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## LETTERS TO LIBRARIES ONLINE

State Library of Oregon



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### AGENCY NEWS

## State Library Anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement and Goals

The State Library Board approved the State Library Anti-racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement and Goals at their January board meeting. Since the time that the State Library's strategic plan was approved in early 2020, the State Library has embarked on new and revived efforts focused on anti-racism, equity, diversity, and inclusion. This focus is not adequately represented in the strategic plan. The new statement and goals summarize our current efforts and commitment beyond what is included in the strategic plan.

You can read the [Anti-racism, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement and Goals](#) on the State Library's website. We look forward to engaging with the library community as we work toward these goals.

## GOVERNMENT INFORMATION & LIBRARY SERVICES

### Presidential Visits in Oregon

With the recent inauguration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. as our 46th President, our thoughts turned to the topic of presidential visits to the State of Oregon.

The first sitting president to visit Oregon was Rutherford P. Hayes back in 1880. President Hayes visited a Native American training school in Forest Grove with stops in Portland, Eugene and Salem where he delivered an address to an expectant crowd. He sailed up the Columbia to The Dalles and after a detour through the Puget Sound area, traveled by boat down the Columbia River to Astoria before sailing to San Francisco.



From this initial presidential visit, a total of 18 additional presidents have visited Oregon. The list includes: Harrison, Taft, Wilson, Harding, both Roosevelts, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, both Bushes, Clinton and Obama.

The purpose of these trips to Oregon have run from goodwill visits to campaign stops and from dedication of the future site of the Bonneville Dam to the dedication of Timberline Lodge, a project of the Works Project Administration (WPA). Sadly, our most recent Presidential visit was by President Obama in 2015 in order to meet with the families of victims of the mass shooting at Umpqua Community College.



That sad occasion marked Obama's fourth visit to our state. However, he does not hold the record. Carter, Clinton and George W. Bush have all visited five times.

Do you notice however, who is missing from this list? President Hoover. Despite having the deepest ties to the state spending several years living in Newberg, he never visited during his term in office. Oregon does have a way of calling one home, and Hoover did return on several occasions after he left office.

We hope to have piqued your interest in U.S. Presidents and their visits to Oregon. For further research, please take a look at [The American Presidency Project](#) at the University of California at Santa Barbara, the [Oregon Encyclopedia](#) as well as in-state newspaper resources.

**LIBRARY SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES**

**2020 Oregon Public Library Statistics Now Available**

The Oregon Public Library Statistical Report data for the FY2019-20 period is now available on the [State Library's website](#). Thanks to all public library directors and staff who collected and reported data for this effort!

The Excel file on our website contains a sheet with the full survey data. In addition, results from each section of the survey have been separated into individual sheets in the file, along with per capita calculations for select data elements for ease of use. We have also produced an appendix this year (PDF) of the narrative responses from libraries regarding library services during the early months (March – June 2020) of the COVID-19 pandemic. Statistical report data from Oregon public libraries from the previous four fiscal years is also available.



Survey instructions, data element definitions, and other information about the Statistical Report can be found on our [Public Library Statistical Report guide](#). You can also find National Public Library Survey data (to which we contribute Oregon statistics annually) from the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) (FY2018 data is currently the most recent available).

If you have questions, or would like to receive the Oregon data in another format, please contact Ross Fuqua, Data & Federal Programs Consultant, at [ross.fuqua@slo.oregon.gov](mailto:ross.fuqua@slo.oregon.gov).

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### Topic Talks from the State Library



**Learn all about: Oregon Documents Depository**

Jey Wann, Oregon Documents Coordinator, will discuss the history of the [Oregon Documents](#)

**Depository Program**, describe how to access State Library's Oregon Documents Collection, and feature some interesting, useful, fun, and even wacky, Oregon government publications.

Reference librarian Dave Hegeman will cover the many ways Oregon documents can be used, including laws and rules, statistics, and notable reference sources.

If you're planning to attend, and there are particular topics you'd like Jey or Dave to cover, please **email us** by February 17.

No registration required, just join us via computer or phone on **February 23 at 10:00am**.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489135173> or join by phone: 669-900-6833 US (San Jose) or 253-215-8782 US (Tacoma) with Meeting ID: 862 0862 7126

Missed a recent Topic Talk? You can find recordings [here](#), listed under **PREVIOUS TOPIC TALKS**.

## TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE LIBRARY

### **Who Can Sign Up for the Talking Book and Braille Library?**

We get asked a lot: what makes someone eligible for the Talking Book and Braille Library? The answer is broader than you might think.

Someone can register with our library if they have a print-impairment. A print-

impairment is defined as:

- A visual impairment: cannot see text well enough to read for long periods of time with ease (i.e. macular degeneration, glaucoma, cataracts, etc).
- A physical impairment: cannot hold a book or turn pages easily (i.e. MS, Parkinson's, etc).
- A reading impairment: difficulty with or inability to correctly interpret text (i.e. dyslexia, dysphasia, etc).

Our library serves any Oregon resident of any age with a print-impairment, and there is a Talking Book and Braille Library in all 50 states as well. If you know someone who would benefit from our network's collection of over 90,000+ free audiobooks, please send them our way. Thanks!

## CONTACTS

### **Library Support & Development Services**

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### **Contact information**

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## Mission

The State Library of Oregon cultivates, preserves, and delivers library and information services to foster lifelong learning and community engagement.

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