

# FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

11/28/2014

*This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.*

*Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to [linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov) and may be edited for content and length if used.*

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**NEWS FROM THE DIVISION**

**E-RATE NEWS: THE PROCESS HAS BEGUN! 12/5 WEBINAR**

The application process for next year's E-rate funding has begun for anyone seeking bids on phone or Internet Service. The form that solicits bids is the Form 470 and it is completed online at <http://sl.universalservice.org/menu.asp>. The purpose of this form is to solicit bids for any services that you are not under contract for between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. Even month to month services need to be listed and bids obtained if you wish E-rate to give you discounts on those services. This form should be completed by the end of December, 2014 if you intend to request E-rate support for anything that is not already under contract.

Valerie Oliver will be doing an OWL videoconference on December 5th, 10:30am to walk our larger libraries through the completion of the form. If your library has not gotten an e-mail invite and you wish to attend, please call 1-800-910-9601 or 907-450-8300 and press #11 for video support, or email us at [ua-owlvideo@alaska.edu](mailto:ua-owlvideo@alaska.edu) and we can set up an endpoint or Jabber connection for you.

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## **MUSEUM BULLETIN FEATURES HAINES SUMMER INTERN**

This week saw the [publication of the 78<sup>th</sup> Bulletin](#) of the Alaska State Museums. This bulletin featured an article on Alyssa Magnone's experience as an intern at the Sheldon Museum in Haines. A complete archive of the Museums' *Bulletin Newsletter* can be found at <http://museums.alaska.gov/Bulletin/bulletin.html>.

## **NEW PODCAST: MANGO AND OWL FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING**

The State Library wishes to announce the following new podcast:

Since You Asked! Episode 20: Mango and OWL for Language Learning  
Librarian Freya Anderson talks about how she uses Mango Languages and OWL videoconferencing to gain confidence and keep her brain young. Find out more about these great resources, accessible to all Alaska residents with internet access, and how you can join the Alaska State Library's French language discussion group.

[Listen to Podcast \(.mp3\)](#)

[10 minutes]

*Recorded on November 12-13, 2014*

Find out more:

- [SLED](#)
- [Mango Languages for Alaska residents](#)
- [Language learning resources](#)
- [The Alaska OWL Program](#)
- [Learning a second language as an adult keeps your brain young](#), by Jessica Hullinger, in mental floss, published online July 7, 2014
- [What happens in the brain when you learn a language?](#) by Alison Mackey, in The Guardian, published online September 4, 2014

You can subscribe to our podcast on the [Since You Asked](#) blog.

## **NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA**

### **LIVE FROM CRAIG, ALASKA – IT'S A TECHSOUP WEBINAR ON WEBSITES!**

We recently received the following announcement from the ARSL mailing list:

Library Websites on a Budget: Tools, Tips, and Tales (TechSoup)  
Wed, 12/17/2014, 10am Alaska Time

Does your library website need a makeover? It doesn't have to cost a fortune to improve your online presence. Come to this free webinar to learn about free website creation and content management tools that you can easily use to create attractive and engaging websites. Hear from libraries who have recently revamped their websites, and learn the secrets to their success.

For more information and to register for this program, visit:  
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/dpizh362wlxo&eom>

What excites in part about this panel presentation is that Amy Marshall of Craig Public Library is among the panelists. We believe that Amy might be the first TechSoup presenter from Alaska. Whether or not this is true, we are very happy that Alaskan librarians are sharing their expertise nationwide!

If you're from an Alaskan library, archives or museum and are going to be in a presentation with an Outside audience, we'd like to hear from you and feature you in the Friday Bulletin as well.

## **ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORTS TEEN WRITERS THROUGH NANOWRIMO**

Anchorage Public Library, like many other libraries across the country provide space to aspiring writers during the National Novel Writing Month aka NaNoWrimo. How this is of assistances to teens is documented in a story on Alaska Public Media:

Alaskan writers push to finish a novel in a month

By Anne Hillman, KSKA - Anchorage | November 26, 2014

<http://www.alaskapublic.org/2014/11/26/alaskan-writers-push-to-finish-a-novel-in-a-month/>

Although the articles say that there are 500 Alaskans are trying to write a novel this month, not all of them are. There are a number of NaNoWrimo writers, including some here in Alaska that use NaNoWrimo to write nonfiction, short stories or even to finish academic papers. The organization that run NaNoWrimo celebrates this sort of activity in their [NaNo Rebels forum](#). So, if you have a writing project of any type that's languishing, consider using next November as your motivation to "Get 'er done."

## **TYNKER – PROGRAMMING VIA GAME BUILDING WITH YOUR IPAD**

Claudia Haines, Youth Services Librarian at the Homer Public Library offers a review of another computer programming app for the iPad that kids may enjoy:

### [Tynker](#)

Developer: Tynker

Platform: iOS (iPad)

Price: Free, with in-app purchases for additional games

Ages: 8-11

Tynker is a unique coding app because it combines the game play format with game creation. The non-competitive game portion of the app involves programming Codey, one of several kid-friendly characters, to move across the screen towards the end goal- a candy prize. Drag and drop

commands are moved from a bank on the left to an ordered list at the top of the screen. Basic command blocks, like "walk" and "jump," are clicked together in an order below the "on start" block to form a sequence of commands that Codey will follow. Repeat blocks can also be used at different levels, introducing the loop. When Codey starts, the command being used is highlighted in the string of command blocks, making the connection between what Codey is doing and the code written. If the code doesn't accomplish the goal then Codey stops and the coder can go back and edit the code. A variety of games can be purchased as in-app purchases, but the Codey's Quest comes with the free version. Paid puzzles with additional characters, include Lost in Space, Dragon Journey and Lazer Racer.

After playing with Codey, or one of the other characters, the Tynker app includes opportunities to build or modify a game using the same drag and drop coding blocks. This part of the app is about exploring, playing, and testing. The app offers immediate feedback with the ability to run a test and see if, for example, the newly designed character dances if tapped or sound effects play. Coders will get to see behind the game.

Doing a quick math problem, provides access through a parent gate to puzzle settings, where the puzzle solution and a button to reset a puzzle can be found, and a link to the Tynker website for more information about online coding courses for kids.

Internet connectivity is not required to play the games, only to download sample games in the game creation area. The background music can be turned off in a drop down menu found within each game.

Other programming apps can be found on the "Hour of Code" tab on our [iPads for Alaskan Libraries](#) guide.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHITE HOUSE STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL DUE BY 1/20/2015

Regardless of institution, please pass along this message from the White House to any K-12 students you know:

We are happy to announce that from now through January 20, submissions are open for the second White House Student Film Festival. The theme of this year's festival is **The Impact of Giving Back**, and it's open to U.S. students, grades K-12. So tell a story about paying it forward, about community service, or what making a difference looks like in your eyes and through your lens. It can be a fictional story or a short documentary, so break out the lights, write a script, get the camera ready, and show us your passion for service and giving back. We can't wait to see what you will make this year! For inspiration, [take a look at the official selections from last year's White House Student Film Festival](#), when the theme was the power of technology in education.

Films can be short – in fact, they must be 3 minutes tops. The official selections will be featured on the White House website, and shared across the world on White House sites and official social media accounts. If selected, you may have a chance to attend the film fest yourself at the White House.

Submission Guidelines:

- All films must be shorter than 3 minutes.
- All films must be made by students in grades K-12.
- No film may use copyrighted material including music, TV shows, or movies.
- All films must be uploaded to YouTube
- All film submissions must be received by **11:59 p.m. EST on January 20, 2015.**

For additional information and introductory video for the contest, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/filmfestival> .

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