

HAWAII STATE LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

402 Kapahulu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815, (808) 733-8444, 1-800-559-4096 Toll Free

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS FROM LBPD-HONOLULU

Your staff here at LBPD, and our Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) administration hope this finds you enjoying the summer season. It sure has been busy starting with milestone events in late Spring. LBPD staff member Terence Rose attended graduation ceremonies at UH-Manoa where he presented his dissertation entitled “The Design, Development, and Deployment of the National Library Service’s Digital Talking Book Program as a Socio-Technical Process,” and received his PhD in Communication and Information Sciences. Congratulations Terence! TA Director Matthew Brown continued his education while attending the annual National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii convention in May, a wonderful gathering that included special guest speakers, inspirational talks, and a moving keynote address by Adelmo Vigil, President, NFB of New Mexico. Congratulations to Virgil Stinnet and the NFB Hawaii team for a superb event. Together, we dove into the Summer Reading Challenge with this year’s theme of “Oceans of Possibilities,” and LBPD readers were awash in hours of quality book time. Rising like an island in the middle of a Sea of Reads, Governor Ige firmly planted the seed for future readers by signing Senate Bill 2214 establishing a statewide digital literacy effort with the State Librarian, Stacey Aldrich, and HSPLS in a leadership role. The future is filled with possibilities, and your LBPD team is excited to be voyaging ahead with you.

FROM WASHINGTON

The National Library Service (NLS) has some wonderful new opportunities that you may not know about. NLS is hosting quarterly Patron Corner virtual events where library users can learn more about various services directly from NLS staff. Upcoming Patron Corner events will be held on the second Monday of the third month each quarter and are scheduled for September 12, 2022; December 12, 2022; and March 13, 2023. Here's a link to these Zoom meetings – same link for each meeting:

<https://loc.zoomgov.com/j/1600983343?pwd=VW9tRWtwY3BsdHRac0s2MmJkN0RCZz09>

Another exciting new program from NLS is the Braille on Demand service. This pilot program allows registered users to request one hard copy braille book per month be embossed and shipped directly to them to keep for their personal use. Any e-braille book listed in BARD is available for this program, that's over 16,000 titles. As a pilot program, requests may be made by completing the Survey Monkey request form at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLSbrailleondemand>, by calling us here at LBPD at 808-733-8444, or by contacting NLS directly at nlsref@loc.gov.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE

Many of you have asked about updates on the braille e-readers and when they might be available. NLS is making progress on their procurement and distribution efforts, but supply chain issues have slowed the process. We're hoping these devices will be available in Hawaii in the fall. Some of you have also asked about the new version of the digital talking book machines and when they might arrive here. Earlier in the summer we learned that the program is

still in the test and evaluation stage incorporating feedback from some field tests and assessments. Roll out date is still to be determined.

ELECTIONS

The Hawaii State Office of Elections wants you to remember that the 2022 General Election will be held on November 8. Here are some key reminders:

1. Check that your voter registration is current. Visit elections.hawaii.gov or call (808) 453-VOTE (8683) to verify that your voter registration, including mailing address, is accurate.
2. Hawaii is a vote-by-mail state. As a registered voter, your General Election ballot will conveniently arrive in your mailbox. Hawaii voters are automatically mailed a ballot for every election.
3. Vote your ballot. You can expect to receive your ballot by October 21 for the General Election.
4. Sign your ballot return envelope. The return envelope must be signed for the ballot to be counted.
5. Ballots must be received by 7:00 pm on November 8. Voted ballots can be returned by mail or dropped off at a Voter Service Center or Ballot Drop Box within your county.
6. Sign up to receive ballot alerts. Avoid missing the ballot return deadline by signing up for free ballot alerts! Visit hawaii.ballottrax.net or call (808) 453-VOTE (8683) for assistance with enrolling.
7. Assistance is available. If you're in need of assistance with casting your ballot, consider the following accessible options:
 - Visit a voter service center to cast your vote using accessible voting equipment.

- Request an alternate format ballot and mark your ballot using your personal compatible device. Voters with special needs may opt-in for the electronically transmitted ballot through the Online Voter Registration System or by submitting a Voter Registration Application.

Remember, you have the right to ask for assistance in the registration and voting process. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call at (808) 453-VOTE (8683).

STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING SURVEY

Please consider taking a moment to respond to the State of Hawaii's Executive Office on Aging survey, conducted in partnership with the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Community Services for Elderly Affairs. Your feedback as either a senior resident or a caregiver is important to these and other government agencies in providing services. The resident survey may be found at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OpenA_EAD

For caregivers there is a separate survey at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OpenCG_EAD.

POSTAL FEEDBACK

The Library of Congress continues to work with USPS to improve services for people receiving NLS materials. If you have experienced notably good service, or if you have concerns about how your reading materials are being delivered and picked up, please give us a call or send an email so we can relay your observations. The email address here is

olbcirc@librarieshawaii.org, and our phone number is 808-733-8444.

READERS' UPDATE

Just a quick reminder that Talking Book Topics continues to be available through BARD and BARD Mobile as well as online at www.loc.gov/nls/tbt. For those who prefer to receive an audio cartridge of Talking Book Topics, please contact us at the library for assistance. Here are some new titles to wrap up the summer and in advance of Hispanic Heritage Month starting in mid-September:

Animals on the Inside: A Book of Discovery and Learning, by Andres Llamas-Ruiz (BR 11238) (J) – Illustrates and describes the anatomy of a variety of animals, including insects, fish, reptiles, birds, mammals, and dinosaurs. Explains the functions of the elephant's trunk, the kangaroo's pouch, and the camel's hump. For grades 4-7.

Big Summer, by Jennifer Weiner (BR 23144) - Years after the fight that ended their friendship, plus-sized Instagram influencer Daphne Berg is shocked when her high school frenemy Drue Cavanaugh asks her to be the maid of honor in her society wedding. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller

Outsider, by Stephen King (BR 23150) - When the body of an eleven-year-old boy is found, all the evidence points to one of Flint City's most popular citizens, local teacher Terry Maitland. Terry has an ironclad alibi, which leaves Detective Ralph Anderson wondering how a man could be in two places at once. Violence and strong language.

Violeta, by Isabel Allende (DB 107625) - Violeta is born to a well-off family in 1920, and lives through the tumult of the twentieth century.

She tells her story in letters to someone she loves above all others, recounting times of devastating heartbreak and passionate affairs, poverty and wealth, terrible loss and immense joy. Unrated.

Of Women and Salt, by Gabriela Garcia (DB 102766) - Jeanette is a recovering drug addict and daughter of a Cuban immigrant who wants to know more about her mother Carmen's family. Alternating with that family history in Cuba is Jeanette's present-day struggles with her addiction while she tries to help a neighbor in trouble with ICE. Unrated.

Coco (DVD 00003) - Aspiring musician Miguel, confronted with his family's ancestral ban on music, enters the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather, a legendary singer. Rated PG, family oriented, includes descriptive audio.

In the Heights (DVD 00195) - Film version of the Broadway musical in which Usnavi, a sympathetic New York bodega owner, saves every penny every day as he imagines and sings about a better life. Rated PG-13, drama, romance, music, includes descriptive audio.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

LBPD will be closed on the following holidays:

- Friday, August 19 – Statehood Day
- Monday, September 5 – Labor Day
- Tuesday, November 8 – Election Day
- Friday, November 11 – Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 24 – Thanksgiving Day
- Monday, December 26 – Christmas Day (state observed)

This newsletter was produced by the staff of The Hawaii State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled. If you have any questions or comments, please contact our Managing Librarian. Email matthew.brown@librarieshawaii.org or call 733-8444.