

PRESS RELEASE

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PLA awards \$1.27 million to more than 200 Public Libraries for digital literacy and ACP workshops

National initiative part of expanded support from AT&T to help families build online skills and learn about the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

CHICAGO —Powered by a contribution from AT&T, the Public Library Association (PLA) has selected more than 200 public libraries across 45 states to host digital literacy and [ACP workshops](#). [The PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentives, supported by AT&T](#) support public libraries in their work improving digital skills and promoting broadband adoption among families and communities. The workshops leverage the online digital literacy courses, created by PLA in collaboration with AT&T, that are freely available to anyone through [DigitalLearn.org and AT&T ScreenReady](#). DigitalLearn.org online courses and training materials were developed with and for library staff and their patrons.

This second cohort is part of an expanded national initiative and collaboration between PLA and AT&T. In 2022, 160 libraries were selected to be part of the PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive, supported by AT&T. The initial group of libraries held more than 1,500 workshops which helped over 8,000 learners build skills and confidence using technology. This new cohort will increase the number of learners libraries can continue to reach.

PLA President Maria McCauley remarked, “Public libraries continuously play a vital role in providing digital literacy tools and information to their communities. The expansion of this powerful collaboration with AT&T for the second year will ensure that even more families and communities can benefit from programs and resources that increase digital access and equity.”

Workshops, available in English and Spanish, will be offered on 8 digital literacy topics, as well as how to apply and use the ACP benefit. Courses cover basic technology skills which include topics such as internet use, video conferencing, cybersecurity, and mobile device basics and ACP basics.

“DigitalLearn aligns perfectly with our library’s mission of providing equitable access to digital literacy, technology, and information. DigitalLearn has played a critical role in our library by providing digital support and literacy. Our library will continue to use this resource in a variety of ways.” Miranda Robbins, New Braunfels Public Library, New Braunfels, TX, 2022 cohort participant.

Selected Libraries (* indicates participation in both incentive programs)

Adamstown Area Library
Alamance County Public Libraries
Alameda County Library
Alexandria Public Library
Algona Public Library
Altoona Public Library
Amador County Library
Anacortes Public Library
Aram Public Library
Asotin County Library
Augusta County Library
Augusta Public Library*

Avon Grove Library
Azalea Regional Library System
Baldwin Borough Public Library
Baltimore County Public Library
Bandon Public Library
Bangor Public Library
Bay County Public Library
Bellmore Memorial Library
Bemis Public library
Bethlehem Area Public Library
Blair Public Library and Technology Center
Blue Island Public Library

Bondurant Community Library
 Boulder Public Library
 Brandon Free Public Library
 Breeden Memorial Library
 Bridgeport Public Library
 Bristol Public Library*
 Britton Public Library
 Brookings Public Library
 Broward County Libraries Division
 Brown County Public Library
 Burnsville Public Library
 Cambridge Public Library
 Campbell County Public Library
 Carpinteria Community Library
 Carroll and Madison Library System
 Centerville Public Library
 Charles County Public Library
 Charleston County Public Library
 Charlotte Library
 Chelmsford Public Library
 Chester County Library & District Center
 Chillicothe Public Library District
 Churchill County Library
 City of Roseburg
 Cobb County Public Library System*
 Community Libraries of Providence
 Cranston Public Library
 Cumberland County Public Library
 Cutler Memorial Library
 CVW Long Lake Public Library
 Cynthiana-Harrison County Public Library*
 D. A. Hurd Public Library Association
 Danville-Center Township Public Library
 David F. Cargo El Valle de Anton Chico Library
 DC Public Library*
 De Soto Trail Regional Library System*
 DeKalb County Public Library
 Del Norte County Library District
 Delaware Division of Libraries
 Delmont Public Library
 Delray Beach Public Library
 Desert Foothills Library
 Dougherty County Public Library
 Driftwood Public Library
 E.D. Locke Public Library
 East Brookfield Public Library*
 East Chicago Public Library
 East Cleveland Public Library
 East Providence Public Library*
 El Paso Community College Jenna Welch and Laura Bush
 Community Library
 Elmwood Park Public Library
 Emmaus Public Library*
 Ephrata Public Library
 Ericson Public Library
 Ferguson Library
 Fletcher Free Library
 Fort Kent Public Library
 Frank Sarris Public Library
 Fulton County Library (GA)
 Fulton County Library (PA)

Genesee District Library*
 Gibsonville Public Library
 Gladwin County District Library
 Glen Ellyn Public Library
 Grant County Library
 Gravette Public Library
 Green County Public Library
 Greenburgh Public Library
 Gwinnett County Public Library
 Hammond Community Library
 Harris County Public Library
 Harrison Public Library
 Hastings Public Library
 Hazel M. Lewis Library
 Heartland Library Cooperative*
 Heartland Regional Library System
 Henry Waldinger Memorial Library of Valley Stream
 Heritage Public Library
 Hialeah Public Libraries
 Highwood Public Library
 Hillside Public Library
 Homer Public Library
 Homewood Public Library
 Hornell Public Library
 Huntsville-Madison County Public Library
 Iowa City Public Library
 Jackson County Library Services
 Jefferson County Library -
 Jefferson-Madison Regional Library*
 Jerseyville Public Library
 Kimball Public Library
 Lake Andes Public Library
 Lake Park Public Library*
 Letts Public Library
 Liberty Library*
 Lincoln County Library
 Lincoln Township Public Library
 Little Elm Public Library*
 Lodi Public Library
 Logan-Hocking County District Library
 Lone Cone Library District
 Longview Public Library
 Loveland Public Library*
 Madison Public Library
 Mason County Public Library
 McCracken County Public Library
 McIntosh Memorial Library
 /Memphis Public Libraries
 Menominee County Library
 Mentor Public Library
 Middle Georgia Regional Library
 Middlebury Public Library
 Mill Valley Public Library
 Mohawk Valley Library System*
 Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library
 Montour Falls Library
 Morgantown Public Library System
 Nampa Public Library
 Navajo Nation Library
 Nevada County Library

New Rochelle Public Library	South Georgia Regional Library
New Ulm Public Library	South Mississippi Regional Library
Niles-Maine District Library	Southworth Public Library
North Riverside Public Library	St. Charles City-County Library District
North Valley Public Library	Staunton Public Library
Nova Southeastern University's Alvin Sherman Library	Stillwater Public Library
Onslow County Public Library	Sturgis Public Library
Osceola Library System: Hart Memorial Central Library:	Sunflower County Library System
Oxford Public Library	Terrebonne Parish Library
Parkston Public Library	The Malvern-Hot Spring County Library
Parsippany Library	Thomas St. Angelo Public Library of Cumberland, WI
Phillipsburg Area Community Library*	Thomaston Public Library*
Pike County Public Library	Tifton-Tift Co. Public Library
Plainsboro Free Public Library	Town of Esopus Library
Portsmouth Public Library	Traverse Area District Library
Pottstown Regional Public Library	Trenton Veterans Memorial Library
Pottsville Free Public Library*	Trussville Public Library
Prince William Public Libraries	Tulsa City-County Library
Providence Public Library	Twinsburg Public Library
Pueblo City-County Library District	University City Public Library*
Putnam County Library	Upper Skagit Library
Ray Township Public Library*	Volga City Public Library
Richton Park Public Library District	W. Walworth Harrison Public Library
Rio Community Library	Wantagh Public Library
Rochester Public Library District	Waterloo Public Library
Rockingham Free Public Library	Wayne County Public Library
Rosenberg Library	Webster Parish Library
Rusk County Community Library	Westerville Public Library
Santa Barbara Public Library	Whale Pass Public Library
Santa Cruz Public Libraries	William B Harlan Memorial Library
Schaumburg Township District Library	William F. Laman Public Library*
Scottsboro Public Library	Williamson Public Library
Sharpsburg Community Library	Wolcott Public Library
Shelby County Public Library	Woodbury Public Library*
Sherwood Public Library	Wythe-Grayson Regional Library
Skidompha Public Library	Yankton Community Library
Slippery Rock Community Library	Yavapai County Free Library District
Somerset County Library	Zula B. Wylie Public Library

“Collaboration is a crucial part of helping to close the digital divide,” said Charlene Lake, chief sustainability officer, senior vice president, AT&T corporate responsibility. “Our work with libraries is making a difference as we meet people in their local neighborhoods and bring them digital literacy tools and resources so they can gain the skills needed to participate in our connected world.”

Workshops funded by the PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive will be conducted online and/or in person at participating libraries across the United States in 2023. Workshops will begin in August and will be offered through December 2023. Patrons should check with your local libraries to learn about upcoming workshops in the community.

About the Public Library Association

The Public Library Association (PLA) is the largest association dedicated to supporting the unique and evolving needs of public library professionals. Founded in 1944, PLA serves nearly 9,000 members in public libraries large and small in communities across the United States and

Canada, with a growing presence around the world. PLA strives to help its members shape the essential institution of public libraries by serving as an indispensable ally for public library leaders. For more information about PLA, contact the PLA office at 1 (800) 545-2433, ext. 5PLA, or pla@ala.org.

About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

We're committed to advancing education, creating opportunities, strengthening communities, and improving lives. As part of our company wide \$2 billion commitment from 2021–2023 to address the digital divide, we launched AT&T Connected Learning to invest in connectivity and technology, digital literacy, and education solutions. We aim to help today's learners succeed inside and outside of the classroom. Since 2008, we've committed more than \$600 million to programs that help millions of students across all 50 states and around the world, particularly those in underserved communities.

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