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PUBLIC LIBRARIES ONLINE WEEKLY


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Trending...The Latest From PLOnline

- Universities across the country are changing the landscapes of their libraries. Three years ago, when I began the MBA program at my undergrad alma mater, Northwest Nazarene University, it opened its remodeled library. I was flabbergasted by the changes. Gone was the traditional educational library in which I worked as a student for two years. In fact, the only thing that remained of it was its skeleton, integrated into a mock-Tudor student union and study center hybrid. While I was one of many alumni who were thrilled at the changes, I also understood that there was a need for them. The evolutions in both education delivery and the students seeking higher education are necessitating these changes. Read "[New University Libraries Encourage a More Social Experience.](#)"


- Public libraries are inviting public spaces that can offer both privacy and solitude. Unfortunately, this also makes them the perfect spot for those seeking a place to use illegal drugs. According to the Associated Press, the characteristics of public libraries leave them vulnerable to these types of situations, "They're free of charge and open to everyone, and no transaction or communication is required." As the country is in the midst of a heroin/pain-killer epidemic, libraries have lately seen cases of drug users overdosing or passing out in library spaces. Read "[Libraries See Increase in Drug Overdoses.](#)"
- Imbolo Mbue's transfixing debut novel, *Behold the Dreamers*, details the lives of Jende and Neni, two Cameroonian immigrants who have moved to New York to pursue the American Dream. The story begins in 2007 when Jende takes a chauffeur job with Clark Edwards, an executive at Lehman Brothers. More financial opportunities arise as Neni begins to work for Cindy, Clark's wife, and the two families' lives are soon deeply intertwined. When Lehman Brothers collapses, all four characters' ways of life are threatened and they each begin to buckle under the financial pressure. Mbue's



Book Review hailed *Behold the Dreamers* as a “capacious, big-hearted novel” while *The Washington Post* praised Mbue as a “bright and captivating storyteller.” Read "[Imbolo Mbue on Being A Reader Who Writes and Redefining the American Dream.](#)"

- [We the Voters](#) debuted its second collection of 10 short films on October 12, doubling the number of free films available for educational and community use. These 5-7 minute animated, fictional, and documentary films address a wide range of nonpartisan issues related to voting, democracy, elections and US governance, with free accompanying educational materials developed by [PBS Education](#). Read "[Great Resources for Election 2016.](#)"

New FYI Podcast

Building and Operating a Digital Media Lab with Jeffrey Fisher – FYI Podcast, Episode 15

We talk with Jeffrey P. Fisher, author of the latest book in PLA's 'Quick Reads' series, "Building and Operating a Digital Media Lab," about planning your library's digital media lab--including creating a vision, selling the concept, budgets, staffing, programming, and more. [Check it out here!](#)



Midweek Media MashUp

A Choice Selection of Links for Your Perusal

- [Let Your Workers Rebel](#)
- [How Audiobooks Can Help Kids Who Struggle with Reading](#)
- [Creating Tech Blue Collar Jobs](#)
- [Binge Reading Poldark](#)
- [What the News Media Can Learn From Librarians](#)
- [American Writer Wins Man Booker Prize](#)

Ask Us Anything

If you have questions about PLOnline, *Public Libraries*, PLA or anything else, send them in. Just hit reply and send your question on its way! We'll get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for reading!

50 E Huron
Chicago, IL 60611
Contact:
Kathleen Hughes,
khughes@ala.org

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