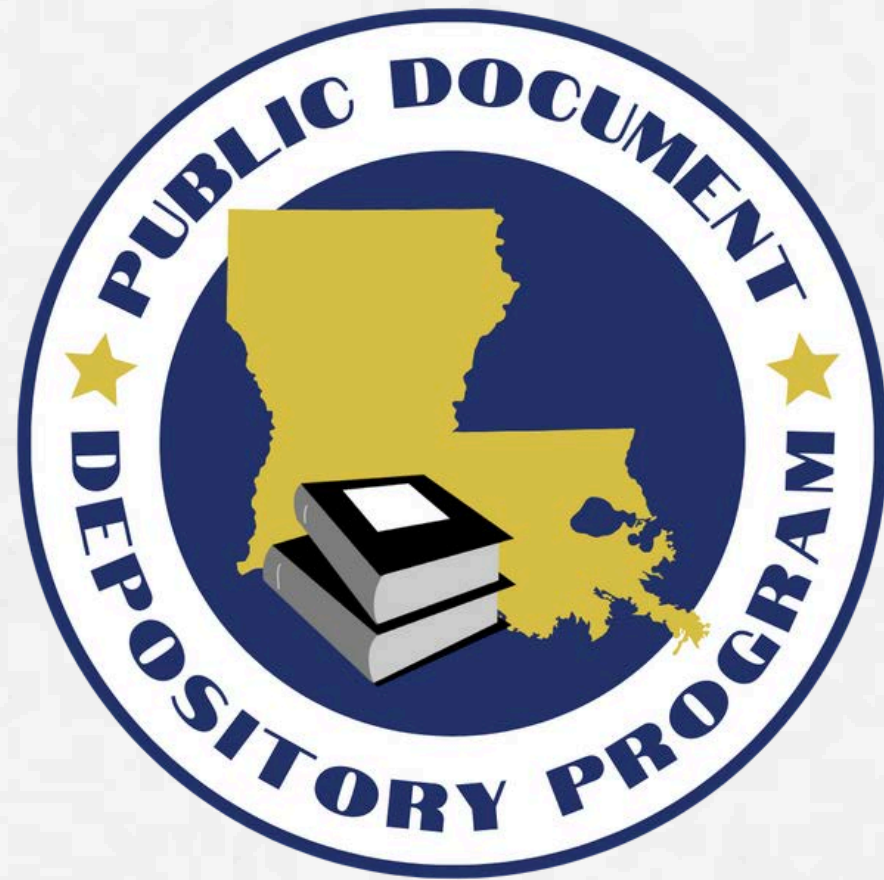
- New phone system
- New location for server room
- Upgrading all staff computers



CATALOGING & ACQUISITIONS

- Performed catalog maintenance on 6,164 records
- Created 514 new bibliographic records
- Created 4,051 new item records
- Withdrew 13,715 items
- Checked in 7,556 serials
- Uploaded 7,513 items to the digital archive
- Department Manager and Original Cataloger taught the seventh year of the LSSC Cataloging & Classification course
- Original Cataloger left and moved to Australia
- Library specialist in Recorder's Office graduated with master's in information science and was hired as new Original Cataloger

RECORDER OF DOCUMENTS



- Received 6,011 print documents
- Shipped 4,479 print documents
- Received 7,107 digital documents
- Producing and posting the “State Docs 101” video
- Updating and publishing 2024 edition of Handbook for Agency Liaison Officers
- Updating and publishing 2024 edition of Handbook for Depository Libraries
- Updating our in-house Recorder of Documents and Documents Specialist procedural manuals

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

- What more can we do for you?
- What can we do better?
- What should we stop doing?
- Grade our services, response times
- Share your vision with us



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